



**Annual Meetings**  
**Canadian Sociological Association**  
**La Société Canadienne de Sociologie**

May 31, 2011 – June 4, 2011  
*Summary Guide*



## Atlantic Canada

### Sociology in the Forest Sector: Crisis, Knowledge, and Mobilization

Session Number: AC1

Session Organizer & Chair: John Parkins, University of Alberta

Session Discussant: Tom Beckley, University of New Brunswick

For many decades, sociologists have attended to forest sector issues such as environmental movements, governance, dependency, identity, gender and perspectives on traditional knowledge. Building on this tradition, this session will address contemporary challenges in the forest sector with a focus on questions of knowledge to action in Atlantic Canada. Mobilization is evident across this sector in terms of tenure reform, environmental stewardship, and the dramatic shift in forest industry activity throughout the region that has propelled new modes of production and social relations. Papers in this session will provide insights into the contemporary social context of forestry in Atlantic Canada.

➤ **Sara Teitelbaum, University of New Brunswick; Stephen Wyatt, Université de Moncton**  
**Does Forest Certification Make A Difference For Aboriginal Communities?**

**Implementing Forest Stewardship Council Requirements For Aboriginal Issues In The Boreal Forests Of Quebec And Ontario**

Forest certification has become a key driver in forest management both in Canada and worldwide. Certification processes include social commitments, which are helping to define the ways in which the public engages with forest companies. The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) system, the subject of this presentation, has specific requirements around respect for Aboriginal rights and interests. This presentation will look at the application of the FSC boreal standard in Quebec and Ontario in order to determine if, and how, certification is addressing a diversity of First Nations concerns. A two-pronged approach is used to gather information on this topic. The first, a literature review helps to highlight the main issues facing Aboriginal communities and perspectives on the influence that the FSC process is having thus far. The second, a content analysis of public summary reports produced during FSC certification audits (with a specific focus on corrective action requests - also known as conditions), helps highlight the types of issues that are being commonly flagged as areas of weakness and how forest companies are addressing these over time. The presentation concludes with a discussion of the opportunities and constraints to the full realization of the FSC standard vis-a-vis its commitments to Aboriginal peoples.

➤ **Jean-François Fortier, University of Laval; Martin Hébert, University of Laval; Stephen Wyatt, Université de Moncton**

**Negotiating First Nation's Collaboration In Canadian Forest Governance: Theoretical Issues And Perspectives**

Forestry regimes in Canada have changed considerably in recent decades, with new policies, norms and innovative governance arrangements to accommodate non-conventional actors, including First Nations - who have particular rights, expectations and perspectives in relation to forests. Previous research has examined a wide variety of governance practices, ranging from simple consultation processes through economic partnerships, co-management and treaties where First Nations are often engaged in several different processes simultaneously and successively. Research also stresses the need for partners in these forms of collaboration

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(whether business, consultation, co-management or something else) to negotiate exactly how their arrangement is going to work (e.g. what form of governance and benefit sharing is appropriate). This communication builds on both case studies and comparative research to propose a theoretical framework for "negotiated collaboration" between First Nations and forestry companies (and other parties). It focuses the sociological analysis on the interaction of three processes: (1) social and cultural representations of forest and forest events (both natural and anthropogenic), (2) relationships and collaboration between various actors engaged with the forest (including social conflicts) and (3) institutions and systems of forest governance.

- **Camilo Ordóñez, Dalhousie University; Peter N Duinker, Dalhousie University**

#### **Urban Forest Values In Canada: A Primer**

Urban places are more and more being understood as ecosystems, where human socio-cultural landscapes and natural components not just interact but together form the whole. With the majority of Canada's population concentrated in cities, it is increasingly important to determine the way people relate to their natural environment in the Canadian urban realm. The lens of values has provided great insights into forest management and policy to illustrate what people consider important in nature beyond techno-ecological or utilitarian considerations. This lens is also vital to understand how people relate to one of the crucial elements of urban ecosystems: the trees. It is well established in the literature that urban forests have a wide range of values. However, priorities of the citizenry have not been explored and it is unclear how this value set might play an explicit role in urban sustainable forest management. So far, the literature has not systematically probed urban forest values in Canada with a consistent set of approaches. We propose to bridge that gap with this primer on urban forest values across Canada. We present and analyse urban forest values data gathered under a mixed-methods approach involving focus groups and street surveys in the city of Halifax. This study contributes to the knowledge of urban forest values in Canada and provides insights on how to go beyond techno-ecological considerations in the sustainable management of the urban forest.

- **Peter Duinker, Dalhousie University; Lauranne Sanderson, NS Agricultural College; Jorg Beyeler, Nova Forest Alliance; Jane Nicholson, Department of Natural Resources; David Sutherland, Association of Sustainable Forestry**

#### **Weighing in on the Woods: How Nova Scotia's Woodland Owners View Their World in 2010**

With over thirty thousand woodland owners holding half the forest land in Nova Scotia (which is over three-quarters forested), and with well over half the provincial wood supply coming from these lands, there is considerable interest in how those woodland owners view their properties and the associated economic, social and environmental contexts. This is especially critical at this moment when industrial wood supplies in the province are unprecedentedly tight and wood buyers are stumped as to why woodland owners seem unwilling to sell wood. We surveyed about 750 woodland owners, using a stratified random sample, to reveal woodland owners' views and opinions on a wide range of forest-related topics including: (a) reasons for owning woodland; (b) forest products removed from woodland; (c) forest practices; and (d) others. In the presentation, results of our survey are compared and contrasted with a similar survey done a decade ago, and surveys of woodland owners in New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. We conclude with thoughts on implications for forest policy and further research needs.



## Immigrant Women in Atlantic Canada: Challenges, Negotiations and Re-Constructions

Session Number: AC3

Session Organizer: Evangelia Tastsoglou, St. Mary's University

*This session is co-sponsored by the "Gender, Migration and Diversity / Immigrant Women" Research Domain of the Atlantic Metropolis Centre of Excellence*

Session Discussant: Sarath Chandrasekere, University of Prince Edward Island

Papers were invited to a session on the barriers, agency, negotiations, resistances and re-constructions by immigrant women in Atlantic Canada. Immigrant women's experiences are conceptualized in terms of the barriers and challenges the women experience in the settlement and integration process in the specific cultural and socio-economic milieu of Atlantic Canada; in terms of cultural, gender role, parent-child role, social and economic negotiations in the private and public space continuum in Atlantic Canada; and in terms of de/re/constructions of identities, cultural, ethnic, and social boundaries which speak to the immigrant women's (and immigrant families') agency. While the context of the studies discussed is local and regional, immigrant women's experiences are related to and linked with the national and transnational levels.

- **Peruvemba S. Jaya, University of Ottawa; Marilyn Porter, Memorial University of Newfoundland**

### **Asking For Apples From A Lemon Tree: Some Experiences Of Immigrant Women In Newfoundland And Labrador**

We explore the experiences of women who immigrate to Newfoundland and Labrador which has a small, homogenous, and primarily rural population. We locate ourselves in the context of feminist scholarship (Fonow & Cook, 1991; Mies, 1991) and specifically the Canadian context (Agnew, 2003; Bannerji, 1995; Dhruvarajan, 2002; Tastsoglou & Dobrowolsky, 2006; Vickers & Dhruvarajan, 2002; Zaman, 2006). Scholars have examined how Canadian policy and practice has an impact on immigrant women (Denis, 2006; Gardiner-Barber, 2005; Salaff & Greve, 2006; Ralston, 2005; Tastsoglou & Dobrowolsky, 2006; Tastsoglou & Preston, 2005). Our research joins these attempts to bring into focus the voices of the immigrant women themselves. We ground this in the context of social and economic integration of immigrants in Canada, and especially immigrant women.

- **Susan Brigham, Mount St. Vincent University; Susan Walsh, Mount St. Vincent University**
- ### **Having Voice, Being Heard, And Being Silent: Internationally Educated Teachers' Representations Of "Immigrant Women" In An Arts-Informed Research Study In Nova Scotia**

In this paper, we discuss the ways that a group of internationally educated female teachers represented themselves and others in the context of an arts-informed research study. We focus specifically on themes of having voice, being heard, and being silent and draw on Stuart Hall's work about representation to inform our discussion. We contextualize the artistic representation that the women created of themselves and others within previous work about representations and "immigrant women". In the context of our research we have worked with women who are internationally educated teachers. We use the term "internationally educated teachers" generally to describe those who have immigrated to Canada, have received post secondary education from elsewhere, and have teaching experience from elsewhere and/or in Canada.

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Overall, our purpose in this paper is to explore representations of "immigrant women" and the ways that the research participants actively engaged with the process of (re)producing and resisting these representations.

➤ **Benjamin Amaya, Mount St. Vincent University**

**The Experience Of Gender, Culture, And Ethnicity In Nova Scotia High Schools**

This paper presents the main results of an exploratory study conducted in three Nova Scotia high schools, aimed at identifying integration and inclusion obstacles faced by immigrant and refugee youth. The study made a preliminary assessment of immigrant and second-generation youths' situations, resources, and challenges for integration within the educational system. Allowing the interviewees to articulate their experiences in their own words was a key guideline of the project.

➤ **Maria Jose Yax-Fraser, York University**

**Cross-Cultural Mothering: The Mothering Experiences Of Immigrant Women In Halifax**

Many immigrant women in Canada engage in cross-cultural mothering, defined as the negotiation of the values, intentions and practices relating to child rearing of women living within a culture and/or country other than the one in which they were born, acknowledging that these women bring with them the values and beliefs of child rearing upheld in their culture/country of origin. Based on research carried out with immigrant women in Halifax, Nova Scotia I explore the cross-cultural mothering experiences of the women I interviewed and address some of the commonalities and the differences in the cross-cultural mothering experience that emerged between and among these mothers. Those commonalities and differences arise from their experiences depending on whether they were married to a partner from the same country and culture or whether they were married to Canadian-born partners. I argue that mothering in a new country has placed women in a journey of complex negotiations over new cultural meanings where they have redefined their philosophies, methods, and strategies of raising children as they draw selectively from their cultural backgrounds and their Canadian experiences.

**The Atlantic Association of Sociologists and Anthropologists (AASA):  
Building Innovative Scholarly Communities In Challenging Environments**

Session Number: AC4

Session Organizer & Chair: Linda Christiansen-Ruffman, Saint Mary's University

Session Discussants: Joan McFarland, St. Thomas University; Jennie Hornosty, University of New Brunswick

The AASA, building on an Atlantic sociological tradition of annual conferences, was established in the mid 1970s and continued that tradition for more than twenty years. It is remembered by many for the welcoming and generative scholarly culture and community of learning and the activism it fostered in the challenging social and natural environments of this region. This session focuses specifically on the strong feminist presence in the AASA and its significance for the AASA, Atlantic Sociology and beyond. How did the feminist space in AASA happen? What did it mean for participating women and supportive men? How did it influence emerging scholarship? As sociologists, what can we all learn from reflections on these experiences about building generative and innovative scholarship?

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➤ **Marilyn Porter, Memorial University**

**Coming From Away: The AASA As Induction**

When I arrived from the UK to take up a position in the Sociology Dept at Memorial University, I had to learn a whole new institutional framework, and my place in it. I also had to learn about the very different ideological and conceptual discourses that were current in Canada, which were profoundly different to the ones I had immersed myself in while in the UK. Among these were the different relationships between marxist thought (and action) and feminist thought (and action). All this had to be integrated with a new knowledge about the distinctive region I had come to. The AASA was a key site in introducing and guiding me in my new world. In this presentation, I will explore some of the ways in which AASA was able to mediate a learning process and allow a strengthening and development of distinctive streams of progressive thinking.

➤ **Angela Miles, University of Toronto**

**The AASA In The 1980s: Political Community Building Inacademe**

In 198, when I arrived from Toronto to teach in the Sociology Department at St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish I was immediately swept up in my new colleagues' preparations to host the next AASA Conference on our campus. I saw right away that this would be no mere academic conference. It was clear that this would be the gathering of a real and sustained network of engaged scholars coming together to share their research on the region's history, traditions, political economy, and culture with a view to helping shape its future. The conference program that year featured the challenges posed by the imminent arrival of offshore oil, growing threats to the inshore fishery and to local subsistence economies and relationships. My excitement at this opportunity to meet so many of my colleagues from all over the region so soon after my arrival was heightened when I saw the energy and anxiety that went into figuring out how to provide daycare on the Association's meager resources. This was clearly a network where feminists were a presence to be reckoned with (perhaps even feared)! In this paper I will reflect on the significance of the Association in the 1980s and the factors that contributed to it.

## **Atlantic Regional Caucus**

Event Organizer: Linda Christiansen-Ruffman, Saint Mary's University

All those who live in Atlantic Canada and who do research on Atlantic Canada are invited to participate in this "get acquainted" session. This call for participation has been inspired by memories and traditions of the Atlantic Association of Sociologists and Anthropologists, its annual meetings and its scholarly communities with a view toward future possibilities.

## **Canadian Sociology**

### **The Third Generation of Social Science**

Session Number: CS1

Session Organizers: Richard Apostle, Dalhousie University; Paul Fraser Armstrong, Dalhousie University

The social sciences in Canada, in the main, didn't get off the ground until after the First World War. The first generation of faculty appointments took the social sciences through the Depression and the Second World War. Their postwar replacements, together with those

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appointments spawned by the expansion of education in the nineteen-sixties, have themselves now been progressively replaced during the last twenty years. The goal of this session is to examine this transition to the third generation of social science in Canada. Papers are sought on changing faculty and student composition, on the history of ideas, or on disciplinary and institutional developments, and may focus on any of the individual disciplines, or on larger cross-disciplinary studies.

➤ **Rick Helmes-Hayes, University of Waterloo**

**Waves Of Scholars, Disciplinary Development And Institutional Change: The Concept Of The Sociological Generation**

The title of this session is "The Third Generation of Social Science." The implication of the title is, obviously, that there have been two previous generations and that everyone knows what/who they are. I think I missed that lecture. My paper will examine the question/notion of the "generation" in the social sciences (sociology in particular, and Canadian sociology more specifically). The term generations normally refers to groups of people born at a particular point in time who stand in some relation to earlier or later groups of people born at another specified point in time. But social science (if sociology is a social science, and that's another question) doesn't develop in generations; it develops in scholarly phases and related stages of institutionalization. And different disciplines/social sciences develop not only in different directions –some becoming putative 'sciences,' others resolutely refusing to do so – they develop at different speeds, so that what happens to one discipline in the span of one generation of people might not take place in another discipline until many generations of persons have come and gone. My paper will draw on the notion of the 'generation' as an entry point for thinking about how we might frame the writing of a history of Canadian sociology.

➤ **Benet Davetian, University of Prince Edward Island**

**Pride, Shame And Social Ethics: Towards A New Generation In Canadian Sociology**

The development of Canadian Sociology has undergone some distinct phases that can be viewed in terms of "generational" and "ideational" turnover. Although Canadian sociology came into its own rights during the two decades following the sixties, a plethora of ideas and discoveries since then have prepared the way for a truly exciting opportunity: the development of a synthesis that deepens our understanding of culture. This understanding is made possible by more recent innovations in the understanding of individuals and emotions and how they are located in an on-going interaction with what we call "society". These developments coincide with the generational changes that have occurred in sociology and in culture as a whole.

My paper, based on eight years of research in human interaction, youth culture and education in Canada, the USA, England and France, will point to a possible new frontier in the history of Canadian sociology by showing how the ground for such innovation has been prepared through the works of Howard Garfinkel, Erving Goffman, Charles Horton Cooley, Thomas Scheff, myself, and more recent scholars who have studied the delicate relationship between pride (self-esteem), the need to avoid embarrassment (shame), and social ethics in the formation and management of social worlds. I will suggest that research methods as well as pedagogy can be intensely affected by the degree to which these phenomena, and the emotional worlds in which they are grounded, can be factored into the sociological and educational process and that Canada can lead in the development of this new frontier in

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sociology departing from older notions of a "value-free" sociology. My presentation will include engaging video clips.

➤ **Stephen H. Riggins, Memorial University of Newfoundland**

**Academic Capitalism: Options For Third-Generation Sociologists At Memorial University**

As a consequence of reduced state subsidization for higher education, academic capitalism has become one of the major forces shaping Canadian universities. Academic capitalism refers to any policy which directly or indirectly encourages academics to be entrepreneurs: the sale of products and services, royalty and licensing agreements, university-industry partnerships, university investments in the private consulting companies of faculty, and competition for external research grants as a means of supporting graduate students. It is easy for sociologists to misperceive the significance of entrepreneurialism at Canadian universities because the most dramatic examples have occurred in the schools of medicine, business, and the natural sciences. Canadian sociologists have thus tended to be either indifferent or hostile to academic capitalism.

The third generation of sociologists at Memorial University, faculty hired after circa 2000, will most likely be under increasing pressure to raise funds through some sort of entrepreneurial enterprises despite the fact that there are few potential paying customers for university services in the province. This presentation, which is part of the author's more ambitious project of documenting the first fifty years of sociology at Memorial University, explores the present impact of academic capitalism within the department of sociology; and suggests possible future links between local sociologists and voluntary associations which might allow the department to develop unrealized wealth.

➤ **Neil McLaughlin, McMaster University**

**Canadian Sociology After The Crisis?**

**Institutional Constraints And New Possibilities For The Third Generation**

Several years now past the lively debate about the future of Canadian sociology in our journals and meetings, it is important for us to re-think the current institutional context for the generation of young scholars now entering the profession untouched (at least directly) by the controversies of the 1960s and 1970s. A relatively new internal debate based on old themes, an old ideological struggle reformulated in new empirical terms, changing institutional realities and an exciting organizational renewal shape the choices faced by young scholars in Canadian sociology today. This presentation will discuss: (1) how the public sociology debate, building on older themes of Canadian "critical sociology", provides opportunities for the third generation; (2) how the debate about the politics of "tenured radicals" in the United States is being researched by scholars, and picked up (well might soon be) by conservative critics of sociology in Canada, setting a trap for us we must avoid; (3) how the continued move towards "academic capitalism" and "academic transformation" (i.e. American style private education and institutional specialization) and the recent dramatic changes in British universities will shape the new generation's options; and (4) how the new website and emerging new culture and structure of the CSA might allow us to move beyond the sixties era culture of the second generation while bringing with us the best insights and traditions of the discipline.

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## **Criminology Omnibus**

### **Social Control**

Session Number: CR1-A

Session Organizer & Chair: Peter Carrington, University of Waterloo

- **Nathan Innocente, University of Toronto; Voula Marinos, Brock University; Michelle Keast, John Howard Society of Ontario**

#### **The Same Old Story? Examining Variation In Extrajudicial Responses To Youth Diverted To Community Agencies**

Since its implementation, the YCJA has successfully diverted youth from the formal justice system. This paper seeks to address the gap in our understanding of what happens to these young people. Focusing on the referral process in five jurisdictions in Ontario, this paper examines pre-charge referrals to community agencies for extrajudicial measures and youth justice committees. Our findings are situated within long-standing debates about the variable and often inconsistent treatment of youth who are diverted from the formal justice system to agencies in the community. Past research links police policies, community funding and resources, and the unequal distribution of agencies and services with variability in responses to diverted youth. We identify three additional sources of variation; the existing referral system in each community (open vs. central referrals), agency philosophy (needs- vs. offence-based responses), and agency capacity. These findings demonstrate continued variation in the treatment of young people under the YCJA. This paper draws attention to the important but hitherto neglected role of community agencies in the youth justice system, and it underscores the contribution of service delivery and its infrastructure to the variation in extrajudicial responses to youth.

- **Joanna C. Jacob, University of Waterloo; Peter Carrington, University of Waterloo**

#### **Informal Social Control Of Crime And Delinquency Over The Early Life-Course: A Longitudinal Analysis Of Antisocial Behaviour In A Canadian Birth Cohort**

Sampson and Laub's age-graded informal social control theory suggests that social bonds throughout life explain pathways into and out of crime. Drawing on informal social control theory, this study follows the early life-course of a Canadian birth cohort (from 10 to 17 years old) using a nationally representative sample from the first four cycles of the National Longitudinal Study of Children and Youth. The hypotheses are: (1) Informal social controls are the primary causal mechanism in the development of antisocial behaviour in childhood. (2) Underlying antisocial behaviour is generally stable from childhood to adolescence, but may be subject to modification during adolescence. (3) Change in antisocial behaviour during adolescence is facilitated through concurrent informal social control processes (family, school and peers). (4) Social bonds are dynamic and different sources of informal social control are more or less important at each life stage. The hypotheses are tested using a lagged and synchronous effects structural equation model.

- **Samantha Henderson, University of Waterloo; Peter Carrington, University of Waterloo**

#### **Canadian Correctional Programming Realities: An Analysis Of Federal Offender Program Participation**

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A variety of treatment and rehabilitative programs are available to offenders in Canadian federal correctional institutions. This paper analyzes the extent of participation by federal offenders in treatment and rehabilitative programs, and particularly the combinations of programs in which offenders participate during imprisonment. It presents data on the population (N= 18,786) of all male offenders admitted into federal custody between January 1st, 2002 and December 21st, 2006.

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## **Victimization and Resilience**

Session Number: CR1-B

Session Organizer: Peter Carrington, University of Waterloo

Session Chair: James Popham, University of Saskatchewan

### ➤ **Ashley Juliette Laracy, Memorial University of Newfoundland**

#### **Gambling On The Edge**

Gambling in Canada has expanded in recent decades following two Criminal Code amendments. The growth of this sector has resulted in gambling being accepted as a more mainstream leisure activity with reduced social stigma. Video lottery terminals (VLTs) however are somewhat of an exception. First introduced to Newfoundland and Labrador in 1991, there is evidence that VLT players suffer from social stigmatization that may be attributable to negative public and media constructions of this type of gambling. Social constructionists argue that what is defined as deviance by public actors is culturally embedded, therefore resulting in many VLT players being aware of, and potentially internalizing these negative constructions. Using concepts from the sociology of deviance, this paper will draw upon interview data with Gamblers Anonymous members in St. John's, Newfoundland. The paper will proceed by answering the following questions: How do VLT players see themselves and their gambling activity? What kinds of stigma do they suffer from as a result of play? What types of management techniques are employed by individuals to ensure that they are able to live with their deviant identities?

### ➤ **Zavin Nazaretian, Wayne State University**

#### **Distinguishing Dynamic Risk Factors Amongst Three Levels Of Victimization: A Multinomial Logistic Approach**

Victimization surveys globally have been heralded as a vast improvement when compared to Uniform Crime Report surveys. However, the comparison of victimization surveys to UCR's has stagnated the discourse regarding the evolution of victimization surveys. Despite strong theoretical and quantitative evidence most nations, including Canada, engage in limiting the number of crimes individuals can report. By limiting the number of crimes individuals can report, a cap is being placed on the gross rate of victimization in Canada. This research is two tiered and specifically analyzes data from the 2004 Canadian GSS Cycle 18 Victimization Survey. First, victimization rates are uncapped and a new more accurate picture is obtained of the crime problem in Canada. Secondly, a multinomial logistic regression is used to highlight the differences between victims capped by the survey and those who experience fewer crimes. With the use of multivariate statistics, four levels of victimization are compared with independent variables used to test the effects of opportunity based theories of crime. Results indicate a



disconnect to traditional literature on victimization. The results of this research specifically show that routine activities theory does not explain varying degrees of victimization.

➤ **James Popham, University of Saskatchewan; Carolyn Brooks, University of Saskatchewan**  
**What The Community Knows: Stakeholders' Speak About On-Reserve First Nations Youth Resilience From Offending**

Contemporary research into youth resilience from offending, violence and criminogenic situations, offers insight into strengths of environments in promoting healthy development and preventing crime (Ledogar and Fleming, 2008). Resilience literature focuses on rebuilding strategies and existing community strengths, rather than focusing solely on crime problems (Andersson, 2008). This focus on youth resilience and community strengths is of particular significance for First Nations and Aboriginal communities in Canada, where colonial histories have negatively impacted the strength of families, communities and increased vulnerabilities of children (Tousignant and Sioui, 2009). Using participatory and community-based research methods, our project entitled; "(title withheld for peer review processes)" (funded by SSHRC) provided First Nations stakeholders an opportunity to elucidate their perspectives on resilience. Findings confirm that community stakeholders are intrinsically aware of avenues towards increased youth resilience, including the significance of family, culture and community cohesion, and also what is needed to enhance resilience. Despite stakeholders' discussions of adversity, they recognize collective identities and strong forms of community which hold the pathways to increased resilience for their youth. In addition, results provide strong support for the value of community knowledge and community-led development of research partnerships and methods.

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## Policing

Session Number: CR1-C

Session Organizer: Peter Carrington, University of Waterloo

Session Chair: Chris Giacomantonio, University of Oxford

➤ **Chris Giacomantonio, University of Oxford; Shane MacGiollabhui, University of Oxford**  
**Order Of Operations: An Examination Of The Connections Between 'High' And 'Low' Policing In Major Police Organizations**

Police sociology has, historically, been disproportionately concerned with uniformed public police officers, particularly patrol constables in urban settings. This is perhaps because historically, in many Anglo-American police jurisdictions, 80% or more of all police personnel are in some form of uniformed deployment. In turn, many sociological claims about and definitions of police work say little about how uniformed police interact with other less-visible components of their organizations. This is particularly problematic as non-uniformed deployment in some police forces is nearing 50% of the sworn membership.

This paper draws on two ongoing studies to examine how various components of police organizations are connected to one another, if at all. Drawing on observational research with police in the UK and Canada, the paper looks first at the ways in which patrol officers are, and perceive they are, connected to larger organizational initiatives such as "intelligence-led"

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policing and major crimes investigations. Following this, the paper then looks at how investigative and specialist police see and perform their position within the broader police mandate. By looking at the relationships between "high" and "low" policing within individual organizations, the paper provides empirical grounding for new theories of police work.

➤ **Chris Giacomantonio, University of Oxford**

#### **A Typology Of Police Organizational Boundaries**

This paper develops a typology of the multitude of organizational boundaries that arise within and between police organizations. Drawing on recent fieldwork with several police agencies in BC's Lower Mainland region, the paper examines the forms of resistance that arise when units within police organizations try to extract resources, information, or labour from other areas of their organization or from other police organizations.

By looking at the ways in which these boundaries arise, and the strategies different actors employ to bridge them temporarily or permanently, we can develop a clearer picture of how relatively well-understood components of police organizations (such as uniformed patrol) interact with comparatively under-studied components (such as investigative and multi-agency units). The paper finds that the obstacles to intra- and inter-agency cooperation are strikingly similar to one another. The paper goes on to claim that police culture, traditionally thought of as one of the major impediments to organizational cooperation, is less of a barrier than expected. The evidence suggests that external and institutional conditions are far more important factors in determining whether various components of public policing will either cooperate or feud, and this has implications for how police organizations are governed.

➤ **Steve J. Hayle , University of Toronto; Julian Tanner, University of Toronto; Scot Wortley, University of Toronto**

#### **Policing Homeless Youth: Comparing Homeless And Non-Homeless Black Youth's Experiences Interacting With The Police**

Canadian scholarship has shown that, compared to youth of other racial backgrounds, black youth are more likely to be stopped and searched by the police. The focus of this research, however, has been exclusively on youth who live at home. To date, no Canadian scholars have questioned whether homeless black youth experience similar disproportionate levels of police contact. This study compares the negative police interactions experienced by a sample of youth (N=3,393) living at home with the negative police interactions experienced by a sample of youth (N=396) who left home and were residing in homeless shelters in Toronto, Ontario. Multiple logistic regression analysis demonstrates that, after controlling for factors such as socio-economic status, criminal behaviour, leisure activity, gender, and age, black youth living at home were more likely to be stopped and searched by the police compared to youth of other racial backgrounds. In contrast, black youth residing in shelters were equally likely to be stopped and searched by the police compared to youth of other racial backgrounds living in shelters. These findings suggest that, for black youth living in shelters, their racial identity does not play an important role in predicting negative police contact, however their homeless identity does.



## Governmentality

Session Number: CR1-D

Session Organizer: Peter Carrington, University of Waterloo

Session Chair: Daniel O'Connor, University of Windsor

- **Jenna Valleriani, University of Toronto; Meghan Dawe, University of Toronto**

### **Locking Down The Reasons Behind Canada's Responses To School Shootings**

Recent school shootings in the United States and Canada have garnered extensive media attention and public concern regarding school safety. As a result of these shootings, Canadian school boards are increasingly implementing lockdown procedures. We find these lockdown procedures to be an inappropriate response to school shootings for three reasons. First, as Burns and Crawford (1999) note, despite highly publicized school shootings, schools remain one of the safest places for children. Second, the prevalence of school shootings in Canada is relatively low. Third, there is a lack of evidence supporting the efficacy of these lockdown procedures in an actual state of emergency. We argue that there are three reasons why these procedures have been implemented, despite the fact that they are demonstrably inappropriate. First, lockdown procedures are a response to the moral panic surrounding school shootings. Second, the spread of lockdown policies across the nation represents an isomorphic response to this moral panic. Third, these procedures are adopted to maintain institutional legitimacy rather than for their functional value.

- **Duncan Philpot, University of New Brunswick**

### **Counter- Vs. Alternate-Hegemonic Presentations Of Crime Through Online Media**

This paper discusses coverage of the Toronto G8/G20 on blogs and online newspapers as an example of how mainstream and non-mainstream media provide different and similar portrayals of the events. I concern myself with how these portrayals contribute to the reinforcement of an overall cultural hegemony of crime and deviance, and what is done to counter these portrayals. Online media is changing journalism in a way which still keeps many of the same practices and structures in place while allowing more non-professional journalists to participate without being bound to journalistic practices. Outsiders to the events were given an example of how online media can be used to provide alternate- and counter-hegemonic messages to mainstream media. But a nuanced discussion also considers where mainstream media provided alternate-hegemonic messages and where blogs serve to reinforce the mainstream notions. I argue that while these websites hold the potential to allow counter-hegemonic discourse to emerge, what is actually occurring is the creation of critical, alternative-hegemony which is not yet counter-hegemonic.

- **Kelly Struthers Montford, University of Alberta**

### **Problematizations And Technologies Of Power: Tactics For The Control Of Women In Canadian Federal Prisons.**

In this article I consider current Canadian federal women's prisons as a dispositif to examine, through a Foucaultian lens how political technologies (governance, discipline, vital politics, and sovereignty) are deployed in the attempt to control female prisoners. I examine the rhetoric of the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC), as outlined in the principles of Creating Choices, to demonstrate how federally sentenced female offenders are subject to and problematized by

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the intake assessment, and the resulting correctional plan. I argue that the current philosophy guiding women's corrections is most aligned with technologies of governance but in practice discipline is deployed most prominently to ensure the prisoner's compliance to her correctional plan. I further consider how vital politics are actualized in the practice of over-prescribing psychotropic medications to prisoners who do not exhibit symptoms for which the drug was designed. The effects of this practice result in the prisoner being pacified in order to make her more amenable to participating in her correctional plan, or being sedated and "warehoused" until she is released. Finally, I show how the practice of sovereignty, as exhibited in the segregation of prisoners, is being problematized by the Union of Canadian Correctional Officers (UCCO) in their proposal for the establishment of "fortified secure areas." If actualized, this would signal a shift from this practice being a solely sovereign exercise of violence to being a strategy that is deployed to transform the unmanageable prisoner into a normalized (law-abiding, self-sufficient) subject.

➤ **Kara Brisson, University of Windsor; Daniel O'Connor, University of Windsor**

### **Governing Security And Aid In Haiti**

After a devastating earthquake struck Haiti in January 2010, member states of the UN mobilized to bring aid to reconstruct the Haitian judicial system. Previous efforts to bring aid to countries have been problematized for ineffective coordination and the Haitian case became an opportunity to "experiment in getting aid right." The Canadian government, in partnership with the UN stabilization mission (MINUSTAH), has taken the lead in the effort to reconstruct Haiti's criminal justice system. The Canadian-led policy of distributing 'judicial aid' to Haiti focuses on corrections and policing infrastructural redevelopment. This paper examines how Haitian judicial aid is constituted and distributed in light of the problematization of previous aid efforts and the necessity to govern aid (and public security) differently in the current context. The analytic for this paper is developed through an examination of the judicial aid discourse that appears in the formal documents, policy statements, and mission statement of MINUSTAH and the Canadian government.

## **Education**

### **The Corporate University: New Forms, New Challenges, New Opportunities**

Cross-listed with *Society for Socialist Studies*

Co-sponsored by the CFHSS

Session Number: ED1

Session Organizer: Claire Polster, University of Regina

Session Chair: Janice Newson, York University

Over the last thirty years, Canadian universities have become far more corporate in nature. This session is designed to explore either new aspects of, and/or new expressions of older aspects of, the ongoing corporatization of our nation's universities. (Examples of issues that might be addressed include the changing nature of institutional governance, changes in patterns of university financing, the privatization of university knowledge production and/or products, institutional strategies for recruiting and retaining "star" and "ordinary" faculty and students, the contracting out of university planning, branding, fundraising, and/or lobbying to external experts, and provincial and/or federal policies that promote corporatization). It also aims to consider the implications of these developments for both the mission and future of our

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public universities as well as for opportunities to respond to the current situation. Papers may be empirical, analytical, comparative, or a combination of these.

➤ **Katie Aubrecht, University of Toronto**

**Banking Models And Market Mentalities: A Sociological Exploration Of The Hidden Curriculum Of Academic Success**

This presentation considers the social and historical significance of the emergence of 'student life' programs and services within the contemporary Canadian university. I analyze the ascendancy of biomedical understandings of university student life in institutional policy, programs, and best practices in universities from coast to coast; tracing the relations between this way of knowing student life and modern forms of cultural imperialism. Representations of student life are examined with a view to the social construction of the language of biomedicine as a 'universal language', and a political technology strategically deployed to align the interests of members of the university community with a neo-liberal market mentality. I consider how, even as biomedical understandings of student life provide a means of questioning meritocratic interpretations of (un)successful academic performance, the standards and meaning of success are seldom questioned. Furthermore, in treating unsuccessful academic performance as the result of a biological deficit or disorder, biomedical understandings contribute to inequity in higher education by individualizing social inequality and pathologizing what are often already marginalized and oppressed students. The research presented is guided by the emergent themes from a narrative analysis of interviews conducted with representatives of student programs and services at a Canadian university in 2010.

➤ **James Meades, Carleton University**

**Where The 'K' Stands For Quality And It's 'F' In Phenomenal: A Case Study Of Carleton University**

Beginning with the perspective that the organizational nature and goals of Canadian universities are undergoing a profound shift to more corporate modes of operating structures, this paper will undertake a detailed case study of Carleton University in Ottawa, Ontario. Using data from published documents, public talks and interviews with members of the senior administration, as well as my own experiences as a union leader on campus, I will address four challenges to the integrity of public post-secondary education in Canada. First, I will examine the challenges of international recruitment and international branding with an emphasis on the out-sourcing of international student recruitment to private, for-profit corporations. Following this, I will analyze the proposed changes to the tenure and promotion process tabled by the university during the recent round of collective bargaining with the Carleton faculty association, highlighting what such changes would mean for those pursuing a tenure-track position in the future. Third, I will examine the move toward relying on financially exploited and precariously employed contract instructors to teach undergraduate courses and students. Lastly, I will assess the impacts of university corporatization on graduate studies in general and on graduate teaching assistants in particular.

This paper will conclude with a discussion of how, when taken together, these four challenges point to the fundamental need to alter the organizational model of universities in Canada to one that protects this service as a public good and protects it from the drive to run universities like businesses.

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➤ **Diane Meaghan, Seneca College of Applied Arts and Technology**

**Academic Capitalism: A Study Of Restructuring In An Eastern And Western Canadian College**

Based on globalization discourses and state neoliberal economic policies, Canadian colleges have altered the social relations of production by participating in market relations engaged in capital accumulation. As part of a SSHRC-sponsored study of the restructuring of Canadian colleges, this paper will focus on the political economy concerned with the utilization of contingent faculty and applied research in the shift from an academic to a corporate model. Although the literature has focused on the rapid increase in the use of contingent faculty as a complement of cheap labour, little attention has been paid to gender differences, motivation to work part-time, the changing nature of academic work and job satisfaction. Research findings will highlight some of the similarities and differences in colleges in western Canada to demonstrate how different academic contexts deal with issues raised by contingent faculty and applied research in the rising tide of academic capitalism.

➤ **Claire Polster, University of Regina**

**Administrative Growth And The Displacement Of The Academic Mission In Canadian Universities**

This paper explores the nature and implications of expanded administrations in Canadian universities and considers what these mean for the institution, for those who work and learn within it, and for various communities in the broader society. In particular, it addresses how administrative growth is serving, in various ways, to displace the university's academic mission to the detriment of the institution itself and the various publics whom it serves. The paper also describes and critiques some of the ways in which members of the university community particularly academics - are responding to this transformation, and it proposes more creative, and potentially effective, alternatives.

## **Imagining a University that Works for Women**

Cross-listed with *Society for Socialist Studies*

Session Number: ED2

Session Organizer & Chair: Claire Polster, University of Regina

Although it has not been high on the current agenda of the Canadian women's movement, reforming Canada's universities is crucial to the well-being of women as students, workers, activists, consumers, knowledge users, and citizens. The aims of this session are to explore the multiple ways in which the ongoing corporatization of Canada's universities is harming Canadian women, feminists, and the women's movement, and to discuss comprehensive and viable strategies to redress the situation. Papers may address the corporatization process in general or focus on particular issues and strategies such as those relating to accessibility, accountability, pedagogy, research funding, intellectual property, academic hiring, tenure, and promotion, etc.

➤ **Linda Christiansen-Ruffman, Saint Mary's University**

**Imagining A University That Works For Women: Feminist Learning From Four Experiments**

This paper analyses four attempts to implement alternative models of a university consistent with women's visions: (1) the Margaret Fulton experiment of circles as an organising principle at Mount Saint Vincent University in the seventies; (2) the development of the women's university in Norway by Berit Ås in the 1980s and its alternative curriculum models and attempts to challenge





rigid disciplinary structures; (3) the interuniversity women's studies graduate program in Halifax in the 1990s and its attempts to create a women's space within the university; and (4) the International Feminist University Network in the 2000s and its attempt to combine features of some of these experiments and women's knowledge from social movement groups and to reinvent the university. Each description will focus on the problem identified, the attempt to solve it and the challenges and difficulties of its implementation. Drawing on these examples of feminist praxis as well as their interconnections, the paper will point to the similarities, differences of these four cases and conclude with the broader implications for feminist inspired education within the context of corporatisation and contemporary patriarchy.

➤ **Laurel O'Gorman, Laurentian University**

**Access To Education For Single Mother Students Track Education**

The Ontario Works Act, 1997 is a piece of legislation which has made it illegal to obtain social assistance benefits and student loans at the same time. Since its inception, obtaining a university degree has become largely inaccessible to single mothers in Ontario. Using institutional ethnographic methodologies and socialist feminist and anti-colonialist perspectives, I explore two primary ways in which the exclusion of single mothers from post-secondary occurs. The first barrier is financial, with a total reliance on student loans that provide low levels of funding while in school, rising costs of education, and substantial debt loads to repay after graduation that can leave families headed by a single mother in poverty long after single mothers achieve their degree. The second barrier is with regards to notions of the traditional student in relation to gendered work expectations and the invisibility of unpaid and domestic labour. The programs that are accessible to potential students are strongly influenced by how notions of what activities constitute 'work' determine who is considered to be deserving of help funding their post-secondary education. In my research, I conclude that obtaining a post-secondary degree unattainable for many potential single mother students.

➤ **Janice Newson, York University**

**Counter Pressure Or Beneficiary? Academic Feminism's Interaction With University Corporatization And Commercialization**

Looking back forty years from the vantage point of 2011, feminism by all counts has been impressively successful. As recently as four or five decades ago, only a handful of university students were women and women faculty members were few and far between in both the arts and the sciences. Today, in many social science and humanities disciplines as well as in professional fields such as law and medicine, women are close to if not more than the majority of students in undergraduate and graduate degree programmes and also in tenure track faculty positions. Women also occupy high administrative positions including the office of university president. Equally impressive is that new disciplines and areas of study, and new knowledges and understandings that have significantly changed existing scholarship have resulted from the increased presence of women in universities.

However, these gains for women have been achieved during the same period that another major transformation of the university has taken place, a transformation that is alternately captured in scholarly literature by concepts such as corporatization and commercialization.



On the surface, it may appear ironic and even counter intuitive that these two trajectories of change have overlapped in the past three or four decades of university development. But their overlap raises important questions. To what extent, if at all, have the successes of academic feminism within the academy been counter-weights to corporatization and to what extent have they been aided by, perhaps even implicated in, the successes of corporatization and commercialization? This paper attempts to explore these questions.

## Education Omnibus A

Session Number: ED3-A

Session Organizer & Chair: Kristyn Frank, Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario

- **Patrizia Albanese, Ryerson University; Deborah Harrison, University of New Brunswick; Karen Robson, York University; Chris Sanders, York University**

### **School Engagement Among Youth In Canadian Forces Families: A Comparative Analysis**

Many have focused on the importance of social capital in the educational outcomes of young people. Coleman (1988), for example, argued that it was the social capital in the students' communities and families that accounted for lower dropout rates and more school engagement among some--theorizing that children's educational achievement was driven by strong parental interest and engagement, which had additional effects that extended into the community.

The ties that develop in a community through the civic engagement of parents have a 'spillover' effect of both improving the educational attainment of children and ensuring their healthy cognitive development. But what happens to young people's school engagement and attainment when they live in communities affected by frequent moves and military deployments? In our 2008 survey of youth in Canadian Forces families (part of a larger mixed methods study), we found that while Armyville (pseudonym) adolescents are significantly less likely than their peers in the rest of Canada (as measured in the NLSCY) to participate in school activities, they are also less likely to skip school. Furthermore, adolescents from Armyville Canadian Forces families indicate both a stronger positive attitude toward school and a stronger educational ambition than their peers across Canada. Despite these positive attitudes and behaviours this group reports having a significantly worse relationship with their teachers. The major purpose of this paper is to explore and explain these contradictory findings.

- **Lori Wilkinson, University of Manitoba**

### **The Challenges Of Credential Recognition In High School Among Newcomer Youth To Canada**

The migrant population is young. Internationally, over half of all the migrants worldwide cross borders before their 30th birthday and immigrants to Canada follow this trend- 57% of all newcomers arrive prior to age 29. For this reason, their experiences in the Canadian school system have significant influence in determining their labour market trajectories, social and cultural integration as adults. Credential recognition is rarely identified as a problem for those migrating before reaching adulthood and results from this research contest this assumption. Using data collected from 2500 youth participating in the Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada and a matched sub-sample of qualitative interviews with newly arrived immigrant youth, this paper examines the challenges they face in secondary schools in the four years after

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their arrival including issues of recognition of high school credits and diplomas from overseas, early high school leaving, and their trajectories to post-secondary education. The merits of several theoretical frameworks are discussed in relation to the findings including the segmented assimilation, migrant effect and the critical race perspective.

➤ **Laura Wright, University of Guelph**

**Exploring The Effects Of Aboriginal-Specific Early Childhood Education Program Participation On Later Measures Of Social Capital**

It is well documented in the research literature that Aboriginal peoples are educationally disadvantaged when compared to the Canadian population as a whole. Factors contributing to the lower educational attainment of Aboriginal peoples include a lack of culturally appropriate educational practices and curricula, and limited access to early childhood education programs. Past research has repeatedly shown the benefits of early childhood educational experiences, however, the benefits of early childhood educational programs designed specifically for Aboriginal children have received very little attention in the research literature. Drawing from the most recent Aboriginal Peoples Survey (APS) this paper seeks to address this gap in the literature by investigating differences in Aboriginal children's social capital one to 10 years after participation in either a mainstream early childhood educational program, or a program designed specifically for Aboriginal children. The results indicate that overall, Aboriginal children who attended Aboriginal-specific programs have higher levels of social capital than those who attended mainstream programs. Moreover, the results suggest that Aboriginal-specific early childhood educational programs provide longer-term benefits, while the benefits of mainstream programs disappear as the child ages. The social and policy implications relating to these results are discussed, and suggestions for future research are provided.

➤ **David Zarifa, Nipissing University**

**Persistent Inequality Or Liberation From Social Origins? Determining Who Attends Graduate School In Canada's Expanded Postsecondary System**

Drawing on the most recent National Graduates Survey (2005), this paper examines who goes to graduate school in Canada. As postsecondary enrolments continue to rise, students from a variety of socio-demographic backgrounds are entering higher education in greater numbers. At the same time, a greater proportion of students are continuing on to Master's and doctorate degrees. Yet, it remains unclear whether social class, gender, race, age, or region impact one's likelihood of entering graduate school. Comparative research in the United States, suggests that family background effects may weaken and become more indirect by the time students pursue graduate studies. As students enter higher and higher levels of education, one possibility is that the effects of social origins may decline. To this point, no systematic studies have explored these relationships in Canada.

➤ **Melinda Vasily, University of Guelph; Laura Wright, University of Western Ontario; David Walters, University of Guelph;**

**Postsecondary Student Loan Defaults In Canada**

Government postsecondary student loan programs have become increasingly available to provide opportunities and upward mobility for students of disadvantaged backgrounds. However, the impact of rising levels of student debt on the repayment experiences of recent



postsecondary graduates has become an especially important concern for social theorists, policy makers as well as students navigating the postsecondary landscape. Past research has found that field of study is an important predictor of difficulty repaying government student loans. However, little is known regarding default levels relating to government student loans for recent college and university graduates in Canada, especially when their labour market outcomes are taken into consideration.

This study employs data from Statistics Canada's 2005 National Graduates Survey (NGS) to examine the relationship between field of study and loan default on government-supported student loans for graduates of community college and baccalaureate level university programs when controlling for many factors relating to schooling, sociodemographic characteristics, and earnings. Overall, both level of schooling (college versus university) and field of study are significant predictors of whether graduates report defaulting on their government student loans within two years of graduation. However, these findings are relatively unrelated to earnings. The social and policy implications relating to these findings are discussed.

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## Education Omnibus B

Session Number: ED3-B

Session Organizer & Chair: Kristyn Frank, Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario

➤ **Shaun Chen, University of Toronto**

**From The Three Rs To The Three Cs: A Framework For Environmental Sustainability And Social Justice At The Toronto District School Board**

A lot has changed since the 1990s when the three Rs mantra--reduce, reuse, recycle--was in full swing across Ontario schools, as the provincial government of the day decided to remove environmental studies from its curriculum. Most recently, the Toronto District School Board approved the "Go Green: Climate Change Action Plan," largely focused on facilities-oriented solutions such as renewable energy projects. A closer reading of the board's policies and practices, however, suggests the need for a more comprehensive framework to address the green challenges of today. In this paper, I argue for a framework of the three Cs--construction, community and curriculum--needed to support environmental sustainability and social justice at the TDSB. By examining the three Cs, I not only to identify the benefits of various green practices occurring throughout the board, but also reveal the challenges experienced in each of these areas. Emerging from my analysis through the lens of sustainability and social justice is a call to action that requires the attention of virtually every level of government.

➤ **Johanne Jonathas Jean Pierre, McMaster University**

**The Importance Of Family Environment For Inequality In Education And Its Implications For Social Policy**

Although high quality of teaching and smaller class sizes at the elementary level are important institutional characteristics to promote academic success, differences in academic achievement are more deeply influenced by differences in the home of origin than the school attended, (Downey, Hippel and Broh 2004). Some recent research data has suggested the existence of certain differences between students from working class and middle class families. Namely, students from both classes progress at a similar rate academically during the school year, however, students from middle class families continue to progress academically during the

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summer whereas students from working class families tend to plateau or regress (Downey, Hippel and Broh 2004). Other studies have demonstrated that different family practices per social class, such as "concerted cultivation" and "natural growth", are possible mechanisms through which inequality in education between social classes is maintained (Lareau 2002). The purpose of this paper is to assess recent empirical data about different family environments and their implications for community-based and government policies which aim at reducing inequalities.

➤ **Morgan Poteet, York University**

**Belonging For Central American Male Youths In Toronto Schools**

This paper is a draft of research findings on sense of belonging and schooling for first and second generation Central American immigrant and refugee male youth in Toronto. The findings are part of a larger grounded study on issues of belonging, identity, schooling and achievement. The study is based on the research participants' perceptions of a wide range of factors that may have a bearing on sense of belonging, such as: family and migration histories; schooling contexts in Canada; student-teacher relations; and peers in school. The study seeks a better understanding of the schooling process for immigrant, refugee and second-generation male youth who are marginalized or who may be at risk of marginalization in Canada. The paper also explores efforts and strategies developed by youths to avoid marginalization in school, and various outcomes for sense of belonging or lack thereof.

➤ **Liz Rondinelli, York University**

**Schooling The Self: Pedagogical Individualism In Contemporary Education Practice**

Education occupies a peculiar place when considered alongside questions of power and resistance. On one hand, movements that seek to secure the inclusion of education within discourses of human rights characterize education as an inalienable good, a necessary element within any meaningful emancipatory project. A hopefulness in the transformative capacities of education is located in the possibility of the student becoming conscious, becoming an agent, and therefore becoming more than a 'mere' product of the socio-economic conditions that bear upon them. On the other hand, more recent developments have seen the dissemination of market principles into every sphere of human activity, including education. Wendy Brown, for instance, warns against the effects of conceptualizing teachers as "efficient instructional delivery systems who generate human capital," a condition that would not only reduce the role of the educator to ensuring the reproduction of labour, but would also compel the student to make decisions in accordance with how best to optimize their human capital potential. Warnings like these emphasize the dangers of permitting neoliberal ideals to infringe upon an institution that declares itself to act in the public interest.

Yet, given this neoliberal turn, the divide between which elements of schooling are "liberatory" and which are "oppressive" is not so clear. Indeed, the recognition that schooling possesses the peculiar potential to both liberate and govern people has led researchers to seek out the ways in which power operates in the name of liberating the student, a move that attests to the evolving capacity of neoliberal ideology to appropriate even the language of freedom toward its own ends. In this paper, I examine how contemporary practices of educational governance seem to function primarily through "pedagogical individualism". This shift is characterized by a rise of discourses of empowering the student through individually-tailored pedagogy and self-



directed learning, and through the advancement of new types of schooling practices that reconceive the learning process and teacher-student relationships.

## Environmental Research Cluster

Event Number: CLUS1

Co-organizers and panelists include;

- **John Parkins, University of Alberta**
- **Mark Stoddart, Memorial University of Newfoundland**

This meeting welcomes all CSA members with interests in environment and society. This includes, but is not limited to: natural resource use and conflicts, food and agriculture, environmental education and communication, climate change, environmental movements, green technologies, environmental risks and disasters, and environmental planning and governance. We hope to use this meeting to discuss the following three items: 1) How might we strengthen the presence of the Environmental Research Cluster within the CSA? 2) How might we use the Research Cluster as a framework for larger scale collaboration among researchers and students interested in environmental issues? and 3) How might we create a web presence for the Research Cluster to provide a more visible profile for environmental sociologists in Canada?

## EraCan

### Sociological Research and Canada-EU Cooperation

#### **Economic Uncertainty in Europe:**

#### **Meeting Employment, Social and Environmental Challenges,**

The GUSTO Project (FP7)

Dr. Axel van den Berg, McGill University

Coping with economic uncertainty while seeking security is a central dilemma of public policy in a globalising economy. Dr. Van den Berg is a participant in the GUSTO project, bringing together researchers from ten European countries and Canada, as well as the European Trade Union Institute, to study the affects of a globalising economy on European countries and consider new economic, social and environmental policy options for the future.

#### **Building a Research Network in Europe**

*Joining European Colleagues in FP7 Projects: A Canadian Perspective*

Dr. Axel van den Berg, McGill University

*Opportunities for Canadians in FP7: Mobility and Training*

Dr. Garth Williams, Director, ERA-Can

*Opportunities for Canadians in FP7: Social Sciences and Humanities*

Dr. Olaf Heilmayer, Scientific Officer, DLR (Germany)

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## International Research in Canada

*Canadian Network of EU Centres of Excellence and the Canada-Europe Transatlantic Dialogue  
(SSHRC Strategic Research Cluster)*

*SSHRC Support for International Research*

## Environmental Sociology

### Ecological Responsibility: Practical and Theoretical Challenges to Cultural Change

Session Number: EV1-A

Session Organizer & Chair: Keith Warriner, University of Waterloo

Discussant: Mark CJ Stoddart, Memorial University of Newfoundland

➤ **Joanne Gaudet, University of Ottawa**

#### **Responsibility And Ecological Modernization In The Canadian Engineering Profession: A Comparison Of Three Provinces**

How has the profession of engineering ecologically modernised and incorporated responsibility in three Canadian provinces from 1970 to 2009? This question is at the core of my empirical cross-section comparative case study of professional envirosponsibility in British Columbia, Alberta and Ontario. I propose the concept of envirosponsibility as a new measure combining responsibility and ecological modernisation. I explore the profession-responsibility-environment triadic relationship through the lens of Ecological Modernisation Theory (EMT). Pellizzoni's responsibility typology enhances the investigative framework. Results include a proposed schematic of the profession's environmental governance and reveals high levels of variation in envirosponsibility between provinces; British Columbia ranked highest, followed by Alberta and Ontario ranked lowest. In conclusion, I discuss these findings as a starting point in the dialogue and research into profession-responsibility-environment triadic relationships.

➤ **Kyle Zelmer, University of New Brunswick**

#### **Owning Green: Tensions In Business And Cultural Perspectives On Environmentally Green Food Products**

Good business and the environmentally green phenomenon have been synonymous for the last several years in Canada. The marketing strategies for organic, free range, and natural food products have concentrated on aspects of status and governmentality. A number of the major Canadian grocery chains (Loblaw's in particular) have used the notion of responsabilization to entice green food consumers while at the same time stressing their conventional foods are beyond reproach. I will sketch how green food marketing in major Canadian grocery stores has evolved over the last five years, and the roles labeling legislation and other food regulations have in the social meaning of these green products. I draw on broad contextual literature as well as qualitative data from my previous research and ongoing dissertation work concerning the social meanings and consumer identities which have become attached to greenness. I will highlight intriguing tensions in the literature and from interviews with green food consumers on the ethos of greenness.



➤ **Shaun Bartone, University of New Brunswick**

**A New Subsystem Called Ecology: A Way Out Of The Ecological Dilemma In Luhmann's Ecological Communication**

Ecology is at the early stages of formation, not only as a scientific and moral discipline, but as a new functional subsystem, whose specialized purpose is to develop communications about the system/environment difference for the whole social system. Historically, the discipline of ecology has always been both a social and natural science, thus enabling its specialized function to observe and communicate the system/environment difference. As both a natural and social science, it has the capacity to perform second-order observations of both the natural environment and the social system. Functionally, it acts as a gateway between the environment and the social system that allows in data from the environment and translates it into a coded form of communication (fit/unfit) that other subsystems can comprehend. As such it mitigates the problem of the under-resonance and over-resonance of the social system to ecological crises.

➤ **Janet Atkinson-Grosjean, University of British Columbia; Justin Page, University of British Columbia**

**Technological Innovation And The Social Licence To Operate**

Various literatures address the concept of a company's 'social license to operate' (SLO), especially in the context of industries engaged in exploitation of natural resources. The concept is somewhat nebulous but there is general agreement that the granting of a social license depends on integrating the concerns of social, community and environmental stakeholders into a company's plans and operations for a particular site. The SLO imperative helps balance the power of a company with the power of local community.

Although concerns about environmental contaminants are key elements in the granting or withholding of SLOs, the literature tends to be silent on the impact of technological change and innovation in treating contamination. This paper reports on responses to actual or proposed science-based improvements in remediation of heavy metal-contaminated drainage from two sites in British Columbia. We discuss the relationship between the adoption of such improvements and a company's SLO.

We also raise some critical questions about the homogenization implicit in the SLO concept. Who constitutes 'the social' in SLO? How are dissenting opinions, different factions, weaker voices accommodated? Finally, what (if any) are the operational implications when a social license is withdrawn but legal permits and licenses remain in place?

**Eco-politics, Eco-systems: Approaches and Struggles to Preserving Nature**

Session Number: EV1-B

Session Organizer: Keith Warriner, University of Waterloo

Chair: Janet Atkinson-Grosjean, University of British Columbia

Discussant: Gary Bowden, University of New Brunswick

➤ **Camilo Ordonez, Dalhousie University**

**Urban Forest Values In Canada: A Primer**

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Urban places are more and more being understood as ecosystems, where human socio-cultural landscapes and natural components not just interact but together form the whole. With the majority of Canada's population concentrated in cities, it is increasingly important to determine the way people relate to their natural environment in the Canadian urban realm. The lens of values has provided great insights into forest management and policy to illustrate what people consider important in nature beyond techno-ecological or utilitarian considerations. This lens is also vital to understand how people relate to one of the crucial elements of urban ecosystems: the trees. It is well established in the literature that urban forests have a wide range of values. However, priorities of the citizenry have not been explored and it is unclear how this value set might play an explicit role in urban sustainable forest management. So far, the literature has not systematically probed urban forest values in Canada with a consistent set of approaches. We propose to bridge that gap with this primer on urban forest values across Canada. We present and analyse urban forest values data gathered under a mixed-methods approach involving focus groups and street surveys in the city of Halifax. This study contributes to the knowledge of urban forest values in Canada and provides insights on how to go beyond techno-ecological considerations in the sustainable management of the urban forest.

➤ **Justin Page, University of British Columbia**

**Reassembling Siconatures: Wilderness Politics in British Columbia's Great Bear Rainforest**

Wilderness preservation is no longer a matter of drawing a line around a disputed piece of land in order to make it off-limits to people. The "fences and fines" approach to conservation has long been discredited, due its contribution to ecological fragmentation, violation of the rights of local people and perpetuation of an unsupportable myth of pristine wilderness. In contrast, wilderness areas are increasingly understood as peopled spaces, while conservation focuses on integrating ecology, economy and equity. In light of the new politics of wilderness, how are environmental sociologists to interpret and analyse battles to 'save' particular areas from destructive human practices? In this paper, I deploy Actor-Network Theory to analyse the struggle to save British Columbia's Great Bear Rainforest as a process of disassembly and reassembly of socio-ecological spaces. Drawing on textual analysis and interviews with key actors, I illustrate the scientific, political, cultural and economic processes through which one socio-ecological regime (the Mid-Coast Timber Supply Area) came to be replaced with another (the Great Bear Rainforest). I conclude with a discussion of some of the positive and negative consequences associated with the new socio-ecological regime, contrasting this outcome with the "fences and fines" approach.

➤ **Mark Stoddart, Memorial University of Newfoundland; Howard Ramos, Dalhousie University; David Tindall, University of British Columbia**

**When Getting Back To Nature Becomes A Problem: Mass Media And The Eco-Politics Of Outdoor Recreation**

For environmental movements, the mass media are a key means of reaching potential supporters, engaging public and political debate, and re-shaping cultural interpretations of relationships with the non-human environment. This paper examines media coverage of two cases where outdoor sport has become the object of environmental movement mobilization and claims-making: a proposed ski resort at Jumbo Pass, British Columbia, and conflict over Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) use in the Tobetic Wilderness Area, Nova Scotia. This paper draws on provincial and national news coverage, environmental organization websites, and interviews

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with key movement actors to compare cases. The analysis answers four key questions: How successful are environmentalists at gaining access to provincial and national news sources? How successful are environmentalists at translating their interpretations of these conflicts into the mass media? Which protest tactics appear to be most successful for gaining media attention? How do core activists interpret their interactions with the media and the coverage devoted to these conflicts?

➤ **Keith Warriner, University of Waterloo; Anna Marie Cipriani, University of Waterloo**

### **Greening The Neighbourhood: Environmental Planning And The Preservation Of Nature**

Greenway corridors incorporated into urban developments are increasingly becoming important in both a social and an ecological context. Greenways, on the one hand, are a response to human needs that help to mitigate and provide counterpoint to the loss of natural landscape as a result of expanding urbanization, thereby enhancing quality of life. Equally significantly for urban planners, greenways, and other environmental design features of new neighbourhoods, are seen as important means for maintaining ecological quality. Greenway planning has evolved as a planning tool of multipurpose greenway corridors in a diversity of landform types at every scale and planning level. Implicit in these progressive environmental planning approaches is the assumption that residents, through awareness and knowledge, will undertake to advance local environmental stewardship. Whereas design features may mitigate encroachment and damage to the environment, it is predicted this will be complemented by enhanced environmental commitment on the part of individuals. This paper presents evidence with respect for this hypothesis, and with regard to the success of such planning directions overall, drawing on evidence obtained from residents living in new suburban neighbourhoods in Waterloo, Ontario contiguous to woodlands and other ecologically sensitive landforms through which development occurred based upon progressive environmental planning incorporating Greenways and public education. Findings investigate residents' attitudes, behaviours, perceptions and knowledge with respect to the environmental amenities found in their neighbourhoods and their responses to these. The purpose of the research is to assist in answering the question of whether progressive environmental planning in the context of new urban development assists in enhancing environmental protection as a result of the lifestyle changes of residents.

## **Ethnographic/SI**

### **Self, Identity, and Agency**

Session Number: ES1

Session Organizer: John Goyder, University of Waterloo

Session Chair: Kimberly-Anne Ford, Canadian Institutes of Health Research

➤ **David Toews, York University**

### **The Valence Of Social Acts: Researching Agency In Online Social Life**

This paper conceptualizes a trend toward the study of serious play groups in the ethnography of digital media. Drawing on Goffman's analogy between games and social life, serious play groups are social groups in which actors aim to make each act as pregnant with meaning, as layered with potentialities, as possible. The rules of online environments create ambiguous

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situations and opportunities for transgressions and unsociabilities that in-themselves are frequently considered added value. In the online world deviance is apathy about rules, not rule-breaking, while agency is about play with order rather than play against order. Translating these reflections into operational terms for further research, I put forward the concept of the valence, or combining power of any social act. The valence of a social act can be said to be increased if the number of possibilities for different choices taken by actors in their social practices is increased. In the online world the relative valence of acts is paramount. An act with a low valence, typically committed by 'newbies', is one that fails to care about or understand the stakes of the immediate situation. An act with a high valence shows awareness and has a high enablement factor for others.

➤ **Duncan Philpot, University of New Brunswick**

**Habitus, Field And Capital Within The Juggling Community**

This paper explores habitus, field and capital in the juggling community. The state of the juggling community has been discussed widely from within, but little to no academic attention has been paid in a sociological fashion. The social dynamics that exist within the community merit consideration as a case study into the effects of technology on a sub-culture. Before the ability to share videos online, people who had the means to gather together would convene at conventions to share tricks, build rapport and maintain the small community. As technology progressed, people who could not attend conventions previously could join the community and learn tricks from the Internet rather than in person, and there has since been an increase in participants in the culture. In other ways, it has also fostered a DIY attitude towards juggling where people interact and learn exclusively through the Internet. The reinforcement of tiers of participants by jugglers within the community as well as the role cultural capital plays in determining participants' place within the group is also explored.

➤ **Amelia Curran, Carleton University**

**Promoting A Culture Of Agency: Exploring Youth Agency Outside The Risk Discourse**

The focus of this paper is on the construction of agency for at-risk youth. The risk discourse allows for a narrow conception of agency associated with 'good' choices, so that refusing to manage one's own risk becomes akin to refusing to exercise agency. In contrast to this, my paper explores spaces in which expressions of agency outside the risk framework are possible. Using data from 25 qualitative interviews conducted with community-based youth-serving agency providers in Winnipeg, Manitoba, I explore two alternate forms of youth agency: resistance to the risk discourse itself, and the development of subjectivities outside the risk framework. While youth agencies often use risk as a criteria of programming, arts-based programs can offer moments of reprieve from the constraining aspects of neoliberalism; these spaces allow youth to express life experiences and identities without having them swept up into impressions of risk, danger, and crime or victimization, prevention, and responsabilization. Using Paul Willis' concept of 'symbolic creativity' as a theoretical tool for recognizing the way youth establish meaning, I argue that the use of art or music in the production of identities outside the pre-criminal/responsibilized citizen binary is an often unheard, but not absent, expression of agency.



➤ **Secil Erdogan, University of Western Ontario**

**Negotiation Of Identities In The Process Of Acculturation And Its Importance For Successful Integration**

An immigrant or a refugee individual (re)settling in a new country experiences confusion as former internalized social norms and roles may not be sensed appropriate anymore. These individuals are expected to relearn the meanings of symbols, dismantle some old customs and beliefs, readjust to a new system of values, experiment with new roles, and gain skills and competencies that are necessary for participation in the new society. In other words, they need to 'negotiate identities'. This study examines identity negotiations and crisis (re)experienced by a sample of Karen refugees resettled in London, ON, Canada. The participants completed measures of identity, psychological health, and acculturation attitudes. The relationships among identity crisis, psychological health and acculturation attitudes are explored in order to identify certain patterns that are predictive of integration attitudes. Ordinal regression analysis showed that participants experiencing identity crisis and loss in sense of temporal continuity were less likely to acculturate and integrate into the host society. Demographic variables of marital status and place of birth were also found to be significant in predicting acculturation and integration. The results were the same for both men and women.

## **Gender and Sexuality**

### **Gender, Aging, and Inequality**

Session Number: GS1-A

Session Organizer & Chair: Deborah Van Den Hoonaard, St. Thomas University

Although the study of gender has advanced greatly over the last number of decades, a focus on gender in relation to aging has been almost invisible until very recently. In addition, very little work in the sociology of aging has addressed gender. In the area of aging, gender, if discussed at all, usually refers only to women as if men did not have gender. Indeed, the study of masculinity and aging is in its infancy while work on women and aging is not much further along. This session invites papers that discuss empirical or theoretical work on gender and aging that deals with women, men, or both. Papers from a variety of perspectives and methodological approaches are welcome. To submit abstracts for this session until February 15, 2011, email Deborah K. van den Hoonaard directly.

➤ **Ann Kim, York University; Karen Robson, York University**

**The Intersectionality Of Gender, Race, And Immigration On The Economic Well-Being Of Older Adults**

There is considerable variation in the degree of economic security in later life due in part to the gendered and racialized patterns of paid and unpaid work throughout the life course and experiences of immigration. In this paper, we argue that an intersectional perspective in terms of gender, race and immigration is needed to elucidate and understand the patterns of disadvantage for older adults. We investigate low income among adults aged 55 plus within an analytical framework that is contextual, intersectional and life course driven using the 2006 Canadian census.

➤ **Hazel MacRae, Mount St. Vincent University**

**Gender Inequality: Older Women And Health**

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Despite the fact that women constitute the majority of the older population, and older women interact more frequently with physicians and the health care system than older men and younger persons, knowledge and understanding of older women's experiences with health care is surprisingly limited (Maxwell & Oakley, 1998; Tannenbaum & Mayo, 2003). Although there is evidence suggesting that the physician-older patient relationship can involve ageism and paternalism (Henderson, 1997), for example, little is known about how age and gender may interact, and the extent to which older women experience a "double jeopardy" of ageism and sexism in their encounters with physicians. The main purpose of this paper is to critically examine the research literature concerning older women and health, and to outline a research study designed to investigate older women's perceptions and beliefs about health care and their experiences with the health care system.

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## **Negotiating Age and Gender**

Session Number: GS1-B

Session Organizer: Deborah Van Den Hoonaard, St. Thomas University

Session Chair: Lisa Jo van den Scott, Northwestern University

- **Erica Bennett, University of British Columbia; Laura Hurd Clarke, University of British Columbia**

### **Gender and Aging: The Experience of Multiple Chronic Conditions**

The majority of older adults will experience at least one chronic medical condition in later life and the average number of chronic conditions has been found to increase with age. While there is a rich sociological tradition of examining the lived experience of specific chronic illnesses, there has been no research into the impact of having multiple chronic conditions in later life. Building on the extant literature and drawing on data from multiple interviews with 35 older adults (aged 75+) who had a range of three to 14 chronic conditions (average of six), we explore how men and women experience and negotiate numerous health issues. Our analysis indicates that older men and women exhibit gendered patterns with respect to both the management of their illnesses, and their everyday experiences of their aging and ailing bodies. In particular, the men and women's narratives reveal differences in their perceptions of and approaches to pain and health management, sleep and rest, and social engagement. We consider our findings in light of the extant research on gender, aging, and the experience of chronic conditions in later life.

- **Linda T. Caissie, St. Thomas University**

### **The Raging Grannies: A Women's Collective Act Of Resistance And Empowerment**

Guided by a feminist gerontology perspective, this paper is based on a qualitative study that explored how a group of older activists, the Raging Grannies, challenged the social construction of age and gender. What emerged from the data was how the role of activism in the lives of the Raging Grannies assisted in challenging ageism by transforming the traditional image of older women as weak, passive, and dependent, into an image of strong, political, and independent old women. The Raging Grannies felt their age actually allowed them more freedom and opportunity to express themselves and allowed them to break away from traditional gender roles of their youth. The Raging Grannies believed they were reclaiming space that would have

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once been denied to them. It was evident, that these women were engaged in a process of empowering themselves while redefining what is meant to be an old woman.

➤ **Deborah K. van den Hoonaard, St. Thomas University**

### **Gender And Widows' And Widowers' Relationships With Adult Children**

This paper looks at how widows and widowers describe their relationships with their children. The data for the paper come from two in-depth interview studies with older widows and widowers about their experiences with widowhood. Gender permeates both how widows and widowers describe their relationships and the negotiation of those relationships. Widows find that their children become over protective, especially sons, and that they become closer to their children. Widowers often become closer to their adult children as well, but their relationships with sons involve an evaluation of their character as men. Widowers' relationships with their daughters involve traditional gendered expectations and whether or not the daughters are critical of the way their fathers are living their lives.

## **Lecture**

### **2011 Nels Anderson Lecture:**

#### **Taking Leave of Your Census/Senses in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Canada**

Lecture Number: LECT1

Lecture Organizers: Jacqueline Low, University of New Brunswick; Gary Bowden, University of New Brunswick

2011 Nels Anderson Speaker: Monica Boyd, University of Toronto

Censuses are government-mandated, involuntary, and complete enumerations of national populations that are the cornerstones for nation building. Yet, not all governments have censuses and several larger countries have altered their census taking systems. In the summer of 2010, Canada's mandatory census consisting of over 100 questions was transformed into a voluntary survey with an expected response rate of approximately 50% of the Canadian population. What underlies this dramatic change? What are the consequences for Canada's statistical system, for the quality of economic, social and political information and for knowledge production and use? What are the implications for Canada and for Canadians? These questions are at the core of the 2011 Nels Anderson Lecture.

Dr. Monica Boyd is the Canada Research Chair in Immigration, Inequality and Public Policy in the Department of Sociology at the University of Toronto. An avid user of census and other survey data, Dr. Boyd has written numerous articles, books and monographs on the changing family, gender inequality, international migration and ethnic stratification. Social inequality is a core theme in her research.

## **Meet the Author(s)**

### **Panel with Authors of *Against Orthodoxy***

Session Number: MA1

Session Organizer: Trevor Harrison, University of Lethbridge

Session Chair: Monica Boyd, University of Toronto

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- **Karen Stanbridge, Memorial University**

**Where is childhood in nationalism theory?**

- **Trevor Harrison, University of Lethbridge**

**Islamic nationalism, imperialism, and the Middle East**

## Panels

### Immigration In A Smaller Province: Lessons From New Brunswick

Panel Number: PAN1

Panel Organizer: Chedly Belkhodja, University of Moncton

Panel Discussant: Nicole Picot, Government of New Brunswick

- **Chedly Belkhodja, University of Moncton, Ann Kim, York University**

**Korean Immigration In Three Cities Of New Brunswick**

- **Kurt Peacock, University of New Brunswick-St. John**

**Recent Trends Of Immigration In Saint-John**

- **Stacey Wilson-Forsberg, Policy Advisor, Government of New Brunswick**

**Getting Used to the Quiet: Immigrant Adolescents' Journey to Belonging in New Brunswick**

### Sociological and/or Social Theory? Directions for Canadian Sociology

Panel Number: PAN2

Panel Organizer: Neil McLaughlin, McMaster University

Panel Chair & Discussant: Ailsa Craig, Memorial University of New Brunswick

- **Neil McLaughlin, McMaster University**

**Theory On Three Legs: A Vision For Our Future**

Canadian sociologists have been debating the future of our discipline on campuses and as represented by the CSA, and a core element of this wider discussion has been controversy regarding the theoretical roots of the sociological imagination. My presentation will argue that a multi-method-theory orientation building on a three paradigm balance (multivariate, historical-comparative and interpretive theories-methods) should be at the core of the theoretical vision of the discipline. I will make the case that the bulk of our sociological research and teaching should be engaged in some kind of disciplined dialogue with all three of these traditions in empirically oriented social science. The implications of my analysis and approach will be drawn out for undergraduate teaching, graduate training, hiring, tenure and promotion and research publishing.

- **Antony Puddephatt, Lakehead University, Vanessa Lucky, Lakehead University**

**Mapping Trends And Directions For Sociological Theory In Canada**

Gabriel Abend has delineated seven semantic versions of the word "theory" as it is used and applied by different groups in the sociological tradition. These can be summarized as (1) finding associations between abstract variables; (2) developing causal explanations; (3) exploring hermeneutic narratives; (4) studying the work and ideas of past theorists; (5) refining/applying theoretical frameworks; (6) making normative prescriptions; and (7) addressing long-standing

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theoretical problems. The argument goes that all seven forms ought to be encouraged, and no one form should take precedence over the others, such that scholars in the discipline can begin to better understand and respect the different goals and aims of theory in the varying contexts it is used. If we are to chart new directions for sociological/social theory in the Canadian discipline, we might first identify forms and styles of theory that are saturated and those which are under-represented. Sampling theory articles published in the \*Canadian Review of Sociology\* and the \*Canadian Journal of Sociology\* over the last ten years, the authors aim to explore the representation of different theoretical trends in the Canadian discipline, and use this as a framework to consider where we might place greater emphasis in the future.

➤ **Katja Neves, Concordia University**

### **The Aesthetics of Theorization: Towards a Recursive Understanding of Theory, Data, and Scholarly Production**

'Theory' remains one of the most debated topics within sociological thinking while also gathering the least consensus within the discipline. Often discussed are the intangible politics of theorization, the complexities of conciliating different theoretical traditions and/or frameworks, and the tensions that can potentially arise between deductive and inductive orientations. While all of these issues are critically important, this paper focuses on an epistemological conundrum of theory and theorizing which can easily be left out of these discussions: the recursive relations that take place between theory, data, and scholarly production as the researcher moves in time and in space through the processes of research conceptualization, data gathering, data compiling data interpretation, writing, and peer review. It is argued that revealing these patterns of recursion draws attention to the mostly invisible aesthetic dimensions of 'theory' and its inextricable entanglement with 'data' and the 'researcher'.

## **Panel on Student Concerns About The Academic Job Market**

Panel Number: PAN4

Panel Organizers: Jamie Baker, Memorial University of Newfoundland; Katelin Bowes, University of Victoria; Stella Park, University of Toronto

With increasing competition faced by Canadian sociology graduate students in the job market, graduate students are becoming more concerned with landing an academic position in Canadian universities. How do Canadian graduate students compare to American-graduate students in the Canadian job market? Have we been trained well or enough to be in the competition? How much does publishing record and networks matter in landing a tenure-track assistant professorship position? Is getting a post-doc award becoming necessary to even land an academic position these days? What other options do students have if they no longer want to pursue an academic career after their sociology graduate degree? To address some of these concerns, the Student Concerns Committee of CSA has invited faculty members that have served in the hiring committee in Canadian universities to provide helpful tips and honest discussion about the reality of sociology graduate students in Canadian job market.

- **Doug Baer, University of Victoria**
- **Harley Dickinson, University of Saskatchewan**
- **Katja Neves-Graca, Concordia University**





## Race, Racialization, and the University

Panel Number: PAN5

Panel Organizers: Carol Tator, York University; Carl James, York University

*In conjunction the CSA Equity Sub-Committee*

This panel reports on the first phase of a SSHRC-funded national study of the status of racialized and indigenous scholars in Canadian universities. In this phase, we present the preliminary findings from multiple data sources. Our qualitative study is of the experiences of faculty members from approximately 14 universities across Canada representing diversity in population size and programs. Using census data, we provide a profile of 'visible minority' compared to non-visible minority faculty members in Canada. Data from universities in United States and Britain provide a useful reference for assessing and understanding how Canadian universities and faculty members compare internationally. Essentially, our work is a preliminary examination of the multiple and interrelated ways in which racialization and racism account for the situation of racialized and indigenous scholars in postsecondary institutions. In our examination, we look at: hiring, tenure, and promotion practices; the attitudes and practices of administrators including barriers to access and equity, and mechanisms for inclusion.

➤ **Frances Henry, York University; Carol Tator, York University; Carl James, York University**

An analysis of interview data collected from some 45 racialized and Indigenous faculty members at five universities.

➤ **Audrey Kobayash, Queen's University; Andrea Choi, Queen's University**

A comparative analysis of diversity data from a compilation of international universities

➤ **Peter Li, University of Saskatchewan**

A statistical analysis of 'visible minority' and non-visible minority faculty by province in Canadian universities and their gross income levels controlling for age, gender and immigrant status in selected provinces.

## Plenaries

### Roundtable Discussion: Indigenous Knowledge and Indigenizing the Academy

Plenary Number: PLEN1

*Co-sponsored by the Office of the Provost/VP Academic, University of Alberta, and organized in partnership with the Canadian Association for Studies of Indigenous Education and the CFHSS.*

How do we bring Indigenous knowledge into the academy, while encouraging its production? This panel explores the interrelated issues of disseminating and creating Indigenous knowledge, while also identifying opportunities to indigenize the academy.

- **Kiera Ladner, University of Manitoba**
- **Dwayne Donald, University of Alberta**
- **Shanne McCaffrey, University of Victoria**
- **Roland Chrisjohn, St. Thomas University**
- **Andrea Bear Nicholas, St. Thomas University**

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## Roundtable Discussion: Mentoring the Next Generation of Aboriginal Academic Leaders

Plenary Number: PLEN2

Plenary Chair: Isabel Altamirano-Jiménez, University of Alberta

*Co-sponsored by the Office of the Provost/VP Academic, University of Alberta, and Athabasca University and organized in partnership with the CFHSS.*

According to recent statistics, only 3% of university students self-identify as Aboriginals. How do we encourage the next generation of Aboriginal academic leaders, before and during their university experience? This panel explores the initiatives already in place, while offering up suggestions as to how to increase the success of Aboriginal scholars.

- **Susan Aglukark, Distinguished Scholar in Residence, Alberta**
- **Maria Campbell, Athabasca; Trudeau Mentor**
- **Patricia Doyle-Bedwell, Dalhousie; Chair, Nova Scotia Advisory Council on Status of Women**
- **Pam Ward, Provincial Aboriginal Coordinator, New Brunswick Community College**

## John Porter Memorial Award Lecture: Guns, Butter, and Sociology

Plenary Number: PLEN3

Keynote Speaker: John Goyder, University of Waterloo, Canadian Sociological Association President (2010-2011)

The notion of “guns and butter” revolves around finding the right mix between polar opposites such as spending on national defence (guns) and civilian consumer spending (butter). Adapted to sociology, guns might stand for inequality, butter for equality. Outlining the results of his book *The Prestige Squeeze*, John Goyder explains how respondents to the occupational prestige survey believe that while inequality in occupational rewards (guns) is necessary, current occupational income inequalities are too stretched and are lacking in equality (butter).

## Outstanding Contribution Award Lecture: The Valuation of Sociology

Plenary Number: PLEN4

Keynote Speaker: Jim Frideres, University of Calgary, Canadian Sociological Association President Elect (2010-2011)

In this presentation, Jim Frideres, analyses the value of sociology from three angles: public policy analysts and politicians (government representatives), the private sector and the academy. The latter focuses on the academy as an institution, as well as student perspectives.

## Political Sociology/ Social Justice/ Social Movements

### Theorizing Law, Justice and Democracy through Culture

Session Number: PS1

Session Organizer & Chair: Phillip Steiner, York University

What do we mean when we describe democratic culture? Can notions of cultural jurisprudence help us understand the complex interactions of law and society? Does understanding particular injustices or social inequalities as 'cultural' aid us in our sociological

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analysis of these issues? From the classical approaches of Durkheim and Weber, the contemporary work of scholars like Bourdieu and Foucault, to the much lauded recent work of Alexander and Smith, or Boltanski and Thévenot, notions of culture (broadly understood) have permeated sociological scholarship. Far from one, or even a few, conceptions of how culture fits within sociological analysis, these, and many other, theorists posit a multiplicity of ways of considering culture. Located at the intersection of Political Sociology, Critical Socio-Legal Studies, and the recent interest in the Sociology of Culture (and/or what has been coined as Cultural Sociology), this session invites submissions that consider the ways in which classic, contemporary, and emergent approaches to the study of culture are, and have been, informing and transforming the sociological scholarship around justice, law and democracy.

➤ **Laura Ashley Winters, University of New Brunswick**

**Putrid Prostitutes: An Examination Of Foucault's Theorizing In Relation To The First Large Scale Study Of Prostitution In 19th Century France**

This work will discuss the first large scale study of prostitution, as conducted by Parent-Duchatelet in Paris, France, in the 19th century, in relation to the evolution of Foucault's body of work. Parent-Duchatelet's *De la prostitution dans la Ville de Paris*, when considered in a genealogical framework, provides examples of the interworking of power/knowledge, biopower, and anamopolitics. I argue that Parent-Duchatelet's study was not simply an impartial scientific endeavour, but rather, was intrinsically bound to the operations of power, resulting in new forms of regulation of the individual bodies of prostitutes, as well as the prostitute body as a population entity. This exposition of Foucault's theorizing not only extends his work to an actual field of research, but also develops the theoretical claim that there is a much closer connection between anamopolitics and biopower than had previously been studied empirically. This paper has implications both for research related to Foucault's body of work, as well as for present-day sex work research.

➤ **Jim Conley, Trent University**

**The Political And Moral Sociology Of Luc Boltanski And Laurent Thevenot**

The objectives of this paper are to make the work of Boltanski and Thevenot's better known to English-Canadian sociologists, and to clarify it by using publications that have not been translated into English (and overcoming some of the terminological vagaries of the various translations). To do this I trace the trajectory of Boltanski and Thevenot's work from their break with Bourdieu in the 1980s to their most recent publications. The first, introductory section "The Champion and His Challengers" examines the initial work that (separately and together) led them from Bourdieu to pragmatism. The next part, "Foundations of Justice" focuses on their best known joint work *De la justification* (1991, *On Justification*, 2006), supplemented by Boltanski's *L'amour et la justice comme compétences* (1990), and reflections on and critiques of it two decades later (Breviglieri et al., *Compétences critiques et sens de la justice*, 2009). The third part, "After Justification," examines the broadening and deepening of their research programme. On the one hand, Boltanski pursued his project from critical sociology to sociology of critique and back again in *La souffrance à distance* (1993, 2006; *Distant Suffering*, 1999), *Le nouvel esprit du capitalisme* (1999, *The New Spirit of Capitalism*, 2005) and *De la critique* (2009, *On Critique*, 2011)<sup>1</sup>, while exploring compromises in *La condition foetale* (2004). Thevenot has continued to explore the world of justifications empirically, and broadened the project by developing the architecture of regimes of engagement in *L'action au pluriel* (2006). The paper concludes by

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showing how Boltanski and Thevenot's pragmatist theory develops a conception of justice and democracy lying between abstract universalism and relativistic communitarianism, by way of a double plurality of orders of worth and justification on the one hand, and regimes of engagement, on the other.

➤ **Michael Christensen, York University**

**Radical Bureaucracy? The Culture Of New Public Management And The Institutional Sources Of Democratic Resistance**

Departmental audits, key performance indicators, outcome measurements; these are the buzz-words of a trend in management that has been labeled "new public management" or "entrepreneurial governance." With the goals of increasing efficiency and stimulating innovation, flexibility, and growth, the spread of this form of management can be found in the logic and (new) spirit of capitalism that aims at creating "lean" organizations and dismantling bloated bureaucracies. Politically, the articulation of these goals has come with the Tea Party's attack on government in the United States, the evisceration of funding for public services in the United Kingdom and the Canadian government's assault on research in the public sector. Such sweeping conservative reactions to the latest financial crisis are predicated on authoritarian-style dictates that face little resistance from a public sector newly designed to be "lean and flexible." So does a defense of social welfare programs require a return to a more robust public bureaucracy? Is bureaucracy an inherently conservative mode of organization or can it be utilized in radical democratic projects? My paper considers these possibilities by examining the place of bureaucratic and anti-bureaucratic practices in contemporary debates of democracy and democratization.

➤ **Thomas A Crosbie, Yale University**

**Friction And Orthogonals: Toward A Cultural Sociology Of Civil-Military Relations.**

Warfighting is densely interpenetrated with culture. While this has long been acknowledged, it is not well understood.

Two opposing understandings of the relationship between civilian society and military organizations can be readily brought to mind, but neither is particularly satisfying. The first posits a seamless connection between political will and military action, Clausewitz's "policy by other means". From this perspective, wars are let loose or reined in according to political will. The second assumes a gap between the bellicose military and a pacifistic public; the latter oversees and attempts to constrain the former. Both are limited by a shared assumption that warfare itself has an innate trajectory, ever broadening in scope and intensity until it reaches the perfect maelstrom of total war. Civilians create friction like brakes on an engine, the velvet glove on an iron fist.

This friction model of civil-military relations badly needs correction. We need to account for orthogonal forces in addition to friction. Civilians do not act in unison; there are multiple and conflicting civilian efforts to intervene in what militaries do. At the same time, there are divisions within militaries.

Recent developments in cultural sociology allow us to analyze the friction of civilian attempts to moderate warfighting and the orthogonal forces of competing strategic and tactical imaginaries as produced through meaning-laden debates. A cultural sociology of civil-military

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relations begins at the site of such meaningful debates, but can be extended to an analysis of the recursivity of warfighting (a result of militaries factoring in public relations concerns), the buffering strategies used by military organizations, and the decision to subdelegate violence to private contractors. The current project examines the ways that developments in cultural sociology can be used to enrich our perspective on both the friction and orthogonal forces that affect how nations wage wars.

## Gender, Sexuality and Social Change

Session Number: PS2

Session Organizer: Tina Fetner, McMaster University

### ➤ **Jacqueline Joan Kennelly, Carleton University**

#### **'If I kill myself the world will be changed': Young Women and Social Movement Organizing**

This paper is based on findings from a year-long ethnographic study of youth activists engaged in anti-globalization, anti-colonial, anti-war, and anti-poverty movements across the three largest urban centres in Canada (Toronto, Vancouver, and Montreal). It focuses in particular on the experiences of young women within social movement organizing. Three emergent themes will be investigated: young women's accounts of overwhelming guilt and responsibility, both in relation to the movements themselves and to social change more broadly; the dilemmas faced by young women between 'caring for self' and 'caring for others'; and the particular affective costs of activist engagement for young women, including anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress symptoms. These contemporary experiences will be theorized through feminist approaches to the liberal state, within which women are charged with the burden of 'caring' as one way in which they can express their citizenship obligations (Arnot & Dillabough 1999; Lister 2003), as well as the work of feminist youth theorists on the new pressures that young women face within neoliberal cultural spaces, where 'can-do' girls are pitted against their 'at-risk' peers (Harris 2004).

### ➤ **Alison M. Luke, University of New Brunswick; Neil MacKinnon, University of Guelph**

#### **Changes in Identity Attitudes for Sexual Orientation Identities Over a Twenty Year Period: 1981-2001**

The period from the 1980's to the present day has been a time of significant change in the visibility and societal acceptability of different sexual identities. Results presented in this paper show that although most cultural sentiments remain stable over time, sustained shifts in attitude are possible. Data collected on sexual orientation identities such as gay, lesbian, and homosexual reflect such a shift. We collected data from a population of young, well educated Canadians, employing evaluation, potency and activity (EPA) semantic differential ratings of approximately 800 social identities across three points in time: 1981, 1995, and 2001. Changes in attitudes were significant for both male and female respondents but shifts in attitudes for females were more dramatic and were sustained over all three points in time. These changes can be connected to numerous factors, including the increased visibility of gay and lesbian characters in movies and television, the AIDS epidemic, and the absence of a strong anti-gay counter movement in Canada.



➤ **Hazel Hollingdale, University of British Columbia**

**Losing And Using Male Privilege: Gay Men And Instrumental Masculinity.**

Gay men occupy a paradoxical position within patriarchal and heteronormative space. Their gender has the potential to provide access to male privilege, but this is complicated due to their sexuality. Through ethnographic research within heterosexual public space (2 locations of a popular lounge), I explored how these sometimes conflicting positions were navigated. I found that men who outwardly presented as gay, often navigated 'straight' space by utilizing dominant heterosexual scripts of male power over women, which took the form of sexual harassment. I argue that such overt displays of domination are a means by which some gay men can negate their own social disadvantage, due to their sexuality, and attain patriarchal privilege, through the overt and instrumental subordination of women. Great strides have been made in the past 50 years for both gender equality and gay rights.

Although these movements are most often conceptualized as complementary to one another; what if the advancement of one is dependent on the continued oppression of the other? If these patterns found in this circumstance are reproduced as a strategy for attaining privilege among gay men on a larger scale, the implications to both gender equality and advancing gay rights must be explored.

## **Migration and the Production of Borders/illegality**

Session Number: PS3

Session Organizer: Paloma Villegas, OISE/ University of Toronto

This session begins with the premise that lacking full immigration status generates instances of precarity and vulnerability for precarious status migrants, ranging from access to employment opportunities, health and wellbeing, police service etc. The session invites theoretical, methodological and/or empirical explorations of the production of migrant "illegality" in relation to immigration policy, migrant experiences, social movements, access to services etc. It also welcomes papers that engage with migrant illegalization in relation to other systems of oppression and modes of exclusion. Finally, papers engaging with historical or contemporary analyses of how immigration status and the production of literal and figurative borders are affected by spatial and temporal scales are also welcome.

➤ **Francisco J. Villegas, OISE**

**Schools As Border Zones: Negotiations For Access To Schooling By Undocumented Migrants In Toronto**

This paper focuses on the barriers Latina/o students with precarious immigration status can experience in Toronto. Specifically, I outline barriers associated with accessing schooling as well as matriculating through school once access is secured. I propose that while existing legislation in Ontario guarantees all children's right to enroll in public schools, the legislation is not enforced by the Ministry of Education and has been largely ignored by school districts. Furthermore, if precarious status Latina/o students are admitted into schools, they face a chilly climate where only six in ten Latina/os graduate from high school. Finally, given their immigration status students who graduate face little possibility of attending higher education. I argue that the discursive and legal production of "illegality" and deficiency serve to exclude or subtract Latina/o precarious status students from the schooling process.

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➤ **Paloma Villegas, OISE/University of Toronto**

**Moments Of Transit And Transnational Migrant Illegalization For Mexican Migrants With Precarious Status In Toronto Canada**

Drawing from ethnographic data from Mexican migrants with precarious immigration status in Canada, this paper argues for taking into account moments of transit as integral in a web of processes that produce migrant illegalization. This is important because it allows for a transnational analysis whereby contexts of departure and reception are taken into account in tandem, instead of as separate entities.

## **Rights and Equity in the 21st Century**

Session Number: PS4

Session Organizers: Shelley Reuter, Dalhousie University; Howard Ramos, Dalhousie University

The last 60 years have seen the unprecedented rise of human rights discourse and the formal recognition of "rights" in constitutions around the world. Yet, despite such prominence fundamental inequities persist. This session aims to explore the intersections among inequities to understand how sociologists can contribute to the creation of more "just" societies. We invite papers dealing with theoretical issues over how rights and equity are defined and recognized as well as papers engaging specific cases and struggles for equity.

➤ **José Julián López, University of Ottawa**

**Science-Related Human Rights**

This paper addresses the issue of science related human rights. It begins by briefly showing how science was central yet paradoxically peripheral to the Universal Declaration of Human rights; this is followed by a discussion of the negligible impact of the Nuremberg Code, and the patient rights therein encoded, in the immediate post war. Two conclusions are drawn from these preliminary historical explorations. First, the interconnection between human rights and science was mediated via the sacralisation of the latter's autonomy from social capture, which in turn limited the types of science related human rights claims that could be made. Second, the explanatory gaze of social scientists should be focused on exploring the concrete configuration of social, political, economic and cultural forces that provide human rights with social efficacy. In other words human rights need to be conceptualised as ordinary objects of sociological analysis.

These two points are further elaborated through a historical case study of the emergence of patient rights in the US, the most important science related human rights to date. This is followed by a discussion on the prospects for science related human rights in the bio and nano era by showing how the knowledge society, risk, scientific citizenship and ELSification (i.e. the development of research programs concerned with eliciting ethical, legal and social implications of genomics, nanotechnology, etc.) have weakened, but by no means done away with science's once sacred autonomy. This means that there are currently new opportunities for the emergence of science related human rights claims. It is concluded that science related human rights also raise important issues regarding hybridity and the conceptualisation of human vulnerability.

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➤ **Rachel E.S. Barken, Dalhousie University**

**Intellectual Disability, Rights, And Inclusion In The Current Canadian Context**

Although the rights of people with intellectual disabilities to live in integrated community settings have been recognized by the United Nations, the World Health Organization, and disability advocacy organizations, people with intellectual disabilities remain segregated in institutional environments in seven Canadian provinces. In response this paper explores the barriers to realizing the rights of people with intellectual disabilities. It argues that the liberal rights framework, with its focus on each individual as a rational and independent agent, serves to exclude some people with intellectual disabilities who require ongoing support throughout their lives. As an alternative, this paper argues that a feminist conception of rights, which recognizes the interdependencies of all people, is best suited to ensuring the rights of those with intellectual disabilities. It further suggests that a formal recognition of these rights must be accompanied by structural changes in order for people with intellectual disabilities to be successfully integrated in their communities.

➤ **Jasmine Thomas, University of Alberta**

**Confronting The State Of Exception: Human Rights And Empire**

This paper engages the debate regarding universal or relative conceptions of human rights. I argue that social theory can reconcile this dispute by developing a definition that is both concise and flexible. The role of theoreticians is two-fold; armed with a coherent concept of rights, we must also identify the mechanisms of power that contribute to abuses.

The first section of this paper briefly outlines the contemporary history of human rights in the international system. Agamben (1998) argues that any person can be legally "exiled" from the formal rights "guaranteed" by the sovereign. Therefore, individuals and groups face the risk of being thrust into a state of exception where their legal status is ambiguous.

Secondly, I examine new networks of resistance that can challenge sovereign power and protect the rights of all peoples. Michael Hardt and Antonio Negri (2000, 2004, 2009) suggest that "the Multitude" is a strong force of opposition that is diverse, and yet, simultaneously unified with a common cause. The conceptual lens of the Multitude can be used as a strategy to protect human rights. This transcends the binary opposition of universal or relative definitions, and provides a framework for action against sovereign abuses of power.

## **Social Movements Case Studies**

Session Number: PS8

Session Organizer: Philippe Couton, University of Ottawa

Case studies form the core of social movements' scholarship. The session welcomes papers that focus on particular instances of collective action as bases for discussion of social movement approaches and concepts. Investigations of recent examples of collective action are welcome, as are historical and/or comparative works.

➤ **Stephen M. Marmura, St. Francis Xavier University**

**Likely And Unlikely Stories: Conspiracy Theorizing In An Age Of Propaganda**

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This paper presents the argument that a direct relationship exists between dominant mass media communication practices and popular expressions of 'conspiracy theorizing'. Previous research has assessed the degree to which conspiracy theories may gain broad acceptance in light of such factors as the resonance which conspiracy claims may hold with latent public fears and prejudices, the inability or unwillingness of conspiracy-minded individuals or groups to consult 'good information' or think critically, the viral nature of rumors and moral panics, and the existence of a political atmosphere 'poisoned' by hostile and paranoid rhetoric. Such accounts fail to take stock of an overall media environment characterized by what Habermas has termed 'systematically distorted communication'. Most information available to citizens is structured in accordance with commercial and/or state interests, often in a manner which masks the main drivers behind policy formation. Close attention to dominant media narratives may induce distrust. Conspiracy theorizing is a subtype of counter-hegemonic discourse. Alternative communication and information resources cannot perform the integrative function of mainstream media. The recent Wikileaks scandals highlight the interrelationships between integration propaganda, alternative media, and conspiracy theorizing.

➤ **Temitope Oriola, University of Alberta**

**Kidnapping As "Public Good": The Politics Of Kidnapping Of Oil Workers In Nigeria's Delta**

This study interrogates the interstitial space between legitimate protest and criminal expropriation in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria. The Delta has attracted worldwide attention because of the incessant kidnapping of (foreign) oil workers, pipeline vandalism, illegal oil bunkering, and destruction of other oil infrastructure by militant "youths". These incidents have contributed to the rising prices of crude oil in the world market. The spectacular effervescence of unprecedented insurgent activities in the Delta remains the most virile threat to the Nigerian state since the civil war of 1967-1970. In particular, the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND), an amalgam of insurgent groups, specializes in kidnapping oil workers purportedly as a form of protest against the ineptitude and negligence of the Nigerian rentier petro-state and marginalization of oil-producing communities by transnational oil corporations. I demonstrate that the phenomenon of kidnapping of oil workers championed by MEND has at its core, the (mis)appropriation of every facet of the Nigerian society. Insurgents believe that the state has created a "war situation" and oil workers are "enemy combatants". I argue that given the dynamics of the political process and a constellation of other factors in this amphitheatre, where the Nigerian state deploys bombs on its people, kidnapping of oil workers is a relatively minor irritation.

➤ **Melissa Strowger, University of Toronto; Babli Fazilatun, University of Toronto**

**Researching The Social Movement Of Anti-Poverty Community Organizing: Reflections On A Case Study From The Anti-Poverty Community Organizing And Learning Project**

Community University Research Alliances (CURAs) are invaluable relationships between community activists and academics that strengthen research enhancing community development. The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) introduced a funded stream for CURA research in 1999. Support from this funding encourages "alliances between community organizations and postsecondary institutions [to foster] ... new knowledge in areas of shared importance for the social, cultural or economic development of communities" (SSHRC, 2010).



The Anti-Poverty Community Organizing and Learning Project (APCOL) is a five-year SSHRC-CURA funded project (2009 - 2014). In partnership with over a dozen community organizations and three universities, APCOL examines community-organized education and learning in some of Toronto's highest poverty neighbourhoods. Bringing together APCOL's case study and survey components, this paper will consider the strengths, weaknesses and possibilities found in case study research that employs a mixed-methods, sociological approach to community-academically partnered research.

Co-authored by a graduate student and community researcher working on the project, a combined perspective will be utilized to share a preliminary critique of the project's case studies, survey tools and administration, and research participation. This conversation will further consider APCOL's interdisciplinary nature by imagining its impact on like and differing areas of social movement research.

➤ **Randle J. Hart, Southern Utah University**

**In Defense Of Meaning: The Historical-Cultural Exigencies Of American Radical Conservative Campaigns Against UNESCO**

Social movement campaigns are planned or improvisational events with tactics aimed at achieving a specific objective or at publicizing a particular issue. Campaigns are deeply cultural, and as stylized practices or shared idioms their meanings can become transposable from one organization to another or from one movement to another. As responses to a perceived social issue, movement campaigns are linked directly to their historical context; and the meaning of an issue and a resulting campaign may be historically contingent. Why some issues motivate campaigns while others are hardly considered is not clear in the social movement literature. We know fairly little about when and how ideas become actionable, or how and why some issues become campaigns while others are not taken up, or fail soon after initiation. To better understand the dynamics of campaign commencement, this paper examines two issues which ought to have been of interest to the American Radical Right in the early 1950s: UNESCO's famous statements on race; and the use of UNESCO textbooks in public schools and libraries. The first issue was not initially interesting to rightist organizations, while the second one sparked a series of country-wide campaigns which drew the movement out of abatement.

➤ **Stuart R Leard, University of Saskatchewan**

**The International Township Of Auroville, Tamil Nadu, India: Organizing Anarchy In A Central Government Of India Project: Lifeworld Versus System**

The International Township of Auroville was inaugurated as an international experiment in Human Unity on the southeast coast of India in 1968. My research on Auroville constitutes a case study of collective decision-making. Coding extracts from the weekly internal newsletters of the Township 1975 to 2000 in the qualitative software program, NVivo, I reconstruct features of decision-making in the township which I argue form implicit agreements on principles of organization. Illocutionary action, the effort to reach mutual understanding, underscores each of these principles. Illocutionary action is the building block of Jurgen Habermas' Theory of Communicative Action and his Discourse Ethics. Because of the correspondence between decision-making in Auroville and the formulations of Jurgen Habermas, I apply key dimensions of Habermas' theory to developments in the township in order to identify the practical

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consequences of adherence to the primacy Habermas pays to illocutionary action. In this way, I submit his theory to practical test. Contrary to the theoretical expectations of Habermas, decision-making characteristic of lifeworld continues to play a role in steering the systems developed to facilitate the expansion of the Auroville Township.

## Emerging Scholarship in Contention Research

Session Number: PS9

Session Organizer: Mark Stoddart, Memorial University

Session Discussant: Jim Conley, Trent University

The session highlights early career faculty and graduate student research in social movements, nations and nationalism, and related areas. MA and PhD students in the final stages of their research are especially encouraged to submit papers on these topics toward creating a forum for presentation and critical discussion of emerging scholarship in the field.

- **Andreas Hoffbauer, Concordia University; Howard Ramos, Dalhousie University**

### **Beyond The Explosion: How The Visual Manifestations And Complexity Of The Bp Oil Spill Shaped The Issue's International News Coverage**

Drawing on social movement and media literatures, this paper on the BP Oil Spill in the Gulf of Mexico examines if news coverage in the United States, Canada, and England is shaped by the issue's complexity and visual manifestations. Using time series analysis, the study also examines if environmental activist organizations and the US Whitehouse set the agenda in the news media and whether or not they influence fluctuations in the intensity of the issue's coverage. The study is informed by data drawn from dominant international newspaper publications, environmental activist organizations, government bodies, and oil companies.

- **Yongfang Jia, University of Toronto**

### **Looking Back And Looking Forward: Adult Learning From The Chinese Student Movement**

What conceptual overlaps between 'social movement theory' and 'adult learning theory' can be identified and explored from the 1989 Beijing Student Movement (BSM)? The significance of this question lies in the loss of morality, lack of understanding of and concern toward democracy movement among the younger generations in contemporary China. The question is answered through an exploration of the most pertinent factors in social movement learning, including political, economic, cultural factors with "Chinese characteristics".

This article reviews the related literature on the 1989 BSM (including personal reflections), and then, by drawing on "Political Process Theories", Tilly approach, and collective learning theories, it argues that the oppressive political atmosphere and environment made the effective political reform-oriented social movement close to impossible while the 'strategic adult learning' could be adopted in the exploration of 1989 BSM. The argument confirms the urgency and prospect for the enhancement of political reforms, which was acknowledged by Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao in 2008 CNN interview.

- **Jamie Baker, Memorial University of Newfoundland**

### **As Loved Our Fathers: Feelings Of Patriotism Among Young Newfoundlanders**

The debate surrounding Newfoundland identity and nationalism is one that few have studied, especially with regard to its sociological implications. While some would argue that

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Newfoundlanders are indeed nationalistic, it is more likely the case that they are high patriots but low nationalists. This paper will first discuss how nepotism, reciprocity, and collective goods and entities can be used to develop a sense of patriotism among Newfoundlanders. The paper will then evaluate the strength of patriotism among sixteen young Newfoundlanders from data collected in mid-2004. The evidence suggests that the majority of those interviewed consider themselves as Newfoundland patriots rather than Newfoundland nationalists.

➤ **Gaylene Halter, University of Alberta**

### **The Power Of Silence**

The cultural tradition of silence can be observed in expressions such as "if you have nothing good to say, say nothing at all". Silence does not mean that nothing is happening; rather with in human communication signifies both the visual observance and the pointed ignoring of an event. The capacity to control the gaze or to silence is garnered through social capital within a cultural group. Haraway (1991) argues the situated knowledge that divides into binary terms the other and "the gaze that mythically inscribes all the marked bodies that makes the unmarked category claim the power to see and not be seen". The unmarked category of people is the power elite who control the gaze. Silence and silencing are even of greater use as a means of controlling knowledge in the technological society of risk that we live in today. Public concern can be quelled with expert knowledge, but in addition, experts can also be silenced through intellectual or financial threat. Knowledge can be controlled by the political decision to fund some areas over the exclusion of others. How has the practice of silence and silencing affected public debate over environmental concerns? Research conducted in Alberta from 2007 through 2010 shows how the process of silencing has both built mistrust as well as controlled public knowledge of environmental risks.

## **Political Sociology Omnibus**

Session Number: PS11

Session Organizer, Chair, & Discussant: Doug Baer, University of Victoria

This session invites papers from the broad spectrum of approaches representing the field of political sociology. Papers may deal with formal political processes and institutions, processes under which ideology and beliefs are socially constructed, informal political movements, or any other topic germane to political sociology. The session is not restricted to a single methodological or conceptual approach, and welcomes submissions from survey researchers, from ethnographic or other qualitative approaches and from investigators employing historical/comparative methods

➤ **Jim Conley, Trent University**

### **Car Wars: Autoworlds And Social Worlds**

This paper develops a theoretical approach to understanding disputes between automobile/driver assemblages and bicycle / rider assemblages. In North America, where the legitimate presence of bicycles on city streets is not taken for granted, such disputes are chronic in both everyday life and in urban politics (over issues such as bike lanes). Starting from the premise that automobility is a distinctive form of social interaction ("autoworld"), the paper applies the model of six social worlds (inspired, domestic, fame, civic, market, and industrial) developed by Luc Boltanski and Laurent Thevenot in *On Justification* (2006) to analyse

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commentaries on a violent incident that occurred in Toronto's Kensington market in 2006. It thereby shows the critical competency of 'ordinary' actors, a competency that sociologists and other social scientists have often claimed exclusively for themselves. It also suggests the usefulness of Boltanski and Thevenot's model for investigating disputes over mobility.

➤ **Liam Swiss, Memorial University of Newfoundland**

**World Society And The Global Foreign Aid Network, 1966-2005**

This paper examines the relationship between foreign aid and political globalization to explain developing country ties to world society and argues that foreign aid needs to be viewed as a recursive mechanism through which donor states refine and spread world cultural norms and models. Using newly collected network data on foreign aid relationships between countries, data on total volumes of aid, and measures of aid dependency, this paper analyses the effects of aid on human rights treaty ratification and international organization memberships in a sample of 115 less developed countries from the period of 1966-2005. Results of multi-level mixed effects models show that both aid network centrality and aid volumes per capita increase country ties to world society while aid dependency works to constrain these positive effects.

➤ **Ashleigh Dalton, University of Toronto; Shebnam Meraj, University of Toronto**

**Researching Anti-Poverty Community Organizing: A Participatory Approach To Quantitative Data Administration And Analysis**

Existing research on social movement organizing process/outcomes contains predominantly descriptive accounts, i.e. case studies or personal accounts of campaign efforts (e.g. Williams 1997; Martin 2002; Klieberman, 2004; Foster-Fishman, Fitzgerald, Brandell, Nowell, Chavis & Van Egeren 2006). The Anti-Poverty Community Organizing and Learning project addresses gaps in social movement studies by combining quantitative and qualitative research within a participatory action research framework.

A participatory approach to quantitative data administration and analysis is taken in the anti-poverty community organizing survey. Community-university collaboration is built into each phase of the project from instrument development and survey administration, to data management, analysis and dissemination of results. This paper explores the processes of developing and administering a survey instrument, and self-reflexively evaluates the nature, quality, and quantity of community participation in high poverty neighbourhoods.

Through a critical examination of the processes by which these research relationships were developed and then engaged, the paper will consider the impacts, benefits and limitations of community participation within academic research. Findings of the project will be used to further question and discuss the potential of participatory approaches to quantitative research and the power and privilege issues that have surfaced in the undertaking of such a community-university research partnership.

➤ **Robert Andersen, University of Toronto**

**Support For Democracy In Cross-National Perspective: The Detrimental Effect Of Economic Inequality**

This paper utilizes data from the 1990 and 2000 waves of the World Values Survey and national-level economic for 35 democracies to explore the relationship between economic

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inequality and opinions democracy. The results demonstrate that economic inequality strongly affects public support from democracy. As expected from modernization theory, support for democracy is highest in countries with a high level of economic development and in well-established democracies. Moreover, consistent with previous research on social trust and tolerance, citizens from countries characterized by relatively low levels of income inequality tend to be generally more likely than others to support democracy. Individual incomes within countries also play a role. Specifically, income is positively related to support for democracy in most countries, though it has its strongest effect in countries characterized by high economic development and low income inequality.

➤ **Paul B. Reed, Carleton University**

### **The Changing Place of the Voluntary and Charitable Sector in Canada**

The voluntary and charitable sector is a principal broodhouse for the civic engagement that is so essential in a democratic society and polity. Following a 15-year period of optimism, heightened public profile, and multiple policy initiatives in Canada, a diverse set of trends now points to broad softening and decline in the sector's robustness. This study reviews these trends and their implications; it also considers how this development may bear on social science's embryonic understanding of the civic domain as one of the four sectors comprising our society.

## **Social Movements and Symbolic Power**

Session Number: PS12

Session Organizer(s): Michael Christensen, York University

Researchers of social movements and activism have long been interested in the ways in which social actors mobilize symbolic resources. These mobilizations have taken the form of public performances, the framing of cultural narratives, strategic media campaigns, or sustained public policy debates, with each aimed at reorganizing or challenging the terms, classifications, communication practices, and networks that constitute symbolic power. Moreover, the everyday work of social movement organizations and actors often relies on the support of networks constituted by the struggle for symbolic capital. Therefore, in societies defined by media saturation and 'fast capitalism' definitions of democracy, freedom, protest, environment, science, and health have become important sites of political contestation. This session therefore welcomes papers that present empirical or theoretical research on social movements, activism, and the politics of knowledge production. Although no methodological or theoretical approaches will be restricted, papers that demonstrate a critical or reflexive engagement with the problem of knowledge production are encouraged.

➤ **Mervyn Horgan, Acadia University**

### **Development And The Devil: Farms, Food And Subdivisions In The Garden Of Eden**

Disagreement around what constitutes proper use of space often constitutes the point of focus around which community conflict turns. Such disagreements tend to be more pronounced when the use to which a given space is to be put is formally legislated, whether through official signage, local by-laws or zoning regulations. We see this in the relatively mundane example of public parks where parents of young children confront dog owners around the boundaries of off-leash zones, and in larger more lasting concerns around changes to municipal zoning, which have the potential to radically transform the physical landscape of a locality. Sociological work on spatial conflict has focused on urban areas, with scholars analyzing public participation in planning, legislative manoeuvring, activist engagement,

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displacement and gentrification. As with many social processes, spatial conflict is intensified and magnified in cities, but this does not mean that rural communities are free from such conflicts.

Rather than focus on the legal entanglements involved in rezoning land, this paper examines the symbolic resources mobilized by those fighting the proposed rezoning of agricultural land in Nova Scotia's Annapolis Valley. In particular, I focus on the organizing binaries used by opponents of rezoning and development, binaries which code rural/agricultural space as pure (Garden of Eden) and urban/developed space as impure (hellish, perhaps). To illustrate the use of symbolic power I draw on printed and online materials produced by opponents intended primarily for local audiences. The paper concludes with some thoughts on the burgeoning symbolic power adhering to the local-organic food movement, rural gentrification, and middle-class activism.

➤ **Fuyuki Kurasawa, York University**

#### **The Aporias Of New Technologies For Human Rights Activism**

This paper considers the aporias (that is to say, insurmountable tensions) created for human rights activism by the use of Web 2.0 and mobile technologies, resulting in the advent of what can be termed representational activism: practices of bearing witness to human rights violations or struggles via their visual recording and broadcasting within public spheres. I begin by providing examples of the types of human rights activism that exploit the distinctive features of emerging mobile technologies and web platforms, to then turn to the aforementioned aporias introduced by this technologically-driven mode of representational activism: competing with governments and corporations over the portrayal of events; contributing to fuelling public suspicion about the evidentiary status of the image; the unintended consequences of adopting a regime of visual exposure (e.g., increased surveillance and exhibitionism); visual reductionism (the camera's simplified rendition of an event or situation); public invisibility of events or situations not captured through new technologies; and the possible displacement of political struggle by representational questions. Thus, the presentation aims to provoke critical reflection about these new practices and the technologies that fuel them, in order to think beyond the confines of representational activism today.

➤ **Vannina Sztainbok, OISE/University of Toronto**

#### **Imagining The Afro-Uruguayan Conventillo: Citizenship, Race, And Desire**

This paper makes a critical contribution by showing how the politics of desire and the social construction of place are linked to citizenship. Specifically, I theorize how the feminization and sexualization of a racialized space is implicated in shaping structures of citizenship and belonging. I explore this relationship through the lens of the tenements (conventillos) of two Afro-Uruguayan neighbourhoods (in Montevideo, Uruguay). These tenements are nationally revered for their connection to Afro-Uruguayan culture, yet the residents have been affected by poverty, demolitions, and evictions. I analyze how the conventillo has been constituted through popular media, songs, literature, personal narratives, and other cultural practices. My approach exemplifies how sociological research can blend tools from multiple disciplines to construct a unique methodology. By crafting a framework that draws on feminist sociology and critical race theory, as well as cultural geography and psychoanalysis, I point to the socio-political

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significance of desire. I argue that the fetish and disavowal of black bodies and black spaces enhances white identities, while confining the parameters of black citizenship and belonging.

## Race and Ethnicity

### Identity and Belonging in Canada in the wake of the 21st century - A

Session Number: RE1-A

Session Organizer: Amal Madibbo, University of Calgary

Session Chair: Lichun Willa Liu, Ryerson University

Session Discussant: Leslie Laczko, University of Ottawa

This session will explore various discourses and forms of identities that are emerging in Canada in the wake of the 21st century. It will consider the identities of numerous linguistic, racial, ethnic and immigrant communities. It will examine the impacts of diasporas and immigration; colonialism and postcolonialism; race; language; racialization, and globalization on identities. The session will provide participants with the opportunity to develop important conceptual and empirical perspectives about the formation and negotiation of identities, and to explore the implications of these processes for belonging and identification in the Canadian context.

➤ **Amal Madibbo, University of Calgary**

#### **Multiculturalism: Today And Tomorrow**

Since the inception of the Canadian Multiculturalism Policy forty years ago in 1971, heated debates showcased the successes and/or failures of the Policy. Others went beyond the Policy to posit differing views on both the limits and the potential of the ideology of multiculturalism. Based on an ethnographic study conducted in Alberta between 2007-2010, this paper speaks to some of these debates. Additionally, it extends these debates by discussing multiculturalism within the contexts of Antiracism, *la francophonie*, and the identities taken by Black racialized minorities in the Canadian context. The paper will incite a critical reflection on how to deal with Canada's increasing diversity in the years to come.

➤ **Sarath Chandrasekere, University of Prince Edward Island**

#### **Construction Of Canadian Identity By Immigrants To Ontario: The Case Of Sri Lankan**

Sociological analysis of the past 60 years comfortably assumed that immigrants to North America would eventually assimilate into the "main stream" society. However, immigrants to Canada from non-traditional source countries, at least during the past 40 years, have shown a different path while adopting an "integration strategy" towards social incorporation.

They have ventured into a process whereby they continuously redefined and reconstructed their identity in Canada. Canadian identity is not necessarily gained to the extent that original ethnic identity is lost and, vice versa, ethnic identity is not necessarily retained to the extent that Canadian identity is not acquired. This paper closely examines this process through the identity construction of a relatively new immigrant group from South Asia-the Sri Lankans. In light of new research evidence, this paper convincingly challenges once dominant Assimilationist Theories and examines newly developed concepts and models of social incorporation in Canada. The analysis is based on three data sets, namely, 1991 Census data, 2001 Census data and a snow-ball sample of 50 respondents. Understanding the ethnic identity construction process will

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undoubtedly shed some light on the future directions of the multiculturalism and immigration policies in Canada.

➤ **Nathan Kalman-Lamb, York University**

**Untangling The "Tapestry": Whiteness, Canadian Identity, And The Vancouver Olympics**

In this presentation I will examine how the performance of Canadian identity in the Vancouver Olympic Opening Ceremonies reflects the persistence of whiteness at the core of Canada's multicultural identity. To this end, I will analyse the cultural components of the Vancouver Ceremonies and the coverage of this spectacle by Canadian television broadcaster CTV. This event is worthy of study, for it marks a crucial moment of nation-building and representation for the Canadian nation before the world. In this formative and performative moment, organizers did not foreground multiculturalism as central to Canadian identity, problematic as liberal multiculturalism may be in the context of a structurally inequitable society. Instead, they chose to portray whiteness as at the core of Canadian identity. While there is a significant acknowledgment of Canada's indigenous people during the Ceremonies, this should not be seen as a celebration of diversity. Rather, indigeneity is appropriated as the origin of and legitimization for the white Canadian nation. This appropriation speaks to the colonial legacy of the Canadian state. The celebration of whiteness at the Opening Ceremonies, then, reveals that when the stakes were at their highest, organisers could not resist betraying the centrality of whiteness to hegemonic Canadian identity.

➤ **Vanessa Iafolla, University of Toronto**

**National Security, Civil Liberties And Identity: Partisanship, Politics, And The 2001 Antiterrorism Debates In Canada**

The terrorist attacks of 9/11 were the impetus for a number of legal changes in Western democracies. One such change in Canada was the *Anti-Terrorism Act* (2001), a highly contested piece of legislation. A number of pressure groups representing the interests of Canadian-Jewish, -Arab, and -Muslim communities made submissions to Parliament and regarding the then-proposed legislation, supporting or contesting the legislation by making arguments about the nature of "Canadian" identity. Pressure groups made arguments based on invocations of 'Canadian knowledge', often in conjunction with other 'knowledges,' implicitly constructing competing notions of Canadian identity and Canadian values. Further, each pressure group, though lobbying for very different outcomes, made precise arguments regarding the way 'Canadian values' should be accounted for, and these arguments had implications for the ways in which both pressure group representatives and Canadian public officials perceived and defined their own and each other's identities within the legal field. In this instance, 'the law' is revealed to be not only a field within which groups and individuals compete for and maintain capital, power, privilege and influence, but also an arena in which those groups or individuals competing for influence over legislation also engage in the definition of identity.



## Identity and Belonging in Canada in the wake of the 21st century - B

Session Number: RE1-B

Session Organizer & Discussant: Amal Madibbo, University of Calgary

➤ **Neil Shyminsky, York University and York Centre for International and Security Studies**

**How The Northwest Was Won: Mounties, Peacekeepers, And White Nation Fantasy**

This presentation proceeds from the assumption that representations within a nation's popular culture function to both produce and reflect a social reality and subject-constituting project – a kind of cultural national security that promotes a particular understanding of what the nation looks like and who counts within it. Among the popular signs and stories – the “narratives of security” – that are commonly understood to characterize Canadian identity, my research focuses on the Mountie and the peacekeeper (as well as, lately, the soldier). I argue that these figures function in Canadian culture as forms of “societal security” (Buzan 1998), so as to generate a “white nation fantasy” (Hage 1999). Importantly, these effects have changed little even as Canada's cultural products have transitioned from an emphasis on colonial nostalgia to global conflict mediation to forward security.

In this presentation I will examine, in a survey of popular texts spanning several decades and into the new century, how these narratives align Canadian identity with whiteness and dissociate it from racial Otherness. In particular, I will discuss one of the subtler aspects of these narratives – namely, the way Mounties and soldiers are made white by association, through their choice of allies and the enemies they oppose.

➤ **Victoria Kannen, University of Toronto**

**Practices Of Normation: Exploring Privileged Embodiments In Higher Education**

Through interviews with 30 participants who study and/or teach critical understandings of identity in 2 Canadian universities, I explore how privileged identities are experienced and made meaningful within *and* outside of the power dynamics of the classroom. Adapting Rosemarie Garland-Thomson's notion of the normate – a constructed, yet privileged embodiment – I argue that, as a verb, normation can imply the use of one's dominant position to strategically avoid or remain silent on an embodiment, such as whiteness or ability, even when it is being explicitly confronted in a critical classroom (such as Critical/Political Sociology or Women's/Gender Studies). The interviews reveal the ways in which the participants experience non/racialization, questions of Canadianness/ belonging, and identity contradictions. In my presentation, I will demonstrate how the functioning of privilege goes beyond simplistic dichotomies of have/have not, power/no-power, as the position of the normate is one that is problematized *and* desired, yet, rarely reached or sustained. For example, practices of normation can position white students as embodying *the* Canadian identity, while positioning racialized students as less-than-Canadian; however, intersecting identities, such as gender, ability, or sexuality, greatly influence the ways in which this so-called Canadian body can be recognized or 'read'.

➤ **Diane Field, University of Calgary**

**The Re-Emergence Of Canadian Midwifery: An Exploration Into The Claim Of A Racist Rebirth**

This paper seeks to explore one important facet of the contemporary re-emergence of Canadian midwifery by pursuing an exploratory investigation into racial inequalities and

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exclusionary practices that have been claimed to exist within the profession. Paradoxically, although women have now gained the ability to choose a midwifery attended style of birthing, thus increasing gender equality, racial and ethnic diversity in midwives and midwifery clients seems to have faltered. This paper, then, sets out to examine how the claim of racism originated within the midwifery community. Further, it explores what processes and discussions among the many players within this community followed this claim, and it also addresses the potential ways in which the contemporary midwifery profession has sought to reconcile racial and ethnic inequalities. This paper makes use of two new conceptual frameworks in the study of midwifery--- Critical Race Feminism and Critical White Studies --- to facilitate in the analysis of the claim of a racist rebirth. Overall, I argue that there is merit to the claim of racism in the re-emergence of Canadian midwifery, at least at the outset of the profession.

➤ **Joshua Harold, University of Toronto**

### **Camping For Continuity: Ethnic Boundaries And Cultural Reproduction In The North American Jewish Community**

Concerns over the survival of a Jewish peoplehood have become a central feature in ethno-cultural discourse throughout the Jewish Diaspora. In response to these concerns, Jewish organizations have developed programs to reproduce cultural themes which shape understandings of "authenticity" in Jewish identity. This paper examines one boundary mechanism that is important in the case of North American Jews; that is, how Jewish summer camps guide understandings of Jewish life and influence strategies of action. This inquiry looks at literature and data on Jewish social patterns by focusing on how boundaries are constructed, and the outcomes of the summer camp experience on Jewish identification and in-group social contact. The author argues that in order to augment consensus building over social boundaries, Jewish summer camps reproduce hegemonic formulations of normative attitudes grounded in a survivalist discourse. Of particular interest is the interaction between camp structure, negotiation among actors, and displays of group distinctiveness. However, despite concerted culture building efforts at camp, status distinctions are significant elements in the formation of an "authentic" Jewish person, practice, and ideological position. The construction of Jewish identity at camp may therefore reinforce class divisions, thereby complicating or subverting culture building efforts in the larger Jewish community.

## **Modernities, Race And Racisms**

Session Number: RE2

Session Organizer: Augustine SJ Park, Carleton University

This session encompasses two themes: On the one hand, we examine race and racism as organising logics of modernity. On the other hand, this session examines the multiplicity of racisms in modernity. Race operates as a logic of inclusion and exclusion, purity and pollution, superiority and inferiority, sorting and separating. As such, theorists such as Arendt, Bauman and Foucault have analysed race and racism as central to the modern state, to modern genocide and to modernity's old and new colonial enterprises. In contrast, theorists of the "new racism" (such as Barker and Balibar) suggest that the logic of race and racism has shifted from its violent and eliminationist past to a new rationale of incommensurability. Whereas the old racism (naturalistic racism) was rooted in biological explanations, the new racism (differential racism) is rooted in cultural essentialism and the assumption of insurmountable difference. Culture,

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according to new racists, is static and innate. While all cultures are normatively equal, they are also fundamentally at odds. Therefore, new racists tell us, we cannot get along. Just as racisms are multiple, so too are sociological conceptions of modernity/modernities. This session critically interrogates racisms and modernities through a variety of objects of inquiry.

➤ **Sara Dorow, University of Alberta**

**Racial Diversity' As Resource: Constructing Modernity In Fort McMurray**

In his 2003 article on Fort McMurray, social geographer Arthur Krim concludes that it is "a substantial urban center with a multicultural mix of mosques and churches that mark the immigrant migrations...creating a future city on the edge of the Canadian Far North." This paper critically analyzes how deployment of multiculturalism - rendered visible in 'racial diversity' - takes on political and economical value in Fort McMurray's bid to replace its image as a frontier boom town with that of a modern metropolis-in-the-making.

Situated at the heart of the northern Alberta oil sands, Fort McMurray straddles the 'north' and 'south' of the Canadian imaginary of which Shields (1991) writes: southern Canada's identity as metropolitan and modern relies on the imaginary of the north as both pristine and developable. Global North and South also map onto this construct, e.g., in claims that the oil sands are more technologically and ethically advanced than in places like Nigeria or Saudi Arabia (Ezra Levant 2010). Ironically, the racialized imaginaries that underwrite these geo-social relations are converted into a cultural resource (Yudice 2003) signaling Fort McMurray's development into a modern, globalized city. I draw on extensive ethnographic research in Fort McMurray to illustrate and theorize this process.

➤ **Melanie Knight, University of Ottawa**

**Guess Who's Coming To Dinner? Negotiating Visibility And Racism In Entrepreneurship**

Race and racism in entrepreneurship are described in the literature in two ways: As something previously experienced in wage work or within very specific business dealings as entrepreneurs, in particular, when trying to obtain bank loans. I contend that entrepreneurship, as a status of work, induces a series of repeated bodily encounters that Black women must negotiate. In this paper, I examine the everyday forms of racism Black women entrepreneurs experience and, more specifically, the politics of cross-racial encounters, the reconstitution of bodily space and their negotiation of how the bodies are read in different encounters (Ahmed, 2000; Essed, 1991; Puwar, 2004). Although entrepreneurship has been defined as providing great independence and autonomy, it is, nonetheless, a highly tenuous space of refuge.

➤ **Sarah S. Smith, University of Toronto**

**Pathologies Of Self, Masculinity, Race & Sexuality: A Photographic Discourse Analysis Of Bishop Eddie Long And Col. Russell William**

Former commander of Canadian Forces Base in Trenton, Ontario, Russell Williams pleaded guilty on October 18, 2010 to two counts of first degree murder and eighty-four breaking and entering and sexual assault charges. As of December 2010, Bishop Eddie Long had four lawsuits alleging sexual coercion by young men in his New Birth Ministry congregation in Lithonia, Georgia. The legal cases of Long and Williams--among the tensions, disgust, sadness and frustration--evoke multiple affective responses from civil society. These multiple responses contribute to conflicting and problematic discourses of masculinity, race and sexuality. In

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extension and perhaps more potent are the ways in which masculinity, race and sexuality have been conceived of and circulated through photographs of Long and Williams.

Through a reading of Michel Foucault and Sylvia Wynter I consider ways in which discourses of masculinity, race and sexuality are constructed through regimes of truth embedded in what Wynter calls the "overrepresentation of the ethnoclass man as human" (Wynter, 2003). Further, through what I call a photographic deciphering practice I consider the ways in which particular discourses of masculinity, race and sexuality are constructed and in turn circulate through the images of Bishop Eddie Long and Col. Russell Williams.

➤ **Madalena Santos, Carleton University**

**Relations Of Ruling In The Colonial Present: An Intersectional View Of The Israeli Imaginary**

This research paper explores the theoretical notion of the colonial present through the lens of critical anti-racist feminism which recognizes the interrogation of gender as crucial to the study and analysis of racialized 'othered' populations in colonial contexts. In examining how concerns with the social construct of gender are integral to an understanding of the dynamics of colonial/state power/violence, I consider Chandra Mohanty's (1991) reading of Dorothy Smith's (1987) 'relations of ruling' through the backdrop of theoretical and conceptual frameworks in Agamben (1998, 2005), Arendt (1973, [1958]), Foucault (2003, [1987]), Goldberg (2002), Mbembe (2001, 2003), and Said (1978) with interventions from Bannerji (2003), Butler (2007), Isin and Rygiel (2007), and Ong (1996). This paper takes into account the relationship between naturalistic (old) and differential (new) racisms and argues that while racism manifests itself differently in particular contexts the separation of each manifestation as old and new fails to recognize the simultaneity of the processes and practices of different racist formulations across multiple temporalities and spatialities as well as the syncretic nature of racism which often combines elements of each form (Wodak & Reisigl, 2003). To illuminate the intersection between social divisions and colonialism, this study emphasizes the importance of contextual particularity in examining social relations using Israel/Palestine as a case in point. Understanding experience as heterogeneous, plural, multiple I marry my presentation of Mohanty with the feminist perspectives of Abdo (1996, 2004, 2008), Bannerji (2003), Kanaaneh (2002, 2009), Lentin (1999, 2004; also 2004 in Abdo & Lentin), Peteet (1994), Sharoni (1995), and Yuval-Davis (1985, 1987, 1993, 1996) to contribute to the theoretical discussion of the literature on the intersection of gender and race in contemporary colonial projects. I conclude by arguing for the furthering of decolonial and anti-racist feminist analyses of gender from within particularized contexts of resistance to adequately comprehend, and theorize (as well as overcome) the violent nature of contemporary colonial occupation.

**Bringing Together Anti-Racist and Anti-Colonial Perspectives with Queer Theorizing**

Session Number: RE3

Session Organizers: Gulzar R. Charania, University of Toronto, Ruthann Lee; York University; R. Cassandra Lord, University of Toronto

Session Chair: Gulzar R. Charania, University of Toronto

In this session, we propose to engage feminist queer of colour critiques to make central the theoretical contributions of diaspora, anti-racist, and anti-colonial studies to queer theorizing.

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Papers will raise interdisciplinary discussions that disrupt and complicate the queer through relational, transnational, and historical readings. Themes may include: the mobilization of "queer diaspora" models to re-imagine and re-make spaces of belonging by queer diasporic people of colour; the use of artistic and cultural practices to expand queer frameworks; integrating queer diasporic and indigenous perspectives to challenge white settler narratives; examining the tensions and possibilities for thinking about queer practices and theoretical frameworks alongside religious identities.

➤ **Ruthann Lee, York University**

**(Un)Settling Queer Racialized Masculinities In Canada**

My paper takes up recent debates in anti-racist, feminist, queer and Native scholarship to consider the production of racialized masculinities in the contemporary artwork of Singaporean-born queer diasporic artist Dominique Hui and queer Aboriginal/Cree artist Kent Monkman. First, I review the asymmetrical historical relations among diasporic and indigenous groups within a framework of multiculturalism and settler state colonialism in Canada. I discuss how Aboriginal and diasporic peoples are asymmetrically positioned with respect to multicultural policies in Canada. Secondly, although cultural production is one way in which marginalized groups intervene and transform the dominant discourses of multiculturalism and settler nationalism in Canada, there are important distinctions in the way that queer diasporic and Native artists respond to and challenge Canadian these discourses. I suggest that the visible presence of queerly racialized bodies in cultural texts can unsettle hetero- and homo-normative models of citizenship in complex and uneven ways. Overall, my paper suggests that the critical analysis of racialized masculinities has a great deal to offer to political projects of social transformation by enabling alternative--and more emancipatory--ways of thinking about and embodying racialized masculinities.

➤ **Beenash Jafri, York University**

**National Identity, Citizenship And The Clash Of Civilizations: Queers Discover Canada**

In March 2010, the Canadian Press revealed that the office of Canadian Immigration Minister Jason Kenney had purposefully blocked the inclusion of references to gay and lesbian history in the 2009 Canadian citizenship study guide, Discover Canada: The Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship. In response, queer activists and allies demanded that this history be inserted back in the guide, with many insisting that this move by Kenney reflected the ideological leanings of the current Conservative regime. However, in putting forth these demands, queer activists relied on some troublesome assumptions and silences. First, many framed their arguments by constructing Canada as liberal and tolerant in opposition to more "repressive" regimes. Second, the advocacy generally appeared to overlook the broader role of the document in facilitating the strategic positioning of Canada within a shifting transnational landscape of war, terror and security; as I demonstrate, the guide attempts to assert a national identity that contrasts Canadian values and traditions to the "barbaric cultural practices" purportedly trafficked by newcomers. I argue that mainstream queer responses to the guide participated in, rather than challenged, these discourses of civilizational culture clash that underpin Discover Canada.

➤ **Gulzar R. Charania, University of Toronto**

**Conversations Between The Sheets: Imperialism, Racism And Spirituality In The Lives Of Queer Muslims**

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In this paper, I critically examine the ways in which queer Muslims negotiate their sexuality within a complex terrain of gender, race and imperialism. I explore how queer studies might respond to or be reshaped by engagements with not only questions of race and imperialism but also religion. Having gone into what M. Jacqui Alexander (2005) calls the "spiritual closet," that is compartmentalizing the importance of sacred and spiritual practices, I examine how deeply meaningful religious practices, diversely defined, are folded into the lives of queer Muslims, women in particular. Drawing on the scholarship of anti-racist feminists and queer of colour critiques, I consider what theoretical and political spaces and vocabularies might be enlarged in bringing Islam and queerness together in the same analytic frame. I argue that gender, race, religion and imperialism are required to more fully theorize the experiences of queer Muslims within sexuality and queer studies.

## Indigenous Peoples and Contemporary Canada

Truth, Reconciliation, and the Residential Schools Legacy

Session Number: RE4-A

Session Organizer: Jeffrey S. Denis, Harvard University

Session Chair: Howard Ramos, Dalhousie University

Session Discussant: James Frideres, University of Calgary

The federal government's 2008 residential school apology was a landmark event for Aboriginal peoples in Canada. More than two years later, however, 118 First Nations still lack clean drinking water, land disputes between First Nations and resource extraction companies proliferate, and more Aboriginal children are in the custody of child welfare agencies than were institutionalized at the height of the residential school era. Although Aboriginal peoples are the fastest growing population in Canada, they generally face poorer socioeconomic and health conditions than non-Aboriginal Canadians. This session invites papers on the social issues facing Aboriginal peoples in contemporary Canada. Of particular interest is empirical research on the relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities and/or studies with theoretical and practical implications for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission whose five-year (2010-15) mandate includes "establishing new relationships embedded in mutual recognition and respect" ([www.trc.ca](http://www.trc.ca)).

➤ **Lisa-Jo K. Van den Scott, Northwestern University**

### **The Emergence Of Taboos: Inuit Shamanism From The Light Into The Shadows**

Within an Elder's lifetime Inuit shamanism, in Nunavut, Canada has shifted from serving a central, cohesive role in society to becoming a strict taboo subject. How did this happen? We must turn to the Church and investigate its activities as its own reputational engineer. This paper is a case-study of one of the most traditional communities in the far North. Dramatically isolated, this Inuit hamlet was colonized relatively recently. The nomadic tribes were relocated by force (by the government) within living memory and the culture changed forever as the Western world interceded with the traditional Inuit world. In the midst of the cognitive upheaval of the Inuit, the Church - in control of the majority of the resources - employed techniques such as banning drum dancing (in effect throwing out the living records and affecting collective memory), constructing public buildings, changing individuals' names (in effect reaching into their core identity) and, most especially, the manipulation of narrative and rhetoric (introducing the polarized concepts of good and evil) to achieve its goal - eliminating the competition. This paper will also address whether shamanism exists quietly behind the scenes as well as newly emerging trends in attitudes towards shamanism inspired by secular "Southerners."

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➤ **Evan W. Bowness, University of Manitoba**

**Relational Genocide In Canada: Theoretical Exploration Into To Impact Of The Indian Residential School System**

The Canadian Indian Residential School System caused irreparable suffering for Aboriginal peoples and continues to leave its impact intergenerationally. Although often met with controversy, it has been argued that the IRSS meets the criteria for genocide. This paper explores what relational theory can add to an understanding of intentional group destruction specifically within the context of the atrocities committed through the forced relocation of children into residential schools. I argue that relationality better captures the complexity and diversity of indigenous experiences of the IRSS in ways that modernist thinking cannot. By drawing on Chris Powell's relational definition of genocide, I follow Andrew Woolford's assertion that the conceptual separation of physical and cultural group destruction does not fit the holistic, indigenous worldview held by many subjected to the schools. Relational theory's focus on interconnectedness and dynamic processes can make a significant contribution to argument that the Indian Residential School System was an instrument of genocide.

➤ **Konstantin S Petoukhov, University of Manitoba**

**An Evaluation Of The Design Of Truth And Reconciliation Commission Of Canada (Trc) Through The Lens Of Restorative Justice And The Theory Of Recognition**

As one of the strategies to assimilate Aboriginal peoples into Euro-Canadian society, Indian residential school system was established in the 19th century. The main goal was to teach Aboriginal children English or French and to provide them with necessary education in order for them to become self-sufficient, successful individuals. In 2006, Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement was created and consists of a government apology, monetary compensation payments, and the Indian Residential School TRC.

Restorative justice may have the potential to address the abuse and neglect which occurred in residential schools. For example, restorative justice operates on principles of restoring respect and dignity of victims, empowering victims and listening to their stories and how wrongdoings have affected them, and establishing an accurate record of past harms. By way of truth-telling, restorative justice strives to overcome the denial of guilt and to provide the necessary recognition by restoring identities of the victims, and in this case - repairing the harm done to the identities of Aboriginal peoples.

The goal of this Master's thesis is to examine the extent to which principles of restorative justice have been built into the design of Canada's TRC. The presence of restorative justice elements in the TRC may serve as one of the early indicators of the TRC's success or failures in its long-term goals of healing of Aboriginal peoples, reconciliation of nations, and rebuilding relationships.

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**Boundaries and Bridges in Indigenous-Non-Indigenous Relations**

Session Number: RE4-B

Session Organizer & Chair: Jeffrey S. Denis, Harvard University

Session Discussant: Howard Ramos, Dalhousie University

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➤ **Jeffrey Denis, Harvard University**

**(De)Legitimizing Colonial Relations: Aboriginal And White Canadian Perspectives On Aboriginal-Non-Aboriginal "Boundaries"**

The concept of "boundaries" (Lamont & Molnar, 2002) is widely used in sociological theory. But how do actors themselves conceive of boundaries? As part of a broader study of Aboriginal-non-Aboriginal relations in small-town Canada, I interviewed 150 First Nations, Metis, and white/Euro-Canadian residents of Northwestern Ontario ("Treaty 3 Territory") about their views on the boundaries between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities. After identifying ten distinct types of lay perspectives, I highlight a central conflict in how Aboriginals and whites tend to frame boundaries: whereas many whites view treaties, land claims and self-governance as boundaries to better relations, many Aboriginals say the "real" boundary is whites' lack of understanding and respect for their histories, rights, and worldviews. These conflicting ways of framing boundaries serve, respectively, to legitimate and challenge the colonial structure. The dominant white frame reinforces systemic racism (Henry & Tator, 2006) by defending and justifying material inequalities (i.e., the Native-white poverty gap) and seeking to erase political-national boundaries ("Can't we all just be Canadian?"). The dominant Aboriginal frame supports an alternative vision of group relations, including recognition of their unique identities and rights but also social inclusion. Implications for sociological theory and the future of Aboriginal-non-Aboriginal relations are discussed.

➤ **Stephen Wyatt, Université de Moncton; Martin Herbert, Université de Laval**

**Collaboration Between First Nations And The Forest Industry: A Process Model For Evaluating Goals And Results**

As the number and diversity of case studies of First Nation involvement in Canada's forest sector grows, it is important to establish theoretical frameworks that enable research to go beyond individual studies. Drawing from a broad review of Canadian experiences, in this paper we propose a model for understanding collaboration between First Nations and the forest industry as a social process. After assessing the dimensions and relevance of this graphically formulated hypothesis, we discuss four main sources of complexity that should be taken into account in our understanding of collaboration as a process: the diversity of actors and interests within the process, the co-occurrence of collaboration processes and cross-processes, strategic choices, time-sensitive dynamics, as well as the feedback loop that is created between theory and practice when one wishes to improve the reductionist model to include adaptive learning into the system. In conclusion, we discuss the implications of this model for managers and decision-makers to help clarify some of the complexity inherent in collaborative arrangements and provide a resource for the development of closer relationships and new forms of collaboration between First nations and the forestry industry in Canada.

➤ **Nishant Upadhyay, York University**

**Teaching The "Nation": Critical Reflections On Area Studies, Pedagogy And The Nation**

South Asian/India Studies is an old discipline in Western academia. With the growing popularity of the discipline within the students and the massive work produced in the Western academia, the discipline needs to be critically analyzed. Drawing upon the author's experiences of "teaching" Introduction to South Asian Studies as a Teaching Assistant at York University, Toronto since September 2009, this paper will provide a critical analysis of area studies by reflecting on issues around the construction of the nation in the class(room), critical pedagogy,

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diaspora, and the neoliberal university. The paper questions how in academic discourses the (Indian) nation and its identity is constructed, and more specifically what role does South Asia/India Studies play in promoting and maintaining the hegemonic constructs of the nation in Canada. The paper will look at South Asia/India Studies in the Canadian academy by focusing on the courses offered at York University and University of Toronto. Since majority of the students taking these courses have South Asian/Indian backgrounds, the paper explores the processes through which knowledge is (re)produced and (re)distributed to the students. By looking at the courses and what is present/absent, the author will examine the relation of the courses to colonial, neocolonial and imperial histories and lived realities on varying geographical scales, and analyze the material and ideological practices that shape the courses. The paper will also examine the demands of the neoliberal market(s) on area studies.

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### The Urban Aboriginal Experience

Session Number: RE4-C

Session Organizer, Chair, & Discussant: Jeffrey S. Denis, Harvard University

➤ **Brittini Kerluke, University of Calgary**

**"If You Hunt Good Enough You'll Find It": The Wellbeing Of Urban Aboriginal Seniors In The Calgary Region**

More Aboriginal peoples are residing in urban areas than ever before. Many of these peoples maintain a holistic view of well-being in which physical, emotional, mental and spiritual variables all play a key role in their lives. This paper explores the factors that affect urban Aboriginal seniors and their conceptions of well-being; specifically this paper examines the effect of social and geographic isolation on the health and well-being of urban Aboriginal seniors in the Calgary region. Through the use of 20 in-depth individual interviews and 2 focus groups, this study strove to gain a better understanding of aboriginal well-being and the factors that affect aboriginal peoples. The findings of this study illustrate that many urban Aboriginal seniors hold a holistic conception of well-being and that geographic and social factors must be addressed to improve existing services and encourage the utilization of well-being services in the lives of Aboriginal seniors.

➤ **Laura Murphy, University of Western Ontario**

**Moving House And Home: Urban Aboriginal Housing In Canada**

Knowledge of Indigenous housing in Canada has been traditionally focused on the on-reserve experience. However, close to fifty percent of all Aboriginal people live in urban centers. This fifty percent of urban Indigenous Canadians participate with the remaining fifty percent of Indigenous Canadians who live on reserve in churn migration (equal rates of migration between the reserve and urban environments). Despite these trends, little research exists on urban experiences of Canadian Aboriginal people, nor the impact of mobilities. In my presentation I intend to look at housing trends, through rentalship and homeownership, for urban Aboriginal people. I will then compare and contrast my findings on housing for Indigenous and non-Indigenous people, and will aim to understand the contemporary role of mobility regarding housing for both groups.

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➤ **Cameron D.I. Greensmith, University of Toronto**

**Settler Homonationalism and Pride Toronto: Is there a Space for 2-Spiritedness?**

Pride Toronto is a “not-for-profit” organization that encourages diverse lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, transsexual, intersex, queer, questioning, two-spirited, and ally (LGBTIQ2SA) community members to showcase the sexual and gendered identities during their annual festival. While Pride attempts to showcase diversity among the queer community, the bodies of white, gay, able bodied, men continue to manifest within the festival parade, programming and advertisements. Such a homogenizing representation of queer identities in Canada continues to produce symbolic and discursive colonization through the Othering of Aboriginality as primitive and exotic. Therefore, this paper takes seriously the histories of colonization within queer social movements and asks who can adopt queerness as an identity category within Pride Toronto's neo-liberal politic? This paper employs semi-structured interviews, participant observation and photography to engage with the lived experiences of seven two-spirited-identified urban Aboriginal people and were conducted to investigate their experiences and perceptions of race relations and racism as it relates to Pride Toronto and the LGBTQ community. Findings underscored important social processes that can lead to both negative and positive experiences among Two-Spirited people in Pride Toronto, complicating white settler notions of queerness and sexuality. This paper makes visible the possibilities for politicizing queerness through a two-spirited perspective that takes seriously the entangled identities of sexuality, spirituality and race.

**Race and Ethnicity Omnibus**

Session Number: RE5

Session Organizer & Chair: Bruce Arai, Wilfrid Laurier University-Brantford

➤ **Cathy Holtmann, University of New Brunswick; Lucia Tramonte, University of New Brunswick**

**Believing And Belonging: Social Networks, Religion And Immigrant Women In Canada**

Religion plays a role in the migration process for many members of immigrant communities and religious groups often become centres of social support (Ebaugh & Chafetz, 2000; Foley & Hoge, 2007) Formal and informal services are provided by networks within immigrant ethno-religious communities and may play a significant role for women in dealing with the settlement process. Religious immigrant women face a shifting landscape of gender, family, education, and employment dynamics and find themselves at the intersection of local, national and international cultural, political and economic forces. This can lead to tensions in the family (Creese, Dyck, & McLaren, 2008; Dion & Dion, 2001). This study is based on the analysis of three waves of data from the Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada and explores the time varying effects of religious, ethnic, and cultural factors on the subjective perception and external markers of integration of immigrant women. Multilevel longitudinal modelling can help us to better understand the role that religion plays in the coping strategies of religious women who experience stress in their families after immigration, in particular by analyzing the mental health trajectories of religious women with differential levels of integration and social support in Canadian society.

➤ **Yoko Yoshida, Atlantic Metropolis Centre**

**Immigrant settlement: A Gendered experience?**



Studies on immigrants and their settlement have attracted a wide range of attention among academic and policy-related researchers in Canada. Reading through the literature in this area, one would notice, what is often taken for granted, that there is concentration in choice of methods used to understand their experiences. Most researchers rely on qualitative methods. Given gendered divisions in disciplinary training, it is not a surprise to observe such trend. However, it leaves a gap in our knowledge regarding whether or not men and women differ in patterns of immigrants' settlement. Accumulated literature, qualitatively portraying women's perspective, suggests that their experience is very different from men's. However, such differences are often assumed and expected, rather than discovery. The main goal of this paper is to examine whether and how gender differences can be traced by using quantitative analyses. Using the Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada, the paper examines patterns in building social ties and cultural adaptation between immigrant men and women. Particular emphasis is paid on how the presence and absence of children affect the way men and women adapt to Canada.

## Research Methods

### Transdisciplinary Research Methods: Researching Across Disciplines

Session Number: RM1-A

Session Organizer & Chair: Rebecca Scott, Queen's University

Defined as a research practice in which 'boundaries between and beyond disciplines are transcended and knowledge and perspectives from different scientific disciplines as well as nonscientific sources are integrated' (Flinterman et al, 2001), transdisciplinarity has gained currency in academia and public discourse as part of a growing recognition that responses to wide-ranging problems must be multi-pronged, multidimensional, and draw on many forms of data and analytic resources. Sociologists have much to contribute to such projects. Yet sociologists working collaboratively across disciplines face many challenges, one set of which pertains to methodology. This panel addresses methodological challenges faced by transdisciplinary researchers. In particular, papers focus on novel approaches to research that overcome these challenges.

➤ **Jacqueline Low, University of New Brunswick**

#### **Recruiting Seniors And Social Workers: Implications For Research Designs Across Disciplines**

In this paper we discuss recruitment problems encountered in our qualitative research on home support for seniors in New Brunswick, in which we used face-to-face interviews with seniors, and focus groups with social workers, as primary means of generating data. Recruitment of both seniors and social workers for this project took much longer and was more difficult than anticipated. Our goal had been to recruit 20 seniors, and while this goal was achieved, we did not recruit as many males or as many Francophones as had been planned for. Similarly, our intent had been to hold two focus group meetings with social workers, one English, the other French, each with 10 members. In the end we recruited 11 social workers, 4 French and 7 English. We examine the reasons for these recruitment problems and discuss strategies to address them. Understanding such issues in recruitment is of importance for research designs across disciplines given that seniors continue to be under-represented in research that impacts on the services provided to them and that social workers are more often seen as 'researchers' rather than



'participants' and are thus rarely consulted for their insights into the work they do and the services they provide.

➤ **Will C. van den Hoonaard, University of New Brunswick**

**The Colonization Of Social Research By Bio- Medical Paradigms**

There is wide agreement that formal research ethics codes represent the biomedical perspective of ethics in research. Although the source and development of these medically-based codes became universal, they suffered from their lack of relevance for social research.

However, broad cultural and social factors, particularly in the Anglophone world, discounted the worries by social researchers. These factors include the societal trend to see human beings as vulnerable, in need of protection and privacy; to see science as a dubious enterprise occasionally marked by scandals and disasters (from which the public needs protection); to affirm the alleged experience of fear and insecurity, needing the imposition of legislated codes of research practice; and to promulgate accountability and societal discipline to through surveillance of research practices.

These factors, along with medical-ethics codes that are seen as normative, are undercutting and changing the habits of social researchers. Conforming to those ethics codes means that social researchers must now surrender their "traditional" epistemologies and methodologies. Even such terms as "protocol," "investigator," and "best practices," amongst others have gained currency among social researchers. In this process ethics in social research is being colonized by medical-ethics codes. More significantly, social researchers, as the colonized, have abetted the colonization.

➤ **Peter Duinker, Dalhousie University**

**Interdisciplinarity, Transdisciplinarity, Antidisciplinarity: What To Choose For Resource And Environmental Studies?**

I was never properly introduced to the concept of disciplinarity. I learned about multidisciplinary in the 1970s, interdisciplinarity in the 1980s, and transdisciplinarity in the 1990s. My notion of antidisciplinarity is unlikely to take root in the 2000s, but it remains a recurring thought as my career matures and sunsets. Based on selective sampling of the literature and personal experiences in myriad research and problem-solving ventures in resource and environmental studies, I reflect on the mismatch between academic preparation and real-world problems. I discuss barriers, frustrations, bridges, approaches and methods in bringing the scholarships of integration and application into practical utility. To conclude, I wonder whether one scholar can be personally transdisciplinary.

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**Transdisciplinary Research Methods Researching with Science and Medicine**

Session Number: RM1-B

Session Organizer & Chair: Rebecca Scott, Queen's University

➤ **Jenny Godley, University of Calgary**

**Using Social Network Analysis To Assess Collaboration In Obesity Research: Evidence From A Canadian University**

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Interdisciplinary research is necessary to understand the causes and consequences of complex health issues such as obesity. The extent to which current obesity research spans disciplines is unknown, and there are few studies which address methods to foster interdisciplinary health research. This study uses social network analysis to examine collaboration among obesity researchers at one institution. A whole network survey of obesity researchers at one Canadian university was conducted. Whole network measures examined include: density; isolates; average degree and multiplexity. Analysis of variance (ANOVA) is used to examine the network composition variables by Faculty. QAP regression is used to assess the impact of individual-level variables (affiliation, length of time at the university, professorial rank, and gender) on collaborative relationships. Belonging to the same Faculty has the largest impact on collaborative work. Respondents are most likely to co-apply for grants and co-supervise students with members of other Faculties, suggesting that these are the most interdisciplinary activities. This study demonstrates the utility of social network analysis as a tool to assess interdisciplinary research collaboration. Expanding the study across time, institutions and research areas would be useful to track the progress of interdisciplinary research and to assess methods of encouraging interdisciplinary collaboration.

- **Cathy Holtmann, University of New Brunswick; Steve McMullin, Acadia Divinity College; Nancy Nason-Clark, University of New Brunswick**

**Interweaving Research On Abuse In Families Of Faith And Social Action: The RAVE {Religion And Violence E-Learning} Project**

Funded by the Lilly Endowment, the RAVE Project is a unique, web-based method of delivering training and resources to clergy members and communities of faith who are dealing with issues of domestic violence. In this project we have sought to harness collaboratively developed research findings on domestic violence and religion into a comprehensive series of training and web-based resources for religious leaders around the world. This presentation will detail several of our research and evaluation methods -- including ongoing input from a variety of interested constituency groups in four physical locations, as well as online constituents; seeking feedback on a continuous basis from those accessing the site; and intentionally seeking out and incorporating the ideas, thoughts and reactions of victims, clergy members, and professionals working in the field of domestic violence.

Launched in 2007, the RAVE website [www.theraveproject.org](http://www.theraveproject.org) is accessed by over 1500 unique IP addresses each week.

- **Rebecca Scott, Queen's University**

**The Barker Hypothesis And Transdisciplinarity: The Case Of Obesity**

The central argument of the Barker hypothesis, a predominant theory in epidemiology and reproductive biology, is that during development, the commingling of social factors, generational patterns of health and illness, and biological processes can predispose the fetus to later disease or predict future health. In this way, the hypothesis evinces complex aetiologies of disease and explanations for distributions of health that span biology, social class, place, and generation. In this paper, I use the case of obesity to explore these points. Dispensing with attempts to determine whether it is 'biology' or 'lifestyle' that has 'caused' the 'obesity epidemic,' the Barker hypothesis can be seen, to a significant degree for a scientific theory, to approach obesity and many other conditions as what have been called in science studies 'naturecultures'

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(Haraway, 2008). This makes the hypothesis significant for science studies, transdisciplinary studies of health and disease, and biopolitics.

## Issues and New Directions in Social Research

Session Number: RM2

Session Organizer: John Goyder, University of Waterloo

Session Chair: David Toews, York University

This session invites papers on new interpretations of methodological issues and new directions in data collection methods including arts-based methods. In addition, papers may reflect new directions in the writing of qualitative research exemplified by scripts, poems, narratives, film, or multi-vocal and mixed-media approaches. All theories and methodologies for framing and analyzing new directions in qualitative and quantitative research are encouraged.

### ➤ **Athena Engman, University of Toronto**

#### **Logical Fallacy in Multiple-Level Significance Reporting**

The overwhelming majority of quantitative work in sociology reports levels of statistical significance. Often, significance is reported with little or no discussion of what it actually entails philosophically, and this can be problematic when analyses are interpreted. Frequently, significance is understood to represent the probability of the null hypothesis being true given the data. In fact, significance represents the probability of collecting the data, given that the null hypothesis is true. There is, therefore, a logical problem with reporting significance at three different levels, as is generally done in sociological publications using the 0.05, 0.01 and 0.001 levels. In such publications, effects whose significance values are  $>0.001$  are often interpreted as being "more significant" than effects whose values are  $>0.05$ . This is an erroneous interpretation because, at the point of article submission and publication, one is already assuming that the null hypothesis is false. Reporting three levels of significance amounts to simultaneously rejecting the null hypothesis, and retaining a logical caveat that the null hypothesis is true. Obviously, this is contradictory.

The first section of this paper deals with the logic of statistical significance and highlights its limitations. The second section gives a history of significance testing in the social sciences, with reference to the historical foundations of many common misinterpretations of significance testing. Of particular interest with regard to the history of statistical significance is the debate between R. A. Fisher and J. Neyman, two early developers of statistical significance tests. While they staunchly disagreed with each other's methods, we now use a hybridized version of the tests that they developed. The third section is devoted to a discussion of the consequences of misinterpreting statistical significance for sociology. Ultimately, it is argued that many of the claims we make about generalizability based on significance tests are unsound. It is further argued that reporting statistical significance provides sociology with very little value, and that the consequences of misinterpreting significance values outweigh the benefits of their use.

### ➤ **Kimberly Anne Ford, Canadian Institute of Health Research**

#### **Impact Assessment Methodology: A Retrospective Look At Cardio & Cerebrovascular Research In Canada**

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada (HSFC) participated in an international study of the long-term outcomes of

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cardiovascular research--"Project Retrosight". The project used a case study methodology to assess the present-day impacts and outcomes of health research grants that were awarded between 1989 and 1993. This paper describes the qualitative methods used in the Canadian analysis. Case study methodology included semi-structured interviews with cardiovascular researchers; extensive reviews of relevant peer-reviewed publications; citations analyses; and reviews of curriculum vitae. Qualitative data analysis was done using NVivo software and was guided by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)'s 'Impact Assessment Framework', which includes five broad categories of research impact. This type of analysis poses many theoretical, ethical, empirical, and practical challenges. These issues are discussed in the hopes of refining 'impact assessment methodology', which aims to tell the rich and valuable story of what organisations can hope to achieve when funding health research.

➤ **Ken Viers, McMaster University**

**Moral Decision-Making At The Intersection Of Habitus And Habitat**

My paper will address epistemological and methodological issues in collecting, analyzing and presenting qualitative interview data. Qualitative work is about choices; many are identified, using my own work on assisted dying as an example. The paper, therefore, contains discussions of both methodology --the principles behind the practices-- and method --the actually doing of field ethnography. "Doing ethnography" in the context of moral decision-making is not a straight-forward, out-of-the-handbook proposition. In end-of life research the waters are murky and deep. When the research object is the moral grounding of end-of-life decision-making, I have found that new tools are required. Thus, it has proven fruitful to ground my current work in the social theories of Pierre Bourdieu and Zygmunt Bauman. A synthetic view of the life-world -- the habitat (Bauman)-- of a particular group may be developed from qualitative interview data. Further, the interface between a particular habitat and the broader social habitus (Bourdieu) from which it emerged may be investigated to identify areas of conflict or moral incompatibility that led to group formation in the first place. Lastly, the researcher enters the habitat of others from a common habitus but a different habitat --namely, Canadian academia. Reflexive sensitivity to the moral bedrock of these different existential worlds brings with it a deeper empathy for groups under investigation, and a clearer view of why they are who they have become. In conclusion, I find that when the research and writing are complete, one is then just ready to begin to ask the right questions. Thus a spontaneous urgency arises to go right back "out" again!

➤ **Patricia Thille, University of Calgary**

**Video-Elicitation in Interviews: Methodological Possibilities**

Images permeate our everyday lives but the visual has long been marginalized within social scientific inquiry. Visual research methods have been gaining prominence in recent years; one branch uses images as an elicitation tool during interviews. The addition of camera-generated images into qualitative projects is not a simple add-and-stir if one rejects the assumption that such images simply capture reality. Starting from the assumption that images are socially constructed, inclusion of the visual evokes different types of data, making possible research designs that bring the presented images and participants' responses into productive dialogue with one another. The use of video in social constructionist-informed image-elicitation studies is limited to date. In this presentation, I review three methodologically unique exemplars of video-elicitation interview studies: in focus groups with children; as a 'reflexive' intervention in a health

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care setting; and in individual interviews as part of a participatory action research design. For each exemplar, I will explicate the theoretical and methodological rationale to introduce video, and highlight how the visual acts as a catalyst for new forms of communication and interpretations.

➤ **Joseph E. Sawan, University of Toronto; Tashnim Khan, Ryerson University**

**Resident Organizing And Learning: Bridging Quantitative And Qualitative Methods Through Participatory Action Research (PAR)**

How can a participatory approach to mixed methods research prove effective for understanding the development of social movement activity? This paper will address this question in relation to the Anti-Poverty Community Organizing and Learning Project (APCOL), an ongoing SSHRC-CURA funded research project. Thus far, APCOL has completed three case studies and collected several hundred surveys throughout the Toronto-area. The participatory nature of this project continually reveals dynamic learning processes that illustrate how community-university relations provide opportunities for social change.

Focusing on the Kingston Galloway-Orton Park (KGO) neighbourhood, this paper will discuss the procedures involved in conducting a case study on a local housing campaign and the administration of a survey led by community researchers. The Participatory Action Research framework (PAR) of APCOL will be outlined to illustrate the methodological effectiveness of the case studies and surveys to date. By illustrating preliminary data from the case study and survey, this paper demonstrates the valuable relationship between qualitative and quantitative methods using a PAR approach to understand social movement activity.

## **Institutional Ethnography Eclectic**

Session Number: RM3

Session Organizer: Dorothy Smith, University of Victoria

➤ **Jean Louis Deveau,**

**How Textually-Mediated Disability Discourse Usurped A Supreme Court Of Canada Decision--The Ideological Circle In A Disabled Person's Life**

Prior to 1999, workplace accommodation in the Canadian federal public service signified whatever adjustments were required to fix or cure a disabled worker so that s/he could fit into a workplace designed for able-bodied workers. In 1999, a Supreme Court of Canada ruling known as the Meiorin case turned this ideological way of providing accommodation on its head. Instead of being focused on individual level fixes so that a disabled worker could be stuffed into the workplace such as it is, this legislation required employers to transform their workplaces so as to make them ready to receive as many different types of workers as reasonably possible from the outset--inclusion by design. Using Dorothy E. Smith's institutional ethnography, I will explicate how the ideological circle is a powerful tool to help us understand how textually-mediated disability discourse has usurped this groundbreaking Supreme Court of Canada ruling.



## Rural Sociology

### Community sociology: Theory to action

Session Number: RS1

Session Organizer: John Parkins, University of Alberta

Session Discussant: Susan Machum, St. Thomas University

This session explores the intersection of community development and sociology within small-town Canada. Issues of resource extraction, changing labour relations, countryside commodification, and challenges of immigrant settlement represent a landscape of social change within these locales. Papers in this session will explore the emerging landscape of culture, economy and society as a way to understand new movements and endogenous forces of change and renewal in the Canadian countryside.

- **Sara O'Shaughnessy, University of Alberta**

#### **Frontier Masculinity, Neoliberalism And Gender In Fort McMurray, AB**

Resource booms are embedded with promises of abundant employment and income-earning opportunities. The rapidly expanding Alberta oil sands have drawn in huge numbers of workers from around Canada and the world in search of jobs and high incomes, leading to tremendous social and demographic change in the nearby community of Fort McMurray. But do all residents share the same conception of opportunity? How is this notion of opportunity gendered and classed? In this presentation, I explore how women in Fort McMurray understand, negotiate and articulate their opportunities and challenges living and working in an oil boomtown. Specifically, this presentation will examine how women position their experiences in relation to dominant discourses of frontier masculinity and neoliberalism that have ideologically supported rapid resource extraction in the oil sands. Data for this presentation is drawn from a qualitative study of women working in the traditionally male-dominated oil sector and women working in the traditionally female-dominated social and community services sector.

- **Michael Fleming, St. Thomas University**

#### **"A Hell Of A Spot In February." Exploring The Resilience Of Locally-Owned Trucking Companies On The Great Northern Peninsula Of Newfoundland And Labrador**

The Great Northern Peninsula of Newfoundland and Labrador is characterized by sustained concern about out-migration, declining industrial output, and the collapse of natural resources. The trucking industry should not survive here, in fact most trucking companies are convinced it won't. Yet, locally-owned trucking companies in this region embody a spirit of community resilience clearly unique to the region both physically and theoretically on the edge. This paper examines the ways in which trucking companies on the Great Northern Peninsula negotiate dependency and resilience. It uncovers complex social relationships between the companies, the communities in which they operate, and the social, economic and geographic forces that influence them. Informed by critical political economy, this paper critiques the state's role in the deregulation of transportation policy. It explores, through an examination of case study data, how locally-owned trucking companies on the Great Northern Peninsula have become resilient within dependency.



## Roundtable for New Researchers

Session Number: RT1

Session Chair: Jim Frideres, University of Calgary, CSA President-Elect (2010-2011)

➤ **Holly Gilroy, Carleton University**

**Petroleum And Power Relations: Media, Government And Corporate Responses To The BP Oil Rig Explosion Of 2010**

This paper explores reactions in the American print news media to the BP oil spill of 2010. I specifically consider the corporate response from BP, the official responses of the US government and the perspective of environmentalists to better understand the climate of information available to the American public in the wake of the disaster. My project examines if and how news coverage challenges corporate and government common sense. I contend that across the spectrum of mainstream print American news, there has been little investigation of the economic and political causes for the Deepwater Horizon rig explosion and slow progress to plug the leak and criticism has largely remained at the individual level. I will briefly outline the plethora of reasons for the media to refrain from covering in depth structural economic issues, but focus on the extent to which three major online print sources of media challenge or engage the voices of corporations, governments and environmentalists. I will be presenting a brief summary of my critical discourse analysis with a particular focus on the news articles analyzed while exploring the extent to which media outlets mirror official sources.

➤ **Emerich Daroya, Carleton University**

**Potatoes And Rice: Exploring The Racial Politics Of Desire And Desirability In The Gay Community**

Desires and desirability have an important role to play in theorizing sexuality, but these have been largely ignored by scholars studying sexuality. To provide a study of the sociology of desire, I have adopted Green's (2008) concept of 'erotic habitus' to examine the dominant erotic habitus of gay men, the erotic habitus of gay Asian men, and the erotic habitus of 'rice queens' (white men who are attracted to Asians). Situating the analysis via Bourdieu's field, capital, and habitus, I employ critical discourse analysis of cultural vehicles in the gay community, such as personal ads on craigslist and Fab Magazine, to find the social structural forces which produce what gay men consider as desirable which are also reproduced through these vehicles. These structural forces put white, upper and middle-class, masculine and muscular men as the most desirable, creating hierarchies of desirability via 'erotic capital' which informs one's 'value' in the field of gay desire. Conversely, the rice queens' erotic habitus is fuelled by fetishizing 'Orientalist' stereotypes around the Asian male. These stereotypes are used by Asian men as 'erotic capital' to gain access to white privilege. Thus, structural forces influence our desires confirming that hierarchies exist in the gay community.

➤ **Alex Miltsov, University of New Brunswick**

**The Rise Of Disciplinary Fitness Of The Blossoming Of Panoptic Life Coaching: Conceptualizing A Contemporary Foucauldian Perspective On Well-Being**

The key purpose of this paper is to analyze the notion of well-being through the prism of Foucault's concept of governmentality by looking at a set of profound social changes instigated by the decline of the welfare state and the rise of neoliberalism. After assessing the existing scholarship on well-being and identifying some of its deficiencies, I argue that a Foucauldian

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approach offers a more nuanced understanding of the conceptualization of well-being in contemporary society. In this context, this work first formulates how Foucault understood governmentality and then analyzes the changing perception of well-being in the West in light of the ongoing dissolution of the welfare state and the expansion of the neoliberal forms of governance. In particular, I argue that neoliberal policies formulate a particular discourse of well-being, and examine how the rise of fitness, life coaching and dieting in the era of neoliberalism can be conceptualized through the prism of a Foucauldian perspective. I also look at how responsabilisation, individualization, and monetizing of different societal spheres related to well-being affect the changing conceptualization of this notion. In conclusion, I discuss some of the implications of the changing conceptualization of well-being.

➤ **Lyndsay Gray, Carleton University**

**Reconceptualising "Biological Citizenship" In Contemporary Patient-Centered Health Movements**

Published in 2005 and based primarily on Adriana Petryna's study of post-Chernobyl Ukraine, Nikolas Rose and Carols Novas co-authored an article entitled "Biological Citizenship". Here they argued that biological citizenship describes new forms of activism and sociality which have formed as the result of new relationships between social actors, biomedical knowledge and scientific expertise. Although Rose and Novas' explication of the concept has merit, it presents four conceptual limitations when assessed in light of large-scale patient-centered health movements in contemporary North America: it is reductionist; it normalizes certain illnesses; it aids in the solidification and acceptability of particular metaphors and narratives and it fails to consider the role played by, and the advantages given to, 'non-sufferers' who participate in these movements. In this paper I argue that the recent rash of patient-centered health movements (by specifically focusing on the example of the breast cancer movement) represents a refashioned and highly desirable form of citizenship that incorporates both biological citizenship and characteristics and practices of neoliberal citizenship. Understood in this way, I contend that these ever-expanding patient-centered health movements should be understood as a technology of governance.

➤ **Lisa Wright, Carleton University**

**Drug and Sex Education: Social Control in Contemporary Canadian Society**

For my MA thesis I am examining formal drug and sex education in Toronto, Ontario. This paper analyzes the findings from this research and theorizes the connection between the method in which drug and sex education is conducted and the social control of these activities in broader Canadian society. I conceptualize social control as the constitution of, and response to, deviant individuals and behaviours (Cohen 1985). This paper examines drugs and sexuality as moral issues in which the law, morality and risk intersect to control individuals as they engage in these activities. In order to understand the work of social control within formal drug and sex education, I examine how teachers in Toronto and the federal, provincial and municipal governments frame drug use and sexuality. As I am currently conducting this research a summary of the conclusions cannot be provided as this time. This research, however, will contribute to sociological discussions on the control of moralized activities and the relationship between education and social control.

➤ **Jennifer Matsunaga, Carleton University**

**W(Right)ing Injustice: Publics, Publicity And Publicizing Redress**

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My research problematizes “the public” through analysis of its composition, role and function in the Japanese Canadian redress movement. Social change that emerged from this historical social movement validates its current-day importance, particularly, as it relates to the public and social movements. Literature reviewed specifies that the public was instrumental in the success of this and any social movement. Despite this stated importance, no literature has operationalized “the public” in order to determine what is the public being discussed. Rather, the public appears as an assumed entity within redress and social movement discourse and more broadly, within the discipline of sociology. Critical discourse analysis of both policy and rhetorical representations of Japanese Canadians over the course of this movement highlight the need for “the public” to be analyzed in its own right and as it relates to social movements of this kind. Greater understanding of the public has important implications for the strength and ability of a social movement to form and mobilize publics. This paper demonstrates the complexity in understanding “publics” and highlights social analysis of publics as productive.

## Social Inequality

### Social Inequality Omnibus

Session Number: S13

Session Organizer & Chair: Yoko Yoshida, Dalhousie University

- **Josh Curtis, University of Toronto; Robert Andersen, University of Toronto**

#### **Income And Class Identity In Cross-National Perspective: The Polarizing Effect Of Economic Inequality**

This paper assesses the relationship between income inequality--both at the individual-level and the national-level--and class identity. It addresses two questions: 1) Does individual-level income affect where people place themselves in the class system, 2) How does this relationship differ across countries, and 3) What impact does national-level income inequality have on this relationship? Our ultimate goal, then, is to assess the interaction between individual-level income and national income inequality in their effects on class identity. Our findings suggest that class polarization is highest when income inequality is high. That is, the relationship between income and class identity tends to be strongest in societies with high income inequality, and lowest societies with low income inequality. Specifically, the poor tend to be most likely to identify as belonging to a low social class, and the rich tend to be much more likely to identify as belonging to a high social class, when income inequality is high. We conclude with a discussion of the theoretical implications of these findings.

- **Monica Boyd, University of Toronto; Emily Laxer, University of Toronto**

#### **The Impact Of Official Bilingualism On The Earnings Of The 1.5, 2nd And 3rd-Plus Generations In Canada**

The adoption of the Official Languages Act in 1969 has resulted in both regulatory and program measures which ensure that basic services are available to Canadians in both official languages and those opportunities are available for obtaining official language skills. Language legislation also has generated significant demand for bilingualism in the labour market with recent studies indicating that the ability to communicate in both official languages is correlated with higher earnings in Canada, particularly in the public sector. Yet the increasing ethnic and linguistic diversity of immigrant inflows since the 1960s suggests that immigrant offspring may be

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less likely to be officially bilingual in English and French than the third-plus generation and thus they may be less likely to benefit from related economic advantages. Using data from the 2006 Census of Canada, we address these suppositions by analyzing weekly wages and salaries from for women and for men who are age 30-54, living in Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto (these cities have the largest concentration of bilingual workers in Canada). Our study shows that the 1.5 and 2nd generations living in Montreal are less likely to be officially bilingual compared to the third-plus generations there but that only small differences exist in Ottawa and Toronto. Bilingualism confers approximately the same increment in earnings across generations although the benefits are most pronounced for those residing in Ottawa. We also examine the consequences of official bilingualism for persons with English or French or other mother tongues.

➤ **Sheila Batacharya, University of Toronto**

**Not A Magical Wonderland: Counter Hegemonic Understandings And Experiences Of Healing And Embodiment.**

In her doctoral investigation of embodiment, [Author] addresses the experiences and understandings of health, healing, violence and oppression among 15 young South Asian women living in Toronto, Canada. Their articulation of the importance of, and difficulties associated with, health and healing in contexts of social inequity contribute to understandings of embodiment as co-constituted by sentient and social experience. In reading their contributions, [Author] argues that embodied learning - that is, an ongoing attunement to sentient-social embodiment - is a counter hegemonic healing strategy that the participants use.

For example, participants assert that Yoga is a resource for addressing mental, physical, emotional and spiritual consequences of violence and oppression at the same time that they resist New Age interpretations of Yoga in terms of individualism and cultural appropriation. Furthermore, they challenge both New Age and Western biomedicine for a lack of attention to the consequences of social inequity for health and healing.

In her paper, [Author] discusses embodied learning as an important resource and form of resistance to violence and oppression. Scholarship addressing embodiment in sociology, health research, anti-racism, feminism, anti-colonialism, decolonization and Indigenous knowledges are drawn upon to contextualize the interviews and offer a careful consideration of the embodied strategies used by the participants in their nuanced negotiations of social inequity and pursuits of health and healing.

➤ **Marcia Oliver, York University**

**Gender Equality And Poverty Reduction In Development's Response To HIV/AIDS: Tensions, Convergences, And Opportunities**

In the context of international development we have witnessed heightened concerns with gender inequality and poverty as key structural factors driving the AIDS epidemic in sub-Saharan Africa. In many ways these concerns reflect longstanding feminist critiques of neoliberal development policies, especially in terms of rendering gender invisible and their negative effects on women's health and well-being. Drawing on my fieldwork in Uganda, this paper will discuss the contested dynamics of recent gender reform and poverty eradication initiatives in terms of advancing neoliberalism, religious-moral conservatisms, and feminist commitments to sexual and economic justice. Particular attention will be paid to development's increasing embrace of 'pro-

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family' initiatives, highlighting the normative dimensions of development programmes that often represent women, men, and gender relations in limited and often essentialist ways.

## Socialist Studies

Cross-listed Sessions with the Society for Socialist Studies

### Teaching Social Justice Studies: Challenges and Possibilities.

Session Number: CL1

Session Organizers & Co-Chairs: Bill Carroll, University of Victoria; Tanya Basok, University of Windsor

This roundtable session will take up issues of pedagogy, curricular development, interdisciplinary, recruitment, community-university engagement, international placements and the politics of teaching/mounting programs in the field of social justice studies. Colleagues with teaching and/or administrative experience in the area will be invited to participate; others are welcome to join the discussion.

- **Jane Helleiner, Brock University**
- **Kristin Lozanski, King's University College UWO**
- **Michael Ma, Kwantlen Polytechnic University**
- **Susan Machum, St. Thomas University**
- **Darrell McLaughlin, St. Thomas More College at the University of Saskatchewan**
- **Bernie Hammond, King's University College UWO**

### Separatism and Secession: the State of the Art's

(Session in Honour of Slobodan Drakulic).

Session Number: CL2 (Listed as Session D1 with the Society of Socialist Studies)

Session Organizer & Chair: Ivanka Knezevic, University of Toronto

Session Discussant: Trevor Harrison, University of Lethbridge

Twenty years have passed since the breakup of the Warsaw Pact, Soviet Union and Yugoslavia, and close to twenty since the demise of Czechoslovakia and Ethiopia. Separatist movements are a long-standing fact of political life in many polities: Sri Lanka, France, Spain... This session invites papers that examine separatism and secession of the past two decades. Theoretical syntheses are welcome, as are comparative and case studies.

- **Emily Laxer, University of Toronto**

### **Citizenship Regime And Immigrant Integration In Minority Nations: Contrasting The Cases Of Québec And Scotland**

Citizenship regimes have been typologized and linked to differences in immigrant political incorporation in cross-national studies. However, in multi-national destination countries – such as Canada, Spain, the U.K. and Belgium – multiple national communities compete to define the content and boundaries of citizenship. Researchers have yet to consider whether and how the resulting tensions influence immigrants' capacity for achieving full political membership. This paper bridges the literatures on citizenship, immigrant civic incorporation and minority nationalism to compare and contrast policies and patterns of immigrant integration in two minority nations: Québec and Scotland. The analysis is conducted in two stages. In part one, I

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undertake a comparative historical analysis of the two cases, highlighting similarities and differences in inter-group relations, political party systems and position within the global political and economic system. Part two presents preliminary evidence concerning the political integration of immigrants in both contexts. I conclude with general comments about the unique dilemmas facing minority nations with regard to the incorporation of newcomers.

➤ **Delia D Dumitrica, University of Calgary**

**A Luhmannian Inspired Model For The Study Of Nationalism**

This paper is based on my research on the role of nationalism in the social construction of the internet in Canada in three social spheres: policy, media and everyday life. Here, nationalism is defined from a discursive perspective, as a system of references, stories and values seeking to define the concept of the 'nation' (Bourdieu 1991). In the social construction of the internet in these three different social spheres, nationalism appears as a mechanism for managing change through which the internet, as an object of discourse, is being translated to the specific interests, concerns and vocabularies that (in)form each of the above-mentioned social spheres. Although in this process the content of nationalism also changes, this model suggests that nationalism can be understood, via Luhmann, as a communicative strategy through which the interests and dynamics specific to each social sphere are being made 'comprehensible' for and 'compatible' with the other spheres. Crucially, this communicative aspect cannot be divorced from the institutionalization of the nation in the form of the (nation) state and national (cultural) institutions, through which the nation as a form of organization becomes co-extensive with the space of familiar communicative acts.

## **Sociology of Culture**

### **Towards a Sociology of Aesthetics**

Session Number: SC1

Session Organizer: Fuyuki Kurasawa, York University

Over the last few years, we have witnessed a proliferation of sociological research and theorizing on aesthetics, particularly at three different levels: structural analyses of the boundaries between aesthetics and other spheres of social life (notably the economic and the political); ethnographic studies of aesthetic practices and processes of artistic creation; and symbolic examinations of the meanings of aesthetic objects themselves (films, photographs, texts, songs, etc.). Whether it be through a concern with institutional mechanisms or everyday interactions underpinning the production of a work of art, socio-historical reconstructions of the contested meanings of a particular aesthetic object (reconnecting with traditions in the materialist sociology of literature and art), narratives and cultural structures embedded in such an object, the making and agency of aesthetic icons or, yet again, the political economy of art markets (from transnational production to the operations of auction houses), the sociology of aesthetics is one of the most dynamics fields of the discipline today.

➤ **Aaron J. Klassen, University of Manitoba**

**Band Brand, Authenticity: A Musical Ethic**

The pursuit of authenticity is fast becoming a modern ethic. What once determined the status of art is now the deciding factor in the food we eat, the vacation we experience, and the self we realize. Band Brand, Authenticity: A Musical Ethic examines Canadian society for sites where musical identity is constructed. It hypothesizes a tendency toward a self-referential value system

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rooted in feeling and emotion, contemporary marks of reality and truth. When roles and responsibilities change, we attempt to sustain our identity by adhering to a dominant self-concept, the authentic self. Animated by an ethnographic study of a touring operatic indie-jazz band whose sound and provenance evokes a prairie dialectic - summer heat and winter freeze - this study reveals that an ethic of authenticity is closer to the heart.

This project, currently in progress at the University of Manitoba, hopes to uncover the values and meanings which serve to sustain the individual within a pluralist society. That some values take precedent over others reveals the source of a collectivizing force, and the affective power of music to shore up concepts of authenticity.

➤ **Saara Liinamaa, Acadia University**

**Promises, Promises: Participation And Collaboration In Contemporary Art**

Participatory and collaborative practices in contemporary art have been the focus of much critical concern in recent years. The intensification of social practices in art has instigated a flurry of dialogue amongst artists, curators, critics and academics regarding the social and political implications of participatory and collaborative platforms. In one respect, this body of work stresses art's capacity for realizing alternative modes of being and acting in the world, but this literature is also marked by a tendency toward straightforward celebration or cutting critique. So while participatory practices have been offered as an aesthetic modeling of radical collective action in civil society, we are at the same time wise to be wary of assertions that such practices are necessarily progressive or critical. Participatory and collaborative methods may well serve to accentuate the insufficiency of art in light of our damaged social world; further, they can masquerade as a type of social control, art's own version of social engineering. This paper will specifically target key issues and dilemmas that must be addressed when we strive to use art's participatory practices as a redress to the social and political in the contemporary moment. Namely, I will consider the uneven understanding of what constitutes participation and collaboration in art, and the competing definitions and invocations of concepts of community, subjectivity and action that shadow how art's relationship to the social and political is being framed and understood. To this end, this paper will argue that the often tense, uneasy marriage of participatory art practices with theories of social and political action is, in fact, a virtue.

➤ **Ailsa Craig, Memorial University of Newfoundland**

**Aesthetics And Poetic Community**

When we think of exploring aesthetics in poetry, we most often presume the analysis will be of particular poems, a genre of poetry, or a body of work by particular poet. However, aesthetics also play a role in the social processes that surround contemporary poetry production. The question this paper addresses is this: What role does aesthetics play in the social dynamics and interactions that shape and fuel contemporary poets' careers and communities? Drawing from ethnographic observation and interviews with poets in New York City and Toronto, Canada, this papers goal is to better understand how shared or differing aesthetics among poets help mediate their relations and therefore contribute to poetic communities and careers.



## Sociology of Family, Children and Youth

### Sociology of Family, Children and Youth Omnibus A

Session Number: SF1-A

Session Organizer: John Goyder, University of Waterloo

Session Chair and Discussant: Rebecca Raby, Brock University

- **Amelia Curran, Carleton University; Jacqueline Kennelly, Carleton University; Ryan Boyd, Carleton University**

#### **"The Games Are For You": Exploring The Symbolic Positioning Of Youth In Vancouver 2010 And London 2012**

The focus of this paper is the symbolic positioning of 'youth' vis-a-vis the promotion, celebration, and proposed legacies of the Olympic Games. Part of a larger cross-national qualitative research project that is examining the experiences of low-income young people within Olympic host cities, this particular paper will narrow in on the symbolic appropriations used by boosters of the Games in Vancouver (2010) and London (2012). Through a systematic, in-depth discourse analysis of media articles from the major daily papers within these two cities, we will explore how the concept of 'youth' is mobilized both in terms of how the Games are supposed to benefit young people and also how the strategic presence of young people is used to enhance the Olympic brand (e.g. during the bidding process). We conclude by suggesting that the image of youth, while mobilized in different ways, is a central symbol for the Olympic Games, and consider the implications of this symbolic positioning in light of empirical data from the larger project that suggests the Olympics can have distinctly negative effects on certain subsets of young people within host cities.

- **Amanda Heron, University of Calgary**

#### **Invisible Labour Versus Public Parenting: The Spectrum Of Participation**

This article examines how time is spent by individual family members within a household, in particular, how parents' time is used as part of their participation in their children's lives. These factors will be discussed using the concepts (emerging from the literature) of 'invisible labour' and 'public parenting'. Invisible labour has been primarily attributed to the tasks mothers perform, which often go without credit, such as; washing uniforms, driving to various activities, and so forth. On the other hand, as men become more involved as fathers, there may be variations in their levels of participation; from involved fathers assisting mothers in performing invisible labour tasks to public parenting, where parenting is illustrated through attendance at events such as, sports games, recitals, and so forth. Using semi-structured interviews from three families who participated in a larger study, data showed that the mothers' lives were arranged to enable them to participate in a large amount of both public parenting and invisible labour, in addition to volunteering for their children's activities. Fathers' participation in their children's time varied from assisting their wives in acts of invisible labour or not, to participation in public parenting, however attendance, does not necessarily guarantee their attention.

- **Karl Reimer, Lakehead University**

#### **Men's Perspectives On Vasectomy: Discussions Of Motivation And Experience**

This paper adds to the growing body of literature on masculinity and men's health by focusing on an under researched area - men's embodied experiences of sterilization through vasectomy.

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Drawing from 10 in-depth interviews with men in a regional northern community I explore factors shaping men's decisions to have a vasectomy and its subsequent impact on their sense of embodiment and self-identity.

Vasectomy becomes the first opportunity for men to experience birth control as permanent and embodied in contrast with women whose experiences with birth and birth control are so visceral and often begin far earlier in the lifecourse. Vasectomy is a very effective, non-reversible form of birth control that is used by over 100 million men around the world and has surpassed tubal ligation as the preferred form of sterilization among Canadian couples. By contextualizing the male experience within feminist and gender studies literature on gender, health and embodiment this paper seeks to explore the gendered nature of birth control and the ways in which changing constructions of masculinity are impacting sterilization decisions and gender roles within relationships.

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## **Sociology of Family, Children and Youth Omnibus B**

Session Number: SF1-B

Session Organizer: John Goyder, University of Waterloo

Session Chair: Glenna Wall, Wilfrid Laurier University

➤ **Rebecca Raby, Brock University**

### **Children's Participation As Middle Class Governance?**

Many current children's advocates seek children's participation in decisions that affect them. Children's participation has been advocated in school governance, student-centred education and family decision-making models. Children's participation seems transparently beneficial for prioritizing children's views, yet has also encountered criticism that troubles what such participation really means. This criticism grounds children's participation initiatives in the neo-liberal economic and political context that prioritizes western individualism (Burr 2004), self-governance (Vandenbroek and Bourverne-de Bie 2006, Millei 2010, Pongratz 2007) and middle class parenting styles (Vandenbroek and Bourverne-de Bie). These concerns raise important questions about participation: does it disenfranchise certain young people in the school? might it be used as a tool to regulate working class families? does it disregard cultural contexts that prioritize family and community? And, through the lens of governmentality, might providing children with a participatory role really be a deeper form of young people's subjugation and responsabilization? I draw on literature in democratic participation, Foucault's later work on the ethics of the self, and concrete examples of young people's participation to argue that while such critiques of certain forms of participation are justified and important, participation can also be understood in ways that are less prone to the imposition of Western, middle class values and young people's individualized responsabilization.

➤ **Danielle Kwan-Lafond, York University**

### **The Impact Of Military Deployments And Parental Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (Ptsd) On The Self-Esteem And Familial Roles Of Adolescent Girls From Canadian Forces (Cf) Families**

This paper examines observed gender differences in self esteem, as measured by a survey of civilian and military adolescents' health and wellbeing in Armyville, Canada (a pseudonym), in light of (a) Marxist feminist literature on women's unpaid domestic labour, and (b) interview data

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from the same study that provide insight into unpaid domestic labour carried out by adolescent girls whose military families are undergoing the stresses of deployments and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). It compares military adolescent boys' and girls' access to activities that help build self-esteem, and finds that while boys tend to build their self-esteem through sports, girls tend to build self-esteem through their familial roles; specifically, in taking on increased responsibilities (unpaid domestic work and care work) when their families are dealing with military stressors, such as the deployment of a parent, and/or the PTSD of a family member. Our findings shed light on how gendered familial roles are maintained and reproduced in Canadian Forces (CF) families.

➤ **Phillip B Lee, University of Saskatchewan**

**Discursive Problem Solving In Family: A Habermasian Perspective For Social Theory And Research**

Our everyday communicative practices are foundational for the kinds of familial life-projects we construct and re-construct. At root, communicative sociation is a problem solving mechanism enabling married couples, for example, to achieve common and cherished goals, to meet personal needs, to socialize children, and to resolve conflicts. And, when these communicative sociations involve a democratic relational dynamic, problem solving tends to be inclusive, consensual, non-oppressive, and appropriate. Solutions arrived at democratically depend upon egalitarian relational structures characterized by mutual responsibility and equal respect, by concordance. This paper explores the sociological implications of using a Habermasian perspective for theorizing and researching family generally and the importance of concordant familial relationships more specifically. Using a communicative sociological approach highlights the importance of the relational structures which underlie our action coordinating practices, the foundational importance of a recursive discursive learning process within our communicative practices, and the fertile but fragile potential for establishing egalitarian relationships.

➤ **Alicia Polachek, University of Calgary**

**Child-Centred Attitudes in Canada and the United States: An Analysis of the Mediating Effects of Religiosity.**

Considerable scholarship has focused on the relationship between religiosity and parenting. However, few studies have looked at how country of residence is related to varying levels of religiosity and, in turn, to attitudes about parenting. In this empirical study I examine whether country of residence is associated with attitudes about parental responsibility to children, and if so, whether these differences are mediated by religiosity. Using data from the third wave of the World Values Survey, I show that attitudes about parental responsibility to children differ between Canada and the United States and that, as hypothesized, varying levels of religiosity within these nations mediate this relationship.

➤ **Terra Manca, University of Alberta**

**Doing Family In Scientology's Sea Organization: Preliminary Findings From Interviews With Former Scientologists.**

In recent years, the media attention on the Church of Scientology has focused on morality issues Scientology staff experience. Nonetheless, family life in Scientology has received little academic inquiry. Scientology founder L. Ron Hubbard (1911-1986) suggested that marriage

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(and family) is the “basic building block” of society. Despite Hubbard's claims, Scientology addresses conflicts between its staff member's work and family commitments by disregarding family in its formal policies and informal practices. In response, Scientologists must act in accordance with the organizations goals (often at the expense of their families) or resist those demands and face the potentially detrimental consequences.

This study relates critically assesses Hubbard's construction of the family in relation to based upon the experiences of three former Scientology adherents—who were employees in Scientology's religious order (the Sea Organization). First, I outline this study's methodology. Second, I summarize how scholarly interpretations of *the family* relate to Hubbard's representations of the family. Third, I argue the work demands and policies within Scientology can lead to the negligent performance of family roles. Finally, I conclude that former Scientologists demonstrated agency in both their compliance and resistance to that organization.

## **Mothering and Fathering**

Session Number: SF2

Session Organizers: Gillian Ranson, University of Calgary; Glenda Wall, Wilfrid Laurier University

Session Chair: Glenda Wall, Wilfrid Laurier University

Social and economic changes inevitably have an impact on family life, disrupting traditional divisions of earning and caring labour, and challenging conventional understandings of mothering and fathering. The focus of this session is the construction of mothering or fathering in diverse family contexts, where broader social influences have forced a rethinking of traditional gender patterns within families. Theoretical and empirical papers are welcome.

### ➤ **Kate Bezanson, Brock University**

#### **Toward a New Gender Order? Social Reproduction and Family Policy in a Conservative Canada**

This paper begins a conversation about re-centering attention to issues of social reproduction and families in a post-crisis period. It sketches a confluence of forces that are producing important tensions in Canadian families and considers potential resolutions to these tensions. The forces include: a recession that has been marked by male unemployment, a return to neo-liberal macroeconomic policies, a restructuring of the welfare state, and a non-replacement birth rate among women in Canada. The tensions produce an intensification of an adult worker-female carer model and an obfuscation of its gender, race and class dimensions. The shifting of responsibilities for the work of producing, maintaining and caring for people among the state-market-family-third sector nexus relies in the current period on decentralization and re-familialization. This reliance is shifting Canada toward a conservative welfare state regime typology, with specific and negative consequences for mothers in particular.

### ➤ **Kerry Watts, University of British Columbia**

#### **Mending 'Broken' Ties? Lone Mothers' Father-Child Kinkeeping Work**

Kinkeeping - the maintenance of familial ties across and within households - is an important part of family life across the Western world. Given that a growing number of children live apart from one or both biological parents, there is a definitive need to extend the study of kinkeeping to what might be considered the 'postmodern' family, that where parents are not romantically partnered to each other, but nonetheless have a relationship defined through the sharing of children. Using data generated through a 2007 focus group, this paper examines how the day-



to-day work of father-child kinkeeping is realized in the lived experience of six lone mothers living in Vancouver, Canada. I find that, despite the prevalence of 'maternal gatekeeping' theories in academic and popular discourse, positive father-child relationships were not only seen as desirable to the women in the study, but as essential to their children's overall well-being. The mothers put in considerable effort to both protect and promote their children's relationships with biological fathers, and, although there were often financial and emotional costs associated with these efforts, there were also perceived benefits for mothers, fathers and children.

➤ **Judy Beglaubter, University of Toronto**

### **De-gendering Fatherhood? The Meanings of Reflexive Fathering**

From a symbolic interactionist perspective, the meanings men make of their fathering are significant because the self is as a social process. Thus parenting identities cannot be understood apart from the gendered structures, processes, and ideas that give rise to particular ways of seeing oneself and the world. While research on mothers (McMahon 1995) has found that it is the responsibility for children leads women to develop gendered identities as mothers, my research confirms that fatherhood does not provide a cultural resource for men's identity formation in the same way. Yet this does not negate the fact that some men do experience a process of situational adjustment through fatherhood, they simply do not attribute the same meanings to this process as women do, as illuminated by a group of 19 Toronto-area fathers who identify as "involved." Through an exploration of how this group of self-conscious fathers negotiates with conventional images of fatherhood and makes sense of their familial involvement, I demonstrate that it is not only the different structures and cultural images of motherhood and fatherhood in our society which lead mothers and fathers to develop different parenting identities. Rather, as exploring the meanings of involvement and identity development for this unique population of fathers reveals, there is a distinct process of identity development at work for those who (are able to) engage in reflexive social interaction through their parenting.

➤ **Jane Pulkingham, Simon Fraser University; Sylvia Fuller, University of British Columbia**

### **From Parent To Patient: The Medicalization Of Lone Motherhood Through Welfare Reform**

Welfare reform in the US is associated with "metaphorical medicalization," a process involving increased reliance on monitoring and "technologies of the self," such as life skills counseling focused on the personal problems, habits and attributes of welfare recipients, rather than job skills and training or educational needs (Schram 2000). Metaphorical medicalization is also a feature of the dynamics of contemporary neoliberalizing welfare reform initiatives in Canadian jurisdictions. In this paper we argue, however, that medicalization has become more than metaphorical for lone mother welfare recipients in British Columbia and Ontario. In exploring the development and extent of this medicalizing trend in the two provinces, and its more intensified form in British Columbia, we shed light on critical gendered effects of ostensibly gender-neutral welfare reform.

## **Sociology of Health**

### **Omnibus: Inequality, Marginalization & Health**

Session Number: SH1-A

Session Organizer: Jaqueline Low, University of New Brunswick

Session Chair: Jennie Hornosty, University of New Brunswick



➤ **Ingrid Waldron, Dalhousie University**

**Challenges & Opportunities: Identifying Meaningful Occupations In Low-Income, Racialized Communities In North End Halifax**

Like other health professions, occupational therapy is increasingly attending to how diversity in culture, ethnicity, language and immigration status affects health. However, while the profession has been moving to a broader consideration of the historical, social and political contexts in which clients live, the dominant approach is still premised on "cultural competency" and "diversity" models that focus primarily on cultural differences and, that consequently, obscure or undermine how power inequalities due to race, gender, socio-economic status and other social factors are implicated in occupational experiences and health. This paper is based on research conducted in the Aboriginal and African Nova Scotian communities in Halifax. It focuses on how health is shaped by access to and exclusion from meaningful occupations in these communities. Occupational meaning, which is a basic element of human occupation, describes the meaning that individuals attach to occupations, i.e. goal-directed activities that occupy people's time and lives, including work, recreation, leisure and healthcare. The issue of power is central in this paper, particularly how hierarchies and inequalities of race, socio-economic status, social class, gender and other social constructs influence conceptualizations of meaningful occupations among African Nova Scotians and Aboriginals and shape access to meaningful occupations in these communities.

➤ **Caryn Pearson, Carleton University**

**Minding Mental Health: Reconsidering Disparities Of Mental Illness And Positive Mental Health**

Mental health and mental illness have popularly been conceived as the opposite of one another, such that where one is absent, the other is present. With the introduction of positive mental health, this conception of mental health has begun to shift, arguing that mental health is a complete state of being, not merely the absence of mental illness. However, disparities of mental health continue to be measured according to this popular conception, where qualities associated with the presence of mental illness are considered disparities of mental health and positive mental health. Furthermore, mental health disparities are often measured through a socio-economic framework, ignoring the impact that material, psycho-social and cultural inequalities have upon positive mental health. This work-in-progress paper, drawing upon findings from my Master's research, examines disparities associated with the new conception of mental health, positive mental health. Using Canadian data from the National Population Health Survey, and the Canadian Community Health Survey, this paper examines disparities in positive mental health from behavioural, psycho-social and materialist frameworks to identify inequalities of positive mental health. This research finds that material, psycho-social and cultural differences have an important role in explaining disparities in positive mental health and identifying vulnerable populations.

➤ **Caroline Ann Fusco, University of Toronto**

**Youth Geographies Of Play: Biospatiality And The Discursive Constructions Of Health And Space.**

This paper is drawn from a study of the geographies of youth's sport, exercise and physical activity spaces. I set out to develop a theoretically and empirically grounded account of the dynamic social and spatial forces of inclusion and exclusion experienced by adolescents within three unique environments - a suburban school, a school program using anti-homophobia pedagogy and a private fitness club for children. I conducted forty photo-voice interviews with

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youth aged 7-19 years and seven interviews with teachers, principals and/or staff in order to examine the spatial and symbolic meanings that attach to institutionalized healthified (Fusco, 2007) environments. As I began to analyze the data, I discovered that youth's relationships to space, exercise, health and their respective communities were more complex than I imagined. Paying particular attention to how youth and adults conceive, perceive and live space (Lefebvre, 1991) and how space is governed (Foucault, 1980), I interrogate the biospatial relations that govern discursive constructions of health and space. Finally, I demonstrate that subjects' desires to cultivate themselves as healthy subjects (or not) requires that they make and take their place(s) within neoliberal spatial and healthiest imaginaries (in)differently.

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## **Omnibus: Mental Illness, Mental Health & Society**

Session Number: SH1-B

Session Organizer: Jaqueline Low, University of New Brunswick

Session Chair: Alekhya Das, University of New Brunswick

### ➤ **John J. Beggs, Louisiana State University; Valerie A. Haines, University of Calgary**

#### **Perceived Neighbourhood Disorder, Trust And Depressive Symptoms**

Despite accumulating evidence that perceived neighborhood disorder influences health, mechanisms that may account for this influence are unstudied. We investigate whether individual-level generalized trust (i.e. trust in most people) and institutional trust (i.e. confidence in institutions) play a role in mediating associations between depressive symptoms and perceived neighborhood disorder measured at the neighborhood level, individual level or both. Methods: This 1995 cross-sectional study was conducted in a US city using an interview sample of 497 residents from 32 neighborhoods (defined by U.S. Census Bureau block groups) in an area of concentrated poverty and surrounding, more affluent areas.

Results: In hierarchical models, neighborhood-level disorder did not have a contextual effect on depressive symptoms. Individual-level disorder was associated with more depressive symptoms net of other individual characteristics and neighborhood-level disorder. This association was reduced when we adjusted for individual-level generalized trust and institutional trust, but remained statistically significant. Both varieties of trust reduced depressive symptoms.

Conclusion: Individual-level trust in others and confidence in institutions both reduced depressive symptoms and both played a role in mediating the association between individual-level disorder and depressive symptoms, with generalized trust doing more to mediate this association.

### ➤ **Kari Brozowski, Wilfrid Laurier University; Carol Merson, Independent Scholar**

#### **Munchhausen's By Society: ADHD, Ritalin And The Cost To Human Growth And Development In The Life Course**

ADHD is considered to be the most controversial mental disorder in both the academic literature and the popular media. Increasing evidence reveals the potential for developmental problems for children who are given the common Ritalin drug therapy. However, the reasons underlying these development issues are rarely addressed directly, and recent studies have focused on the nature of ADHD and Ritalin, rather than why it is causing harm in children. Drawing on Foucauldian, feminist and risk theory and using a life course perspective this paper

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suggests ways in which these theories and perspective can be used to incorporate elements of historical, economic and social context, as well as individual, institutional and culture to illuminate the development of ADHD and Ritalin and how it has become commonly used in children today.

➤ **Sarah Berry, McGill University**

**Stigmatizing Representations: Mental Illness In Canadian Mainstream Media**

In this paper, I contextualize and discuss the preliminary findings of a large-scale, longitudinal study of Canadian mainstream media representations of mental illness. The overarching aim of this Mental Health Commission of Canada funded study was to identify whether, and to what extent, such journalistic representations have been stigmatizing in their tone and/or content, and to discuss the implications of these representations for policy approaches and lay understandings of mental health and illness in Canada. As a research team, we analyzed print and online news stories over a 5-year period (starting in 2005) in high-distribution French- and English-Canadian newspapers using systematic qualitative coding techniques. The main findings of the study centre on the frequent and stigmatizing associations that are made between danger, violence, criminality and mental illness, and specifically schizophrenia. Furthermore, we found that journalists consistently failed to discuss the possibilities of recovery, rehabilitation, or treatment, and/or neglected to discuss contextual factors such as resource shortages and the relative quality of existing care provisions and services for persons with mental illnesses. Significantly, the voices of persons with mental illness were virtually absent from the vast majority of representations.

➤ **Kathy Kendall, University of Southampton**

**The Influence Of Sociology On Mental Health Policy And Practice: The Case Of Elaine And John Cumming**

This paper critically examines the influence of sociology upon mental health policy and practice through the case study of a 1950s mental health education experiment conducted by the husband and wife team of sociologist Elaine Cumming and psychiatrist John Cumming. Undertaken in the small Canadian town of Indian Head, Saskatchewan, the study sought to change negative attitudes toward mental illness through various educational interventions. The research was shaped and supported by powerful academic, philanthropic, charitable, psychiatric, and governmental bodies, including the Department of Social Relations chaired by Talcott Parsons at Harvard University. The latter, along with Kaspar Naegele, a former student of Parsons, provided an intellectual community and a scientifically legitimate means of interpreting the study's results.

The Indian Head experiment, the Cummings' subsequent graduate studies and research, and their roles within the governments of Saskatchewan, New York State and British Columbia all significantly informed international mental health policy and practice. Drawing on extensive archival research and interviews, it will be argued that their success was largely due to the alliances they created between sociology and other agencies who shared an interest in creating mentally healthy citizens through the application of rational principles to the engineering of society.



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## Omnibus: Sociological Research and Health Policy

Session Number: SH1-C

Session Organizer & Discussant: Jacqueline Low, University of New Brunswick

Session Chair: Barbara Morrissey, University of New Brunswick

➤ **Katherine E. Connell, Dalhousie University**

**Effects Of Workplace Public Health Initiatives: What Does It Mean For The Workers Responsible For Health Policy Creation?**

Canada's fragmented intergovernmental relationships pose many challenges for pandemic planning. As a result, the current system often relies on lay institutions, or third parties such as workplaces and schools, to fill in the policy gaps and manage the health risks of their employees or students. Gaps are created when overall public health goals are set by the federal government, but their implementation and administration is left to the provincial government. Third party institutions are left to help their employees or students navigate health risks (by helping them identify flu symptoms or developing special "sick day" policies, for instance) and prepare (for example, by setting up in house vaccination clinics) by becoming policy makers themselves. This work uses Dalhousie University as an example of a lay institution that has developed health policies dealing with H1N1 in an attempt to inform and protect their employees and students, though they are not a health care institution.

More specifically, the paper will examine this issue at an individual level. How do employees who were directly responsible for health policy creation at the time of the outbreak feel about taking on this new responsibility? How did taking on this new role affect their everyday work? How do they view the effectiveness of their efforts?

➤ **Kimberly Anne Ford, Impact Assessments Canadian Institutes of Health Research  
Evaluation des Repercussions Instituts de Recherche en Sante du Canada**

**Science In Action: Canada's Research Funding Response To SARS And Canadian 'Pandemic Preparedness.'**

Bruno Latour (1987)'s Science in Action: How to Follow Scientists and Engineers Through Society provides a theoretical lens through which to critically examine the notion of 'pandemic preparedness'; it also gives us the 'rules' and the 'principles' with which to pursue this line of inquiry. This paper examines Canada's research funding response to the 2003-2004 SARS pandemic, in order to answer a critical policy/evaluation question: In which way(s) did Canada's research funding response to SARS help to create a 'living science' in which actors are now better positioned to tackle future health threats? To answer this question, an overview of the research outcomes and 'impacts' of SARS research is presented using the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)'s 'Impact Assessment Framework', which includes five broad categories of research impact. A secondary analysis is then conducted, by employing a variety of tools and techniques such as citation and network analyses, in order to examine what remains of the 'living science' from the funded research on SARS (a disease that is no longer a threat in Canada). The paper concludes with a discussion of what it means to have a 'prepared' research community--in other words a community that is empowered to deal with ongoing and emerging global health threats.



➤ **Alexander C.O. Makin, Queen's University**

**Exploring Youth Understandings Of Health: A Case For Engaging Young People In Program Development And Delivery**

As a constructed measure of health for high-risk youth, resilience, and the strategies intended to achieve this outcome have typically ignored young peoples voices for whom support services are designed. Recently, social work practice has begun to value the perspectives held by high-risk youth in the establishment of effective health supports. One example may be found in Kingston, Ontario where service providers recognized a need to understand the behaviours and challenges experienced by youth identified as high-risk. The result was a support centre designed specifically for high-risk youth. Adopting a youth engagement model, harm reduction programming is guided by service users at the centre.

Building on the centres model, this study explores how service users describe and make sense of barriers to achieving good health. Photovoice is the primary investigative method, a Participatory Action Research (PAR) strategy that prioritizes youth knowledge, experience, and ability to define their health needs. Initially, youth describe how they perceive health. Using cameras, youth then take photographs depicting what they understand as barriers to their description of health. The importance of engaging young people in service provision is underlined as youth identify ways the centre could support in overcoming these barriers.

➤ **Valerie A. Haines, University of Calgary**

**Contextualizing Health Outcomes: How Do Studies Of Neighbourhood Effects Conceptualize And Measure Social Networks? Where Should They Go From Here?**

Efforts to bring social context back into the study of health determinants form one of the most important trends in medical sociology and public health. Most focus on neighborhoods, with research in both fields demonstrating a clear link between neighborhoods and health outcomes. The search for mechanisms explaining these neighborhood effects has renewed interest in a second social context, social networks. In the first part of this paper I offer a constructive critique of how the neighborhood effects literature conceptualizes and measures social networks. I identify inadequacies in this conceptualization and measurement of social networks and suggest possible reasons for these inadequacies. In second part of this paper I present a case for using network social capital theory as a framework for producing a more adequate conceptualization and measurement of social networks in studies of neighborhoods and health. To support this way of using network social capital theory I use a series of strategic illustrations from my empirical work on neighborhood social capital, network social capital and mental health. In the third and final part of this paper I suggest how that this way of conceptualizing and measuring social networks may offer new directions for research on neighborhood effects.

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**Omnibus: Chronic illness, Disability, and Aging**

Session Organizer: Jacqueline Low, University of New Brunswick

Session Number: SH1-D

Session Chair: Angela Wisniewski, University of New Brunswick

Session Discussant: Deborah van den Hoonaard, St. Thomas University

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- **Barbara Morrisey, University of New Brunswick**

**The Experiences Of Adults With Severe Disabilities Living In Community Residences In New Brunswick**

In this paper I will present preliminary findings on the experiences of persons with disabilities living in community residences throughout the province of New Brunswick drawn from participant observations and interviews. Unlike special care homes where care is provided to individuals requiring level 1 and 2 care; and group homes, where care is made available to children; care at community residences is targeted to persons with more severe disabilities assessed at either level 3 or 4 due to more extensive care needs. Although the perspectives of numerous individuals connected in various ways to long-term care in NB are included during data collection, in this paper I focus on the persons actually receiving the care. While the potential value of this study lies in the relevant information that it will make available to long-term care decision-makers; policy makers; care providers; and family members; its greatest potential perhaps is in the valuable data that it provides to those interested in advocating on behalf of persons with severe disabilities in care. Hence, hearing what these individuals have to say is crucial, particularly given that research into long-term care seldom accounts for the experiences of the persons with disabilities actually receiving the care. As such, in this paper I will reveal some of the issues that are important to persons with severe disabilities who live in community residences in NB.

- **Alison Luke, University of New Brunswick; Jacqueline Low, University of New Brunswick; Luc Thériault, University of New Brunswick**

**Sustainable Home Support For Seniors In New Brunswick: The Voices Of Seniors And Social Workers**

In this paper we present the findings of our qualitative study of home support services for seniors in New Brunswick, in which we analysed the experiences of seniors receiving home support and the experiences of social workers involved in the case management and assessment of those services. We used semi-structured, face-to-face interviews with 20 seniors and focus groups with 11 social workers as primary means of generating data. We also analyzed demographic data on 4289 seniors currently receiving home support in New Brunswick. Working with government partners in the Department of Social Development, the goal of this research is to contribute to evidence-based policy aimed at improving the effectiveness and sustainability of New Brunswick's home support system. Amongst the findings we discuss are that while the seniors we spoke with are happy in general with the home support they receive, they also told us about a number of ways in which their needs were not being met. We discuss the reasons for these unmet needs and make recommendations for amending policy to address them. This research is important as home support is as essential as medical services in enabling seniors to remain in their homes, living happy, healthy, and independent lives.

- **Michael A. Halpin, University of Wisconsin**

**The Disjuncture Between Illness Experience And Health Care Realities In Huntington Disease**

Huntington Disease (HD) is conceptualized within the health care system as a neurological condition. The disease is diagnosed based on neurological criteria and health care benefits are not available until after a diagnosis is made. However, HD also has cognitive and psychiatric effects, which may appear years in advance of these neurological markers. Such symptoms may make it difficult for individuals to maintain employment, yet paradoxically do not qualify



them for a diagnosis and benefits. This presentation explores the tensions between actual symptoms and health care bureaucracy by drawing on 20 in-depth qualitative interviews with individuals with Huntington Disease and 10 interviews with informal caregivers from British Columbia, Canada. Other tensions revealed include the services available to minors contrasted to adults with HD, shortcomings in disability benefits, and lack of support available for informal caregivers. These findings suggest that the disease elicits a disjuncture between illness experience and disease trajectory on the one-hand and health care benefits and services on the other. The presentation will conclude with several health service recommendations to address these disjunctures.

➤ **Reza Nakhaie, University of Windsor**

### **Community And Individuals Social Capital And Health Of Elderly Canadians**

This study examines the relationship between individual and community social capital and self-rated health of elderly Canadians, taking into account individual and community income and socio-demographics. Measures of self-rated health and individual level social capital and other variables are based on the GSS Cycle 17 (2003), while community data are based on Census 2001 and Ethnic Diversity Survey (2002), aggregated to the city level. Results show that social capital is related to self-rated health at both individual and community levels and income at the individual level, after accounting for socio-demographics. The findings suggest that higher community social capital can moderate the negative effects of age on self-rated health among Canadians who are between the ages of 50 and 80 years old.

## **Drugs and Addiction: thinking through pleasure, desire and danger**

Session Number: SH2

Session Organizer & Chair: Fiona Martin, Dalhousie University

The orientation of this session is away from accounts that seek to individualize drug use and addiction, toward developing insight into the social, cultural, political and other conditions that give rise to their possibility. Papers in this session advance alternative, less punitive approaches to drug policy, critically engage with dominant biomedical approaches to addiction, and explore drug use as a lens through which to engage in larger questions about subjectivity and selfhood in the contemporary social world.

➤ **Jeff Stepnisky, Grant MacEwan University**

### **Affective Selfhood**

This paper explores the significance of the emerging field of "affect theory" for contemporary conceptualizations of selfhood and subjectivity. In particular I put together research I have conducted on antidepressant medications with the work of phenomenologist Henri Bergson. To illustrate the relevance of affect for selfhood I examine the idea, articulated by a select group of antidepressant users, that the medications help people to "feel like themselves again." Contrary to contemporary psychological and neuropsychological theories, which treat memory as an internal storage system, Bergson claims that it is better to conceive memory as a virtual entity that does not exist until it is actualized in the present moment. In contrast to the relatively static conception of memory assumed in the dominant view Bergson gives us dynamic, moving memory. Conceived through this lens the antidepressant restores selfhood when it is able to put the brain-body into a state that allows memories to "touch-down" in the present, as it were. The



feeling of being-oneself-again is a product of both the antidepressant and the actualized memory. While exemplified through antidepressant, these ideas are used to describe more general shifts in the ways that persons constitute and experience selfhood.

➤ **Christopher B. R. Smith, University of Pennsylvania**

**Harm Reduction As Anarchist Practice: A Users' Guide To Capitalism And Addiction**

In North America, harm reduction originated as an illegal, clandestine, grassroots activity that took place outside--or in defiant opposition to-- state and legal authority. On both sides of the Canada-US border, harm reduction remains to be the most contested and controversial aspect of drug policy, and harm reduction practitioners are engaged in an ongoing struggle for funding, political legitimacy and autonomy. Some critics have argued that the practice of harm reduction has become sanitized and depoliticized in its institutionalization as public health policy. Using case study examples from both Toronto, Ontario, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, this paper critically traces the uneasy historical relationship between harm reduction and institutionalization, from its oppositional political origins to present day adoption by public health. Concluding with a theoretical interrogation of the politics of this thing we call 'addiction', the paper suggests that harm reduction is a fundamentally anarchist practice.

➤ **Fiona Martin, Dalhousie University**

**Pleasure And Pain: Women Drug Users And The Question Of Agency**

While an increasing number of clinical studies suggest that most women drug users have, at some point in their lives, experienced abuse or neglect, sociologists in the field are currently attempting to "shift the narrative" around women drug users, from victim to "empowered agent." This paper critically analyzes the problematic assumptions that underlie these seemingly disparate bodies of work. In particular, it identifies how clinical researchers equate drug use with the mitigation of pain, disregarding the question of pleasure, and how sociological researchers discuss agency in terms of that which is self-interested and under the control of the rational individual. Drawing on examples from ethnographic fieldwork with women injecting drug users, the paper proposes a conceptual framework through which it might be possible to acknowledge both the damage done to many women drug users, as well as their capacity to respond and act in their own lives, including through the pursuit of pleasure.

## **Sociology of Religion**

### **Religious Diversity in Canada: Emerging Scholarship**

Session Number: SR1

Session Organizer: Cathy Holtmann, University of New Brunswick

Session Chair: Nancy Nason-Clarke, University of New Brunswick

Session Discussant: Lori Beaman, University of Ottawa

The aim of the Religion and Diversity Project is to explore the contours of religious diversity in Canada by bringing scholars from multi-disciplinary perspectives together to articulate the challenges and opportunities that this diversity poses. Areas of focus include (but are not limited to) the following: questions of the social construction of religious identities; definitions of religion recognized in law and public policy; religious freedom in relation to gender and sexuality; and strategies for managing religious diversity. The papers in this session highlight graduate student research related to these questions of religion and diversity from a variety of disciplines. The

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session is intended to be a forum for presentation and critical discussion of emerging scholarship in the field.

➤ **Narges Valibeigi, University of Waterloo**

**Manifestation Of Religious Authority On The Internet**

Cyberspace has diversified and pluralized people's daily experiences of religion in unprecedented ways. By studying several websites and weblogs that have a religious orientation, different layers of religious authority including "religious sources, hierarchy, structures, and ideology" (Campbell, 2009) can be identified. Also, using Weber's definition of the three types of authority, "rational-legal, traditional, and charismatic" (1968), the specific type of authority that is being presented on blogosphere can be recognized.

As a case study, four Persian weblogs are chosen for content analysis for this paper. I analyze weblogs' texts to find evidences for Shiite beliefs and shared identity, usages and interpretations of the main Shiite religious texts; the Quran and Hadith, references to the role of recognized Shiite leaders, and descriptions of Shiite structural patterns of practices and organizations. Then, I explain what kind of authority is being presented in these weblogs and whether it is being challenged in any layer.

The Internet presents a level of liberty for the discussion of sensitive topics in any kind of religious cyberspace, specifically the Islamic one. In this way, the Internet is expanding the number and range of Muslim voices, which may pose problems for traditional forms of religious authority or may suggest new forms of authority in the Islamic world. In this paper, I analyze the effects of the Internet - as a new medium - on religious experience through content analysis.

➤ **Leo Van Arragon, University of Ottawa**

**Faith Based Schools And The Limits Of Religious Diversity In Ontario**

In this paper I present my research on the Ontario election of 2007 as a window on conflicting interpretations of multiculturalism and the public role of religion in the highly volatile contest over the extension of funding to non-Catholic faith based schools. I am particularly interested in the use of a "religious-secular" binary to construct public space and moral legitimacy for religion by advocates for both state funded schools and privately funded faith based schools. The opposition between the secular and the religious has been formalized in law and regulation under the categories "education about religion" and "religious education" with significant implications for political recognition and the decisions to refuse funding for non Catholic faith based schools.

I draw on the theoretical framework proposed by Kim Knott (2005) in her spatial analysis of religion to shed light on the structure of the contest in Ontario's educational politics. I draw on the discourse analysis used by Lori Beaman (2008) in her examination of the Bethany Hughes case (2002) for my research methods in this presentation.

➤ **Wei Wei Da, University of Western Ontario**

**Reconstruction Of Gender Discourse Among Recent Chinese Religious Converts Living In Canada**

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Drawing data from indepth interviews and participant observation of 30 Chinese immigrants living in Canada, this study examined how they interpreted gender relations in light of their newly adopted religious beliefs. Findings from this study showed egalitarian-oriented interpretations of gender relations of the biblical passages among these Chinese and egalitarian division of housework in the domestic sphere, which suggests that religious participation may not be necessarily an impediment to gender equity. The pattern of emphasis on self-consciousness and self-improvement in terms of gender relations may help improve gender relations and shared division of housework. The patterns of egalitarian-oriented interpretations of the biblical passages on women's submission support the existing literature on the flexibility of interpretations of gender in religion. Personal values and beliefs before immigration and religious conversion as well as social context in their country of origin played a role in how they interpreted gender relations. Education and immigration status are also associated with their views on gender in religion. Further studies on religious participation/conversion and gender relations among different immigrant groups are recommended.

## **Sociology of Technology/ Sociology of Science**

### **Social Construction in Science and Technology**

Session Number: ST1-A

Session Organizer: Carrie Sanders, Wilfrid Laurier University-Brantford

Chair: Jonathan Scott Simmons, University of New Brunswick

The papers in this session examine the various ways in which information technologies can affect professional and personal relationships.

- **Caitlin Oleson, University of Western Ontario; Anabel Quan-Haase, University of Western Ontario**

#### **The Potential For Emotional Support Mobilization Online**

Researchers, such as Sherry Turkle (1995) and Robert Putnam (2000), have warned against the isolating effects of Internet use. However, recent studies (cf. Boase et al., 2006) have shown that the Internet can be conducive to meaningful social interactions- even those as personal as seeking emotional support. When seeking emotional support, the anonymity experienced online can be beneficial to individuals suffering from stigmatizing illnesses or social anxiety; likewise, the Internet's global reach can benefit physically isolated individuals (cf. White and Dorman, 2001). Existing research focuses primarily on online formal support groups. This paper asks if using the internet can facilitate the solicitation and reception of support in an informal context. Particularly, does Internet use assist people, such as men, who have traditionally faced difficulties mobilizing support?

Using data from the 2008 General Social Survey, Internet-users will be compared to non-users in terms of the number and type of support resources used in a time of need, as well as their satisfaction with the received support and their overall health status. Since network size and type may influence the availability of support resources, the effect of internet use on networks, and of networks on support habits, will also be examined.

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- **Alexandre Miltsov, University of New Brunswick**

**Lonely In The Age Of Digitality? Examining The Relationships Between Social Networking Sites And Social Isolation**

This paper examines the relationship between the use of social networking sites (SNSs) and the experience of loneliness. I begin by discussing the existing scholarship on the subject, where I investigate the debates between \*web optimists\* and \*web pessimists\* with regard to the relationship between SNSs and self-perceived loneliness and social isolation. Second, I analyze the available statistical data. Finally, I discuss the construction and implementation of my own survey, online research and interviews. The results of my findings reveal the complexity of the relationship between the use of SNSs and loneliness. Namely, they demonstrate that SNSs reduce loneliness leading to a more intensive social participation. On the other hand, they suggest that an excessive use of SNSs leads to detrimental effects on the relationships with family and neighbors. I conclude that the SNSs and services that focus on the \*real life\* activities are more beneficial to well-being than those that focus on virtual interactions. In the context of the \*positivist/negativist\* debate, my study contributes a more nuanced perspective by showing how different social variables such as gender, income and age as well as different patterns of Internet use lead to distinctly different social experiences.

- **Guang Ying Mo, University of Toronto; Dimitrina Dimitrova, University of Toronto; Barry Wellman, University of Toronto; Anatolly Gruz, Dalhousie University; Diana Mok, University of Western Ontario; Zack Hayat,**

**Sequencing In Information Dissemination In Scholarly Networks**

This study investigates social networks from an original perspective of sequence, which is the temporal order of contacts in networks. Although information and communication technologies enable simultaneous information dissemination to numerous receivers, people do not necessarily send notification to all their contacts at the same time. Instead, they choose different media at different times to pass the information to different people. The sequence of the contacts is a result of the actors' process of determining the primary and secondary contacts within social networks. This study investigates how hierarchical position influences actors' sequencing of announcement in scholarly networks. To answer this question, I study information dissemination within the Graphics, Animation and New Media (GRAND) Network of Centres of Excellence. Data obtained from interviews with 30 professors in GRAND show (1) higher-position scholars are more likely to differentiate primary and secondary contacts when they make announcement; while lower-position scholars are less sensitive to sequence; (2) sequence is perceived as social norms in scholarly networks, (3) scholars maintain sequence by differentiating primary and secondary media including email, telephone, or face-to-face talk. The findings of this study contribute to a further understanding of the formation of social norms in social networks.

- **Steve McMullin, Acadia Divinity College**

**Technology, Community And Identity: Social Effects Of Technology In Religious Congregations**

Based on a mixed methods study carried out in 16 religious congregations, this paper examines ways in which technology has quite dramatically changed some aspects of church life by separating church members by generation, by separating congregations with architecture or traditions that are not amenable to technology from those congregations without such barriers, by disseminating from multiple sources religious knowledge that is beyond the control of the church, and by providing new social experiences of religion online. The paper



describes ways that church members who are young or married express quite different attitudes toward the religious use of technology compared to members who are older or single. Participants' perceptions of the importance of technology are considered in light of the effects of technology on community and identity.

➤ **Nathan Thompson, University of Toronto**

**The Night Elf Druid Takes A Break: Analyzing The Emergence Of A Sexual Field In The World Of Warcraft**

Massively Multiplayer Online Role Playing Games (MMORPGs) provide a virtual social platform in which players (via the use of an avatar) interact for the purpose of gaming. The World of Warcraft is the largest MMORPG currently on the market with an estimated player population of over twelve million. The game, which is tailored to players who wish to indulge in combat and strategy, has also seen the emergence of erotic role playing (or ERP). This paper empirically investigates the emergence of a particular realm (i.e. server) in the Warcraft world that has become a locus for online sexual interaction (cybersex). Using participant observation data collected over a period of six months along with a discourse analysis of documents and online articles that have emerged around the particular site, I apply Green's sexual fields framework (2008) and determine that this online space presents itself with the same social structuring one would find in an 'offline' sexual field. I also find that this sexual field recreates misogynistic and homophobic discourses while at the same time challenging gender and sexuality norms.

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## **Social Construction in Science and Technology**

Session Number: ST1-B

Session Organizer: Carrie Sanders, Wilfrid Laurier University-Brantford

Chair: Antony Puddephatt, Lakehead University

Drawing on literature from the social construction of technology these papers explore the various ways in which "users" of technology matter.

➤ **Dimitrina Dimitrova, York University; Emmanuel Koku, Drexel University**

**Light Bulbs Coming On: A Case Study Of Research Consortia**

This paper examines the research consortia program run by a Canadian Network of Centres of Excellence (NCE). The NCE, designed to foster research and innovation in the area of water, has introduced a consortia model in addition to its regular program based on a more traditional funding process. The analysis uses data from a social network survey and qualitative interviews with participants in the consortia program to examine how the consortia operate. The discussion is further informed by an earlier study of the regular program of the same NCE. The analysis of the collaborative ties, patterns of information exchanges, and managerial practices in the research consortia suggests intense learning processes involving both end users and academic researchers. The network of consortia participants functions as a Virtual Community of Practice and demonstrates an interesting twist of the learning loops envisioned by Wenger. The results shed light on the question to what extent research consortia achieve their goals of engaging end users in the research process, enabling them to shape the research questions, and encouraging the adoption of research results.

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- **Justin Page, University of British Columbia; Janet Atkinson-Grosjean, University of British Columbia**

**Including Community Voices In The Development Of Genomics-Enhanced Bioremediation Of Toxic Mine Drainage**

The science of genomics promises many advances from human health, to economic development, to environmental remediation and Canada is investing heavily in its development. However, the novelty of the science may raise concerns about its application in technologies that could negatively impact local communities. In this paper, we use the Public Acceptability of Controversial Technologies framework to examine the views of local communities and First Nations with respect to the development of genomics-enhanced bioremediation of toxic mine drainage. As the paper demonstrates, communities and First Nations are generally supportive of bioremediation, but voice specific concerns about potential impacts of genomics-enhanced bioremediation on the environment. Participants are particularly mistrustful of private interests, the impact of deregulation on environmental monitoring, and potential unexpected consequences of the technology. These findings point to the need to develop community-based monitoring mechanisms for genomics technologies.

- **Delia Dumitrica, University of Calgary**

**Imaging The Internet In Policy, Media And Everyday Life In Canada**

Against the background of popular discourses around the internet as an enabler of the global village, this paper starts from an interest in how discourses such as globalization and nationalism play a role in our collective understandings of this new medium. The paper is based on a discourse analysis of nine internet-related federal policy documents and their respective newspaper coverage (134 news stories), as well as a set of 29 in-depth interviews with internet users in Canada. The analysis aimed at mapping how a new technology comes to be imagined in different social spheres, particularly in relation to existing discourses. Starting from this analysis, this paper proposes a model for the social construction of the internet across different social spheres, arguing that this process should be understood more as a hegemonic incorporation of 'newness' and of the potential for change into the existing discourses and social structures within each sphere.

- **Carmen J. Schifellite, Ryerson University**

**The Structure Of Scientific Revolutions**

This presentation examines the impact that digital technologies are having on the spread of nontraditional medical treatments and the role that citizen researchers can have in this process. In this study I look at the case of a protocol initially developed for the treatment of sarcoidosis, an autoimmune disease. However, this treatment is now being used to treat many other autoimmune diseases. This protocol was developed outside the boundaries of normal medical science by a biomechanical engineer, a doctor and a handful of health care professionals and lay people attempting to cure themselves. It rests on a number of revolutionary ideas about the causes of disease, the role of the innate immune system, the role of Vitamin D in immune function and the role of healing crises in medical treatment. It has shown strong positive results but evidence to date is considered anecdotal at worse and observational at best. The protocol has spread rapidly through the use of digital support systems. In this paper, I contrast this to an earlier and similar treatment developed by Macpherson Brown, an MD, who is said to have treated over 10,000 people in his fifty-year long career but whose work remains to this day outside the mainstream of rheumatologic practice.



## Sociology of Technology/Sociology of Science Omnibus

Session Number: ST3

Session Organizer: Carrie Sanders, Wilfrid Laurier University-Brantford

Session Chair: Antony Puddephatt

Session Discussant: Dimitrina Dimitrova, York University

### ➤ **Jonathan Scott Simmons, University of New Brunswick**

#### **Positive Psychology As A Scientific / Intellectual Movement**

Psychology has long struggled with fragmentation and unification, resulting in separatist impulses that transform theories into social groups rather than epistemic objects. These impulses derive from dissatisfaction with the methodological basis of psychology, providing an explanation for the emergence of Positive Psychology as a discrete approach to human behavior within the social sciences.

Positive Psychology, like any other scientific/intellectual movement (SIM) is political in that it constitutes a collective effort to pursue a research program in the face of resistance from others in the scientific community. In response to this resistance, the dominant message of Positive Psychology is one of separatism: positive psychologists have marginalized their intellectual forebears, disregarding humanistic psychology for being antiscientific and failing to develop a strong research tradition.

The purpose of this paper will be to develop an understanding of the micro-processes of Positive Psychology, bringing into focus the local institutional conditions and settings that might have played a role in its emergence as a SIM. I will argue that under the leadership of Martin E.P. Seligman, Positive Psychology is a clear contemporary example of institutionally designed science and is fueled by Seligman's self-concept as a scientific warrior.

### ➤ **Jeff Kochan, University of Konstanz**

#### **SSK, Realism And Phenomenology**

This paper addresses the threat posed to the Sociology of Scientific Knowledge (SSK) by external-world skepticism. I contend that the spirited efforts by SSK theorists to maintain their realist credentials against the threat of external-world skepticism have not been successful. My argument turns on the idea that external-world skepticism is an epistemological problem which leaves unexamined an important ontological presupposition, namely, that the epistemic agent is a subject who seeks access to the world construed as an external object. Because SSK theorists of all stripes accept this presupposition, they are uniformly at risk from perpetual attack by the external-world skeptic. I argue that the realist credentials of SSK could be strengthened with the help of Heidegger's existential phenomenology. Heidegger construed the epistemic agent as a Being-in-the-world, that is, an immersed agency whose worldly involvement lies at the base of its own self-understanding. According to Heidegger, the epistemological problem of how an agent gains access to the external world is neutralized once one recognizes that the two were never separated in the first place. By adopting Heidegger's existential phenomenology, SSK theorists could deflect external-world skepticism, and hence more effectively assert their credentials as realist sociologists of science.

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➤ **Vanda Rideout, University of New Brunswick**

**High-Skilled Knowledge Work In New Brunswick: Self-Direction And Up-Skilling Or Deskilling And New Forms Of Resistance**

This paper analyzes and considers theoretical approaches which help to inform and understand high-tech knowledge work using the information technology (IT) cluster in New Brunswick as an example. Relying on a knowledge-based economic cluster development model to enhance competitive advantage, studies on the cluster have focused on the history, development and high-tech knowledge occupations resulting in 6500 ICT jobs. The paper stresses the need to identify and understand more fully high-skilled jobs, the complexities of knowledge work, the degree of autonomy knowledge workers have over their labour, as well as new and existing forms of labour resistance. It begins with the contrasting views of Bell (1973) and Braverman (1974) and the shift to a post industrial society, the development of new occupations and changes in the skill content of service work. The second section investigates the research on new knowledge occupational categories which ranges from analyzers, symbolic analysts, to a creative class, and Castells hierarchical stratification by occupation and labour polarization. The third section examines the research on knowledge work deskilling and upskilling and skill/knowledge transfer to digital scientific management systems. The paper concludes with an evaluation of immaterial labour and the autonomous school and new developments in knowledge labour resistance.

➤ **Kate Hickey, University of Calgary**

**Seeing Multiples: Three And One Half Versions Of Eating Disorders As A Psychological Illness**

How are health care networks and the accomplishment of illness and treatment definitions achieved when illnesses border the psychological and physical? Does a psychological illness have a materiality? How can a method of materiality trace the accomplishment of psychological illness? How does psychological illness become seen as a unified illness capable of carrying characteristics or attributes that are traceable? To answer these questions this paper uses concepts from Actor-network-theory to complete an analysis following actors and networks that worked and failed to work to accomplish the goals of fifteen persons with psychological health care needs.

Tracing struggles ordering the receipt of medical treatment for eating disorders told through stories I find the eating disorder illness to leave material traces which accomplish networked definitions that are less than one, "more than one, and less than many".

## **Theory/Sociology of Sociology**

### **What is Sociology? National Sociologies**

Session Number: TS1-A

Session Organizer: L. Lynda Harling Stalker, St. Francis Xavier University

Session Chair: Patricia Cormack, St. Francis Xavier University

Hoggart said sociology has "conceptual rigour," Toennies says it alone will "save the state;" Williams indicates that perhaps it is "a general interest in social processes;" maybe it is merely the study of society. This session sets out to ask the question, "What is sociology?" It is a question that is situated in a university environment that is looking for accountability and innovation, increasing interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary studies, and governments who would rather have social economists than economic sociologists. In this changing climate how do



sociologists articulate what makes Sociology unique? This session invites papers from all schools of thought to attempt to answer this question.

➤ **Lynda Harling Stalker, St. Francis Xavier University**

**Interpretive Nostalgia: Being An Atlantic Canadian Sociologist**

Upon entering Atlantic Canadian sociology in the 1990s as a graduate student, I quickly became aware of the call to avoid "romanticism" and "nostalgia". This came in the form of Overton's (1996) call to assume the "Newfoundland lens" or to avoid what Pocius (1991/2000) called "ideological traditionalism ... cultural glorification ... [and] cultural objectification." Over a number of years I have struggled with this, as I do tend to be attracted to the pastoral images of Atlantic Canada, and I have come to a realisation -- being nostalgic does not necessarily mean taking things prima facie. My nostalgic and romantic tendencies do not remain at a "simple" stage. Fred Davis (1979) systematically sets out three phases for nostalgia: simple, reflective and interpretive. This is a progression where one moves from unexamined assertions that the past was just better, to raising questions about truth claims and finally problematising the nostalgic sentiment. In this paper I set out to not merely except that things were "better in the past," but question the implications of romantic and nostalgic notions to the study of Atlantic Canadian culture and society.

➤ **Anna Vu, McMaster University**

**Vietnamese Sociology In Socio-Political Context**

This paper provides a bird-eye's view of Vietnamese sociology and examines whether the discipline displays a distinctive "national sociology" (in the words of Michael Burawoy), in terms of its research focus and theoretical leanings. The paper suggests that an analysis of certain defining elements will help to inform the debate about the status of national sociology in general and Vietnamese in particular. In tracing the history of Vietnamese sociology, the paper attempts to answer the question: what are the structural and historical barriers to an independent sociology in Vietnam and what are the places and spaces where it might emerge? The paper identifies five key factors: (1) the broad historical and cultural contexts of the nation; (2) the roles of intellectuals in Vietnam and the importance of key networks and individuals; (3) the pivotal event of the Vietnam War that triggered the world revolution of 1968; (4) the rise of the Communist Party and its ideology; and (5) Vietnam during the period of "renovation"(also known as Doi-Moi) when the country began to open up to Western economic and globalizing processes - as possible components that either inhibit or foster a movement towards an independent sociology in Vietnam.

➤ **Fuyuki Kurasawa, York University**

**Sociology Of (Canadian) Sociology': On Disiplinary Boundries, Scientific Aspirations, And Public Interventions**

This paper examines the state of contemporary Canadian sociology, within the broader context of transnational debates about the present and future of the discipline.

After tracing the foundational tension of the field in Canada, which is caught between disciplinarity and interdisciplinarity, it makes a case against two corresponding and opposite strategies that are frequently cited to overcome the perceived crisis of Canadian sociology today: a centripetal strategy of strong disciplinarity in which the field of sociology would mark its particularity (and presumed superiority) by erecting strong barriers against other social scientific

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and humanistic bodies of knowledge; and conversely, a centrifugal strategy of complete interdisciplinarity in which sociology would dissolve its specificities into these other bodies of knowledge. Instead, it argues for the maintenance of the productive tension between these two tendencies as a distinctive strength of Canadian sociology. The paper proposes a vision of Canadian sociology across the 'two solitudes' of English- and French-language scholarship, that of an intellectually cosmopolitan discipline because shaped at the intersections of other major sociological traditions (U.S. and continental European, but also Latin American and East Asian, for instance). Finally, it advocates for a post-positivistic understanding of the scientific status of sociology, and a sociological practice that is public and critical in its core orientations.

## What is Sociology? Theoretical Consideration

Session Number: TS1-B

Session Organizer & Chair: L. Lynda Harling Stalker, St. Francis Xavier University

### ➤ **Brian Fuller, York University**

#### **Adorno's Lessons For Sociology**

In his introductory lectures on sociology, Adorno articulated the central conflict for the practicing sociologist between social utility and social critique, and he tried to make sense of the 'inherently antagonistic character' that had come to constitute the discipline that was so important to him. The typical accounts, in the North American literature, of the tradition of Frankfurt School 'Critical Theory' as it relates to the discipline of sociology, may be better illuminated given the recent publication of some of Adorno's writings on sociological work and sociology as a discipline. The familiar touchstones of the critique of instrumental reason, derived primarily from Adorno's relatively early work with Horkheimer, and Adorno's later dispute with German sociologists over the methodology of positivism, must at least be supplemented by, and more promisingly reread through, these other samples of Adorno's work. Drawing on works such as his notes for a 1949 course on the Theory of Society, his essays defending empirical methodology, and various lecture series which concern his interests as a sociologist, I will highlight Adorno's conception of the specificity of sociology and its relationship to other disciplines - most particularly philosophy. I argue that Adorno's 'sociological vision' grew out of his understanding of the philosophical crisis of reason and his reading of the sociological canon.

### ➤ **Stephen Tasson, York University**

#### **Sociology In Liquid Times: The Ambiguity Of A Discipline**

Zygmunt Bauman's recent work has generated considerable interest across a number of disciplines. In its eclectic style, range, and emphasis Bauman's work and his relationship to sociology – despite his repeated affirmations of its necessity – have remained somewhat uncertain.

In a recent book Jacobsen and Poder (2008) argue that Bauman's sociology serves primarily as a challenge to the discipline and is directed towards "revising and revitalizing sociological theory by pushing and challenging the outer limits of established and toxic assumptions". More recently, in a speech given at the opening of the Bauman Institute in Leeds, Bauman suggested in a paper entitled '*Sociology: Whence and Whither?*' that the discipline was firmly rooted in the promise to 'make society *better*' – a sentiment he locates squarely in "heavy modernity". But the



world today – our so-called “liquid times” – is less hospitable to such aims and perhaps, by extension, a sociology still endlessly trying to “come-of-age” (but now perhaps the *wrong* age).

This paper explores two central challenges posed by Bauman and his sociology and offers some thoughts on how we might understand them and respond theoretically but also methodologically.

- **Susan Tracey Machum, St. Thomas University; Darrell McLaughlin, St. Thomas More College**

### **Exploring The Concept Of A Sociological Footprint**

In answer to the question: what is sociology? We answer, sociology is fundamentally about tracing our 'sociological footprints'. From an early age we are encouraged to calculate our ecological footprint with the aim of making our consumption of the planet's resources more explicit. With such knowledge we are encouraged to alter our behaviours, reduce our consumption and halt further damage to global ecosystems. In this paper we argue the time has come for a 'sociological footprint'. The purpose of this proposed analytic tool is to make explicit the web of social relationships our lives and everyday activities are embedded in so we may be more purposeful in our actions. Parallel to the ecological footprint's goal to promote behaviour changes reducing ecological damage, our purpose is to promote greater social wellbeing and justice in human consumption and production patterns.

This paper introduces the concept, lays out its parameters, and reflects on its potential contribution to the discipline. Finally to illustrate how we envision the sociological footprint in action, we apply the concept to a case study of local food.

## **New Directions in Theory - A**

Session Number: TS2-A

Session Organizer & Chair: Jean-Sébastien Guy, Dalhousie University

By a convention enacted in most textbooks for undergraduate students, the history of sociological theory is roughly divided into two periods or generations: the classical one and the contemporary one. While of course the “contemporary” will remain indefinitely insurmountable as a category, it can be argued with little controversy that a third period will inevitably come sooner or later. Perhaps it has already begun. In this session, participants are invited to speculate and debate about what is or will be the next generation or cohort of theorists to capture our disciplinary attention, at least partly. Contributions can focus on (a) new names (i.e. presenting as a future major reference one author who has been publishing in the field of sociological theory in recent years and introducing her or his central ideas), (b) new themes (i.e. identifying new concepts or new topics around which theoretical efforts and intellectual disputes are likely to gravitate in the years to come), or (c) new readings of historical works (e.g. how theorists from the past, either classical or “contemporary”, are being reinterpreted so as to shed a new light on their legacy and put their ideas into new use for current research).

- **Amelia Howard, University of Waterloo**

### **Theory, Practice And The Problem Of A Lost Foundation: Revisiting George Grant**

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In this paper, I look at the works of George Grant, in particular, his books *Lament for a Nation and Technology and Empire*. I attempt to show the relevance of Grant's work to our current Canadian society, in the wake of globalization. I use Grant's theories as a way of formulating an answer to the problem of the modern experience of lost foundation and placelessness. I argue that this problem of lost foundation is one that belongs to both the lay population and the social theorist, and that the attempt to develop a strong theoretical orientation to placelessness can have practical implications as well. Topics such as the relevance of community, neighbourly relations and the impact of technology on community will be discussed.

➤ **Layla Abdel Rahim, University of Montreal**

**From The Ontological Roots Of Knowledge To A New Sociology Of Being**

Whether in its classical or "contemporary" expression, the very concept of sociology has been contingent on an anthropocentric understanding of society in its civilised, sedentary nation state form. Because of that, more than any other discipline (excepting political science and economics), sociology has constructed its theory and practice in response to the state's needs for a civilised, technological, and technocratic organisation of human resources. I.e. its study objects as well as self-examination have consistently relied on anthropocentric definitions of the reality it helped to define and concurrently construct. This paper invites a cross-disciplinary examination of the ontological basis of social relations and of the concept of "resources" (human and other animal) as well as a critique of the definitions that distinguish human society from non-human animals, for instance: language, time, empathy, intelligence, and "environmentalism". John Zerzan's critique of civilisation offers dynamic possibilities for sociological theory. Examined in conjunction with sentience (Bentham) and empathy (Kropotkin and Goethe), Zerzan's critique of symbolic thought, language, time, and the technological evolution of humanity responds to the urgent demands of economic and political global crises for re-definition of sociological interests and therefore non-human and human animal evolutionary trajectory.

➤ **Dennis Erasga, De La Salle University - Manila**

**The Telling Of Lives: Auto/Biography As Theoretical Narratives**

Sociological imagination is an open invitation to theorize from the stories we tell about ourselves and others. More than self-expression, the sociological ethos of auto/biographical narration is to extend the reality of a solipsistic and exclusive existence into a common and public experience. In order to achieve this, the narrator must convert biographies into textual realities (as there is no other way to do this). The narrating process, however, has unique epistemic anchorage (memory-based) and stylistic requirements (literary) that encage lived lives into fictional genre giving this mode of writing a unique interpretive lens that project new visions of the social. Consequently for theorizing purposes, auto/biographies are meaning-claims that should no longer be read exclusively in terms of their dramatic and documentary values, but more in terms of their theoretical affordances. The paper explores the implications and utility of fictionalizing auto/biographical narratives in expanding the ambit of sociological theorizing.

➤ **Patrick Burman, University of Western Ontario**

**The Hermeneutic Circle's Encounter With Difference And Domination**



After ethnographic field work and interviews with black Canadian curators and historians in the Underground Railroad heritage network in Southwestern Ontario, the usual qualitative analysis of themes and attributes proved inadequate. People spoke of their lives as a series of existential shifts of perspective towards their black identity based partly on dialogical relationships with the family members and others and even with their dead precursors from Abolition times. As a nonblack outsider I doubted my entitlement to speak of these intense inner meanings. What freed up this blockage was Gadamer's view that the interpreter's pre-understanding ("prejudice") was not baggage to be discarded, but formed a necessary situational location from which to attempt a fusion of horizons between life-worlds, and between present and past. The idea of the hermeneutic circle disallowed the non-dialectical stance as neutral interpreter, but rather encouraged an honest dialogue that took seriously the interviewees' (and historical narratives') claim to make a true accounting of what is. The interviewees' claims that the dialogue with their own forebears had changed their lives became understandable. An adequate social theory will have to go beyond objectivism and critique of ideology to grasp how tradition nourishes people's sense of purpose and identity.

➤ **Karolina Korsak, University of Waterloo**

#### **Epistemological Authority In The Social Sciences: Implications For Responsible Scholarship**

The present paper is an investigation into the authority that is ascribed to the epistemology of conventional social science. Entailed therein is an exploration of the differences between a discovery and interpretive approach to knowledge in the social sciences - issues of objectivity, accuracy and certainty are juxtaposed with comprehensiveness and an openness to the unknown. I begin by overviewing the concept of responsibility in conventional paradigms and then sketching out how responsibility relates to the paradigmatic differences of conventional and interpretive approaches. Drawing on radical interpretive sociology (hermeneutics, phenomenology; Arendt 1998; Berger 1973; Bonner 1997; Gadamer 1996 & McHugh 2005), I makes the claim that accuracy of measurement is used in the discovery approach to knowledge in order to overcome the obstacles that nuance establishes; this in turn does not disqualify the existence of nuances of meaning inherent in social phenomena, however, it treats them in such a sweeping fashion that they becomes entirely unaccounted for and obscured, rendering the knowledge gathered in this manner disconnected from the world it seeks to yield any insight into. This disconnection and disengagement from the comprehensive world under investigation is what makes it virtually impossible for responsibility to emerge within the scholarly process, and furthermore, by analogy and by virtue of the same authority, within the realm of social life itself.

### **New Directions in Theory - B**

Session Number: TS2-B

Session Organizer: Jean-Sébastien Guy, Dalhousie University

Session Chair: Paul Armstrong, Dalhousie University

➤ **Christopher John Doran, University of New Brunswick**

#### **Post-Phenomenological Theorizing: Becoming A Parrhesian Intellectual**

This paper argues for the necessity of going beyond several phenomenologically-inspired theorizations of the 'self'; while at the same time, exemplifying that process in its own textual

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methods. Primarily, it seeks to move beyond theorizing which has prioritised 'self-reflection' (Blum and McHugh 1984), 'femininity' (Smith 1990) and 'reflexivity' (Sandywell 1996a,b,c, 2000) and suggests, instead, the utility of Foucault's last works (Foucault 2005, 2009, 2010) on 'parrhesia'; as these writings document the practices required for producing a 'parrhesian' self. The paper also demonstrates that somewhat similar practices can be discerned and displayed in the author's own textual practices.

➤ **Christopher Powell, University of Manitoba**

**Conceptualizing 'Relations': Unbounded Subjects, Lateral Epistemology, And A Sociology Of Contradiction**

Two interconnected themes that characterize the emerging 'third period' of sociological theory are reflexivity and relationality. From Pierre Bourdieu to Anthony Giddens to Dorothy Smith, influential figures in sociological theory consciously reject the subject-object binary in favour of relational-processual conceptions of social action that necessarily situate sociology reflexively within its own object of investigation. But relationality remains undertheorized and the concept of 'relations' only vaguely defined. Focusing on limitations in the relational theories of Bourdieu and Norbert Elias, this paper sharpens the concept of 'relation' by making three points. First, we can move beyond Bourdieu's "dual-determinism", which treats relations as a movement from the subjective to the objective and vice-versa, in favour of a fully relational ontology that treats the objective-subjective divide as itself a product of relations. More generally, relations do more than connect phenomena; they constitute phenomena. Second, we can supercede vertically arranged levels of analysis for a lateral epistemology. Concepts of network extent, density, and mass allow us to distinguish among differing scales or scopes of social phenomena without reproducing macro/micro or structure/agency dichotomies. Third, we can overcome Elias's tendency to conflate relational interdependence with social harmony by foregrounding the contradictory quality of some types of relation. Contradictions account for the internally dynamic, self-transforming, far-from-equilibrium properties of relations and of networks. The notion of contradictory relations helps account for the situatedness of researchers within our own object of investigation, the non-identity of sociological knowledge and its object, and the condition of possibility for relational sociology itself.

➤ **Eliana Hererra Vega, University of Ottawa**

**The Sociology Of Niklas Luhmann: Lessons From The Linguistic Turn In Philosophy**

How valid is to think of social life in terms of contending realms of specialization? How is it possible to relate diverse fields of meaning? N. Luhmann (1995) created one of the most powerful heuristic tools to deal with the conditions of modern society. His work was done on the foundations of a variety of heterodox sources, extracting contents and viewpoints from hard sciences as biology and from socio-cybernetics, nourishing his work from sociological accounts on differentiation. What came next was a perspective on a society made by communications, where communication departed from a linguistic analysis and was understood in cybernetic terms, responding to the actual production of separated social systems which, nevertheless, develop some common patterns. My proposal will suggest that in analogy with what had happened in philosophical research 20th century, a turn is required in sociology regarding communication. The proposal will illustrate that whereas in philosophy the issue was that philosophical problems could be solved or dissolved by either reforming language or by understanding more about how language works (Rorty, 1967), in sociology, and from Luhmann's

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(1995) and Eisenstadt's (1963) accounts, instead of a linguistic turn what should come next is a "communication turn". The paper understands communication as what needs to be redefined among the former makers of the constitution of society: human social agents, and nowadays by specialized stances such as the major subsystems of society (law, arts, mass media, economy). The paper puts forward that, facing ecological boundaries of all sorts, communication and its possibilities (Leydesdorff, 2000; Pitasi, 2010; Beesley, 2003) are at the core of sociological research for the 21st century.

➤ **Jean-Sebastien Guy, Dalhousie University**

**Post-Humanism Anyone? Systems Theory And Beyond**

This paper explains the relevance there is in calling Niklas Luhmann's systems theory a post-humanist sociology. The use of these terms is convenient as it serves two purposes simultaneously. Firstly, the distinction humanism/post-humanism indicates clearly how Luhmannian theory conflicts with normal sociology or at least with sociology as it is presented in most introduction books for first year students. In normal sociology, pre-eminence is given on values ascribed to human beings: values turn into norms whenever two individuals or more create a group by holding on to the same values. In Luhmannian theory, the analysis does not begin with values, not even with human beings, but with the difference system/environment, which means that it begins with a paradox. Where there is paradox, there can be no hierarchy and accordingly humanism, as a hierarchy of its own, leaves way to post-humanism. In this view though, Luhmannian theory might not be unique at all. This is exactly the second point: calling Luhmann's work a post-humanist sociology is meant as an invitation to look for other post-humanist theories in a serious effort to rigorously delineate what would be a new paradigm for our discipline.

➤ **Steve Garlick, University of Victoria**

**Critical Theory, Masculinity, And Complexity: Revisiting Marcuse On Technology, Eros, And Nature**

This paper takes as its starting point Christian Fuchs' *Internet and Society* (2008), which deploys selected aspects of Herbert Marcuse's work in the construction of a critical theory of techno-social systems and informational capitalism. Going beyond Fuchs' emphasis on dialectics, I argue for a deeper engagement with Marcuse's distinctive combination of Marxian, psychoanalytic, and phenomenological theory in order to formulate a theoretical framework that can include embodied aspects of techno-social experiences. By reinterpreting the concepts of nature and Eros in Marcuse's critical theory in terms of complexity, self-organization, and the posthuman, I suggest that his work can inform a renewal of critical theories of technology at a time when the boundaries between the natural and social worlds are increasingly contested. At the same time, I argue that Marcuse's critique of technological rationality has a significant gendered dimension that remains relevant to understanding how the complexity of nature gets taken up within contemporary techno-social systems.

## **Stranger Theory**

Session Number: TS3

Session Organizer & Chair: Dr. Mervyn Horgan, Acadia University

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Social and political theorists have long been concerned with strangers. The Ancient Greeks saw strangers as equivalent to barbarians, while more recently, philosophers have used the stranger to fuel thinking on a wide range of theoretical and substantive topics from ethics to law, and from cosmopolitanism to particularism. Sociologists draw on theories of the stranger to understand the social position of immigrants, minorities and marginalized groups more generally. Across disciplines in the humanities and social sciences the concept of the stranger has been made to do much work. For this session we seek papers that examine the multiple boundaries between, for example, fear and intimacy, citizen and non-citizen, inside and outside opened up by the stranger, and that trace conceptual convergences and divergences between the stranger and other social categories and types such as friends, neighbours, enemies, aliens, non-citizens, immigrants, the marginalized and Others. Papers can be theoretical and/or empirical, though preference will be given to those that approach the stranger in novel or challenging ways.

➤ **Phillip A. Steinersen, York University**

**Monsters, Strangers, And Scapegoats (Oh My?)**

Part of a larger body of doctoral research on the character and role of 'the monster' in contemporary Western socio-legal orders that draws on a range of classical and contemporary sociological perspectives, as well as several from French philosophy and post-structural feminism, to take up the contemporary category of 'the human monster' in terms of the social processes, relations, and underlying cultural values through which it is constituted, this paper considers the human monster vis a vis a variety of alternative conceptualizations of social difference. Erving Goffman's stigmatized Georg Simmel's and later Zygmunt Bauman's stranger, René Girard's scapegoat, Julia Kristeva's abject, Karl Marx's (somewhat neglected) lumpen-proletariat, as well as Michel Foucault's abnormal offer a few highlights of such alternative conceptions. Locating the conceptual category of the monster within this tradition, this paper suggests that the contemporary human monster offers a distinct analytical category through which to explore social alterity, exclusion, and the imagined limits of justice in the social imaginary. More taboo than the stigmatized, more liminal than the stranger, more atypical than the abnormal, and more blamed than the scapegoat - this paper posits the human monster as representing radical alterity beyond the typical boundaries explored as marginal, an ideal type in antithetical opposition to the legitimate subject of justice.

➤ **Catherine Tuey, Carleton University**

**Death And Strangers. The Use Of Public Space For Private Memorializations**

Memorializations challenge the argument that death is a private and hidden affair because of the movement of friends and family to remember their loss publicly. Such public memorializations include monuments, cemeteries, mausoleums, memorial gardens, roadside memorials and obituaries. These practices move the dead from the private sphere to public sphere, transforming the private loss of a loved one, or stranger to others, into a public event and subject of collective memory. The public use of space, whether physical or virtual, allows the dead stranger for instance to become a wife, daughter, friend, colleague or mother through the memorialization process. How and when does a stranger become the subject of public memorialization? This paper will explore the use of space in public memorializations in relation to the transformation of the stranger.



## Why isn't Sociology Funny (Any More)?

Session Number: TS4

Session Organizer: Riley Olstead, St. Francis Xavier; Patricia Cormack, St. Francis Xavier University

Session Chair: Riley Olstead, St. Francis Xavier

Session Discussant: Patricia Cormack, St. Francis Xavier University

Though it is claimed that sociology (compared with other disciplines like philosophy and psychology) lacks a substantive interest in humour and comicconceptions of culture and society, we note that many mid-century texts (Mills, Merton, Goffman, etc.) used humour as a way of addressing their audiences. More recently, however, sociological prose appears less typically characterized by the use of humour. This session invites papers that consider the reasons for this shift, and the conditions that influence the tone and rhetoric of sociological speech. Additionally, we welcome work that takes a "serious" interest in the question: What's funny (or not) about sociology?

➤ **Selom Chapman-Nyaho, York University**

### **The Negro Community Frowns On Your Shenanigans": Popular Whiteness Studies And Cultural Strategies That Work**

In 1989's "New ethnicities", Stuart Hall spoke of how we identify cultural strategies that work, mostly focusing on questioning the cynical protective shell – the "nothing ever changes" approach – that Black American cultural critics had been adopting. My position is that the earnestness of today's popular whiteness studies, as exemplified by projects such as Peggy McIntosh's "invisible knapsack of white privilege," which is widely used in university and community settings, is equally ineffectual. I propose instead that some of the most valuable pedagogical approaches to racism in popular culture have included humour, e.g., work by Dave Chappelle, Ali G, and Sarah Silverman. Drawing on George Herbert Mead's discussion of play vs game, I maintain that such projects can be far more effective in de-essentializing notions of race.

➤ **Katherine Bischooping, York University**

### **The Importance Of Being Less Earnest**

Sociology has become a discipline concerned with the important, with a social world going to hell in a handbasket. Goffman's sly humour and penchant for schaden freude seem out of place in our era. In this paper, I make a case for today's sociology to embrace the absurd as one mode of social criticism. As an example, I offer "automaticcautiondoor": a creative work-in-progress that conveys concepts of Beck's risk society by juxtaposing warning messages that I encountered over a one month period. Sources include disco lyrics, laundromat signage, tampon instructions, workplace violence training documents, and Victorian poetry.

➤ **Patricia Cormack, St. Francis Xavier University**

### **Insults, Stereotypes, And Everyday Jokers: When Sociology Was Funny**

Re-reading mid-century sociological texts, I have been struck by their use of humour – a humour that is not incidental their epistemologies. In this paper I will discuss three humorous tropes found in this literature and try to explain their uses and implications. First, I will discuss insider insult as a way of talking about colleagues and predecessors in the sociological

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community, arguing that this requirement to good humour has a tempering effect on personal egos and the general rigidity of the discipline. Second, I will discuss the use of stereotype and the way the sociological audience is expected to read and understand such constructions. Third, I will discuss the everyday social world itself as necessarily funny. Taken together these three uses of humour establish particular relationships between sociological practitioners and their discipline, between sociologists and their audience, and between sociological thought and the everyday.

## Urban Sociology

### Urban Sociology

Session Number: US1

Session Organizer: John Goyder, University of Waterloo

Session Chair: Harley Dickinson, University of Saskatchewan

Research in the area of Urban Sociology

➤ **Anne M.K. Huizinga, University of Calgary**

**The Sociological Implications Of Building Up: An Analysis Of The Trend To Increasing Density**

The continued urbanization of the population has meant an increase in the number of people living in cities and in the territorial growth of cities as represented by sprawl. In recent times, concerns over environmental sustainability have increased pressures to change this pattern. The emergence of the condominium has provided a new market concept that has paralleled trends towards increasing density. Despite these pressures, little is known about how people experience living in high density outside of low-income complexes.

This research examines the experiences of people living in high rises in western Canada considering three basic themes: 1) the types of issues faced by residents who rent, as well as those who own 2) the types of social interactions that occur, and the contexts in which they do so 3) the social sustainability of living in high rises.

The research uses semi-structured interviews lasting approximately thirty minutes with thirty participants living in either ten story or higher condominiums, or in ten story or higher apartments. There is an in-depth analysis of those living in high-rise condominiums and high-rise apartments, identifying key issues faced by residents of tall buildings, and exploring how social relationships are shaped by the design of buildings.

➤ **Hassan Arif, University of New Brunswick**

**People, Places, And Politics - Contrasting Political Cultures In Cities And Suburbs**

The state of Michigan and the provinces of Manitoba and New Brunswick offer unique insights in comparing local governance structures. In Michigan, the "strong home rule" model of local governance is characterized by decentralization of authority to small, fragmented, and largely autonomous local government units. Manitoba provides an example of amalgamation, in particular with respect to the uni-city of Winnipeg. Meanwhile, New Brunswick offers an example of centralization of authority at the provincial level.



This paper will focus on the cities of Detroit, Winnipeg, and Saint John and examine the contrasting political cultures of the inner-cities and suburbs to consider the forces driving the maintenance of these local governance regimes. In considering issues such as amalgamation and centralization/equalization, factors such as inner-city versus suburban voting patterns and public priorities will be considered.

At the macro-level regional differences (between Western Canada and the Maritimes) and national differences (between Canada and the United States) will be considered.

## **Work, Employment, Professions and Occupations**

### **The Transformation Of Work Under Neo-Liberalism In The Canadian Context**

Session Number: WE1-A

Session Organizer & Chair: Vivian Shalla, University of Guelph

Session Discussant: Luis Aguilar, University of British Columbia - Okanagan Campus

Over the past few decades, work has been undergoing rapid and profound change under the neo-liberal regime. This session explores work and its transformation within the broader context of globalization, economic restructuring and fundamental shifts in public policy. Papers of an empirical and/or theoretical nature are welcome that deal with specific cases or comparative analyses of work reorganization and labour market restructuring, changing patterns of employment, work precariousness and the destandardization of the employment relationship, union strategies in the face of workplace and labour market change, or work-related policy initiatives affecting the lives of workers and their families. Papers are encouraged that focus on relations based on class, gender, race/ethnicity and/or age as central to work transformation under neo-liberalism.

➤ **Linda June Muzzin, OISE, University of Toronto; Diane Meaghan, Seneca College**

**Academic Capitalism, College Style, In Canada: A Case Study Of The Struggle For And Against On-Line Learning.**

As part of a national SSHRC-funded study of faculty work at 30 colleges conducted 2006-2010, we researched aspects of academic capitalism, focusing in on ways in which faculty work was being transformed. This paper examines in detail a case study of one college, revealing the power dynamics in how on-line learning was promoted (by a vice-president, the new business dean and faculty who had implemented it) while being opposed by nursing and trades and technology faculty as unworkable. We will show how academic capitalism can be resisted by experienced, organized faculty. The history of the college shows multiple attempts to implement more 'efficient' pedagogy, beginning with the 1980s restructuring of colleges (continuing today). For example, Aboriginal populations were 'tapped' with on-line programs but most participants seemed unaware of this history, which might have bolstered their case for or against the 'new' pedagogy.

➤ **Vanda Rideout, University of New Brunswick**

**High-Skilled Knowledge Work In New Brunswick: Self-Direction And Upskilling Or Deskilling And New Forms Of Resistance.**

This paper analyzes and considers theoretical approaches which help to inform and understand high-tech knowledge work using the information technology (IT) cluster in New

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Brunswick as an example. Relying on a knowledge-based economic cluster development model to enhance competitive advantage, studies on the cluster have focused on the history, development and high-tech knowledge occupations resulting in 6500 ICT jobs. The paper stresses the need to identify and understand more fully high-skilled jobs, the complexities of knowledge work, the degree of autonomy knowledge workers have over their labour, as well as new and existing forms of labour resistance. It begins with the contrasting views of Bell (1973) and Braverman (1974) and the shift to a post industrial society, the development of new occupations and changes in the skill content of service work. The second section investigates the research on new knowledge occupational categories which ranges from analyzers, symbolic analysts, to a creative class, and Castells hierarchical stratification by occupation and labour polarization. The third section examines the research on knowledge work deskilling and upskilling and skill/knowledge transfer to digital scientific management systems. The paper concludes with an evaluation of immaterial labour and the autonomous school and new developments in knowledge labour resistance.

➤ **Brigitte Marie Cecckin, York University**

**Where Is the Work: Who Are the Workers?**

Work and employment as we know it, or rather have known it, is in the process of radical restructuring. As a result of globalization and neoliberal economic policy what is now characteristic of work, is not job security, but precarious employment, unemployment, underemployment, lean production, non-unionized and so forth. Who are the workers? This paper addresses some of the problematic areas of the current Canadian labour market and labour market participants. Of significance, the rise of contract and temporary work for Canadian workers as well as foreign workers has led to a division of the working class itself. A polarization of the classes is evident and has been a long term characteristic of a capitalist economic system, however, the strategy of dividing the working class born of neo liberalist thinkers, affects national solidarity. Having said this, the likelihood of working class dissension is limited, given that animosity from Canadian workers is directed toward foreign workers and not toward the neo liberal regime.

➤ **Ivanka Knezevic, University of Toronto**

**Flexibilisation Or Recommodification? The Shadow And Substance Of Work In The European Union New-Member Countries In Eastern Europe**

Recommodifying nature of the European Union's social policies is nowhere more visible than in the eight post-socialist countries that acceded to the EU in 2004. Policy documents refer to an urgent need for flexibilisation of their labour markets, but deny a need for universalistic work- and social policies. Precariousness and destandardisation of work are not identified as problems. Instead, emphasis is placed on targeted policies to counteract exclusion of women, ethnic minorities, the disabled, and the persistently poor. The paper will use measures of socio-economic inequality, poverty, and the level of public policy spending, to challenge the official EU views, which disconnect the market position of work (seen, in the long term, as unproblematic) from persistent poverty (acknowledged as a legitimate area of intervention for narrowly targeted social policies). We will compare the changes in the new EU members in Eastern Europe over the last fifteen years (before and after their accession) both to the "old" EU member countries and to post-socialist countries outside the EU. By comparing the need for universalistic and targeted social policies with the actual extent of such policies across the three

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groups of countries, and by analysing political and academic writing on the topic, we will gain some insight into factors influencing the new members' social-policy decisions.

## Occupations and Professions

Session Number: WE2

Session Organizer, Chair, & Discussant: Tracy Adams, University of Western Ontario

Session Chair: Laura Wright, University of Western Ontario

This session seeks papers on the sociology of work, with a focus on occupations and professions. Papers may examine a variety of work-related issues, including the following: people's experiences of working in a variety of occupations, case studies of specific occupations and/or professions, inter-professional conflict, professionalization, sex and racial segregation at work, and occupational change.

➤ **Mark David Easton, University of Toronto**

### **Organizational Gender Culture's Effect On Job Evaluation Bias**

This research investigates the effect of organizations' cultural contexts on the level of gender bias in job evaluation. Researchers note that the relative value given to jobs in organizations ultimately depends on what the organization traditionally values (Treiman & Hartmann 1981; Quaid 1993), thus hinting that job evaluation bias has organization-level roots. However, the sources of job evaluation bias are almost exclusively explained as individual-level factors (see Mount & Ellis 1989), so the extent organizations' value contexts mediate or moderate such bias is unknown.

Using a hierarchical linear model with organization and job-level variables of 50 thousand jobs in 70 organizations, this research shows that jobs in organizations with more masculine cultural contexts have more job evaluation bias. Further, the long-recognized negative effect of a job's female incumbency on job evaluation bias is amplified among more masculine organizational cultures. The significance of organizational context in these results highlights the limits of initiatives like pay equity for ensuring "fair" valuations of work. Such initiatives may promote internally consistent job valuations within individual organizations, but gender equality in the labour market will remain diluted if organizations vary substantially in their schemas for defining a job's relative value.

➤ **Justin C. Wright, Defense Research & Development Canada**

### **"Service Before Self...Which Self? Making Meaning Of Military Identity At The Royal Military College Of Canada**

This paper outlines ongoing analysis from the study on the socialization of the officer cadets at the Royal Military College of Canada (RMCC). The goal of the socialization project is to generate a more refined understanding of the officer cadet training and academic experience and the extent to which that experience is preparing them for their leadership roles as CF commissioned officers in a new and complex security environment. This study explores a number of elements of the officer cadets' experience at RMCC, and builds upon findings from focus groups, a survey, and in-depth interviews. Examples of these elements of the officer cadets' experience include leadership and professional development, gender and diversity,

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career intentions within the Canadian Forces (CF), conduct values, and the development of professional military identity.

In particular, this paper will discuss some of the ongoing analysis concerning the development of military identity and military ethos among officer cadets at RMCC. Based on data collected during the most recent phase of the study - a series of longitudinal interviews that tracked the process of socialization of a sample of officer cadets over their four year programme at RMCC - this paper will discuss some of the identity work in which officer cadets are engaged. This paper concludes with the presentation of a suggested model of military ethos, which aims to capture and articulate the construct's underlying social, behavioural, psychological and experiential components.

➤ **Tracey L Adams, University of Western Ontario;**

**The Development And Regulation Of The Chiropody Profession In Canada**

The literature on professions provides a variety of explanations for how professional groups become established, and why some are able to obtain regulatory legislation from the state, while others are less successful. Some explanations focus on state actors and what they might gain through regulating professions (most commonly, expertise and legitimacy). Others focus on professional characteristics, highlighting that organized occupational groups with advanced education, an esoteric body of knowledge, a public service orientation, and other characteristics typically have more success claiming professional status than do others. Nevertheless, many of these sociological explanations point to general characteristics, and hence are of limited use to scholars trying to explain why the same profession is regulated very differently across time and place. This paper provides a case study of CHIROPODY (Podiatry), a regulated profession in many Canadian provinces, but one that has been regulated very differently across province and time period. A review of the development and regulation of chiropody across Canada sheds new light on sociological explanations of profession creation and profession-state relations.

➤ **Meghan Dawe, University of Toronto**

**Stratification In The Legal Profession: The Case Of Immigrant Lawyers In Canada**

Stratification within Canada's contemporary legal profession is a source of controversy. While women have achieved considerable admissions to law schools, they continue to linger on the periphery of power and privilege in legal practice. Historically, there has also been a strong opposition to cultural and ethnic minorities' inclusion in Canada's exclusively 'white' legal profession, and this legacy of discrimination is reflected in today's legal profession. However, while research shows that women and ethnic and cultural minorities face significant barriers in the Canadian legal profession, there is a lack of recent literature on the representation and experience of an analogous group - immigrant lawyers - and my research will begin to fill this gap. The underrepresentation of immigrants in the legal profession is an important issue with serious consequences. My study will add context and depth to a forthcoming national survey on Canadian lawyers by adding semi-structured qualitative interview data. I will use these data to evaluate the nature, extent, and effect of stratification by immigrant status within the Canadian legal profession. I will then assess immigrant lawyers' understandings and experiences of, and feelings and attitudes toward, stratification within the justice system and the legal profession itself.

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➤ **Nancy Theberge, University of Waterloo; W. Patrick Neumann, Ryerson University**  
**Professional Practice In Ergonomics: Negotiating The Tension Between Productivity And Employee Health And Safety**

Occupational health and safety is a growing focus of public policy and debate. Efforts to address work related health risks have led to the emergence of occupational groups who claim professional expertise in the application of knowledge in the design and organization of work. A profession that is centrally involved in this practice is ergonomics, which "applies theory, principles, data and methods to design in order to optimize human well-being and overall system performance". The reference to both well-being and productivity indicates that the practice of ergonomics addresses concerns of industrial capitalism that historically have often been in tension. This presentation examines how these twin concerns are managed in the context of ergonomists' professional work. The analysis is based on semi structured interviews with 21 Canadian ergonomists. Findings indicate that participants in our study mainly directed their efforts to health and safety and when they did take production and profitability into consideration, typically this was as a secondary concern: as a way to "sell" or support an initiative or to show that it would not negatively impact production or profitability. The presentation concludes with observations on possibilities for the enhancement of ergonomists' ability to advance the agenda of health and safety in workplaces.

## **Health and Safety in the Context of Precarious Employment**

Session Number: WE3

Session Organizer: Alan Hall, University of Windsor

Much has been written about the major shift to more precarious forms of employment. A key question increasingly posed in this literature is 'What are consequences of precarious employment for worker health and safety?' Submissions are requested that address this question. This includes papers on the effects of precariousness on accidents, working conditions and injury and hazard reporting, the effectiveness of health and safety committees and worker representation, the enforcement of health and safety legislation, and the psychosocial effects.

➤ **Harvey Briggs, Algoma University; Jan Clarke, Algoma University, Cathy Denomme, Algoma University; Deborah Woodman, Algoma University**  
**Sharing Our Analytical Tools: Rethinking Young Worker Safety**

The study of the world of work is often segmented into separate disciplines -- economics, business, social science -- in order to arrive at explanations/ solutions. However, as Eric Wolf suggests "D/disciplines that disassemble[s]/ this totality [social reality] into bits fail to reassemble it and therefore falsify reality" (2010; 4). Over the past year, as representatives of Business and Sociology, we have started working together on projects that focus on young worker safety.

Prof. Denomme identified a problem through extensive surveys (n=292) of young workers that demonstrated the inadequacy of worker educational programs in Ontario. She recognized an interdisciplinary engagement on the issues of young worker safety expands the set of tools both of our disciplines include (and even our sub-disciplines). Combining these different views brings us to a way of considering the issues that challenge both perspectives. One of the impacts of this partnership has been to reveal the disconnection between the law and its application, and the training of young workers. Our recent work studies relationships between the lack of

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retention of safety information and pedagogical practices in Ontario's young worker safety training.

- **Alan Hall, University of Windsor; Susan Sverdrup Phillips, University of Windsor**

**Precarious Employment And The Reporting Of Injuries And Hazards**

This paper provides a preliminary analysis of interviews with 40 minority and non minority workers in non union situations in Southwestern Ontario. In the interviews, workers were asked to tell their stories about injury and hazard related experiences, outlining how and why they responded in the way they did. The focus of this analysis is to reveal any differences in injury and hazard reporting which relate to racial identity and the precarious status of their employment, with reference to precariousness as they perceived it and as reflected by their formal employment relationship.

- **Harvey Briggs, Algoma University; Jan Clarke, Algoma University, Cathy Denomme, Algoma University; Deborah Woodman, Algoma University**

**Contradictions In Young Worker's Retention Of Safety Education: "They Don't Understand And They Don't Participate"**

Every day there are 42 young workers injured or killed on the job in Ontario (WSIB). Why does this happen? Our research indicates there are several disconnects between the four training programs that are publicly offered in Ontario and the knowledge they are providing; none of the programs we studied are delivering their stated goal - the "safe" worker. Four contradictions emerged from our preliminary analysis of the research data. The first contradiction is that employers are required to create safe workplaces, yet young workers do not convey an understanding of the risks that exist in the workplace. The second contradiction is that workers in Ontario have rights and responsibilities in the workplace yet young workers are unaware of these rights and responsibilities. The third contradiction relates to the high levels of investment by government and not-for-profit agencies in youth safety training programs yet young workers' participation level is very low. The fourth contradiction indicates young workers who do participate in the training have a lack of consistent understanding of safe work practices despite all of these interests and investments.

## **Women's Unpaid Work: Research and Policy**

Session Number: WE4

Session Organizer & Chair: Meg Luxton, York University

Session Discussant: Kate Bezanson, Brock University

This session explores current research and thinking about women's unpaid work. One of the demands of the women's movement of the 1970s was that women's unpaid work in the home be recognised as work and its contribution to the economy and the well-being of society be taken into account in social and economic policy. The UN Conferences on Women in 1985 and 1995 committed national governments to measuring and valuing women's unpaid work and during those decades, important research and policy development took those commitments seriously. Since then, there has been a backsliding and a backlash. The controversy surrounding the Federal government's 2010 decision to cancel the long form of the census revealed that their greatest hostility was directed toward the three questions on unpaid work. This session asks

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what current research has to offer on this topic and what policy developments best promote the goals of measuring and valuing women's unpaid work.

➤ **Sara Dorow, University of Alberta**

**The High Cost Of 'Unpaid Work' In A Booming Resource Community**

This paper is concerned with how the high cost of living comingles with the gendered imaginary of familism to create a paradoxical landscape of unpaid work in Fort McMurray, situated at the heart of the Alberta oil sands. On the one hand, political and community leaders have trumpeted families as key to 'settling' Fort McMurray, which both directly and indirectly implies traditional gender roles. On the other hand, the high cost of living and rapid pace of development demand high work hours, which has undermined idealized family values.

Two additional factors complicate unpaid social reproductive work in Fort McMurray: the high pitch of consumerism (Fort McMurray being seen as a place to realize dreams of 'the good life'), and the critical lack of childcare and elder care.

In this paper I draw on field work conducted from 2007-2010 (individual interviews, participant observation, and a survey of users of a community family center) to explicate the particular political economy of unpaid work in Fort McMurray. I then discuss the various strategies heterosexual families across the socioeconomic spectrum employ to negotiate the tensions among family values, the high cost of living, and consumerist goals, especially given the lack of public care facilities.

➤ **Willa Liu Lichun,**

**Measuring Unpaid Work And Lifelong Learning Among Immigrants To Canada**

Unpaid household work, especially routine housework, such as feeding the family and caring for children, is crucial to the social reproduction of labour and the maintenance of the society. However, due to its unpaid nature, and the private domain where it is performed, unpaid household work was deemed of little social and economic value, as a result, learning involved in such work remains largely invisible and unexplored.

This paper measures unpaid work and the related informal learning in a transnational context among recent immigrants to Canada. Drawing on data from a national survey on Work and Lifelong Learning (WALL), this paper compares the participation rates and the weekly hours on household work and the related learning among the Chinese immigrants, other foreign-born and the Canadian-born. Then it compares between unpaid and paid work among these three subgroups. By taking a gender perspective, this paper examines how immigration intersects with gender, race and ethnicity in influencing women and men differently in unpaid and paid work as well as the informal learning they involved in such activities. The goal of this paper is to make visible the unpaid work as well as the informal learning involved in it.

➤ **Danielle Kwan-Lafond, York University**

**The Impact Of Military Deployments And Parental Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (Ptsd) On The Self-Esteem And Familial Roles Of Adolescent Girls From Canadian Forces (Cf) Families**

This paper examines observed gender differences in self esteem, as measured by a survey of civilian and military adolescents' health and wellbeing in Armyville, Canada (a pseudonym), in light of (a) Marxist feminist literature on women's unpaid domestic labour, and (b) interview data

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from the same study that provide insight into unpaid domestic labour carried out by adolescent girls whose military families are undergoing the stresses of deployments and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). It compares military adolescent boys' and girls' access to activities that help build self-esteem, and finds that while boys tend to build their self-esteem through sports, girls tend to build self-esteem through their familial roles; specifically, in taking on increased responsibilities (unpaid domestic work and care work) when their families are dealing with military stressors, such as the deployment of a parent, and/or the PTSD of a family member. Our findings shed light on how gendered familial roles are maintained and reproduced in Canadian Forces (CF) families.

## Workshops

### Quantitative Methods

Workshop Number: WS1

Workshop Organizer: Linda Gerber, University of Guelph

Workshop Moderator: Ann Kim, York University

The primary purpose of this workshop is to provide expert advice to graduate students, young faculty, or established scholars currently engaged in or contemplating quantitative research projects. Two scholars will present recent research involving quantitative methods and analysis. The floor will then be opened for discussion, questions, and advice on the methodological issues and concerns of the workshop participants.

Workshop Speakers:

**Robert Andersen** is a Professor of Sociology and Political Science at the University of Toronto and an award-winning scholar. He has also held positions at McMaster University, the University of Western Ontario, and Oxford University. His main areas of interest are political sociology, social inequality, applied statistics and quantitative methodology. He is the author of the book, *Modern Methods for Robust Regression* (Sage 2008), and approximately 40 articles, many of which have been published in prestigious journals including the *American Sociological Review*, the *Annual Review of Sociology*, and the *British Journal of Sociology*. His recent research focuses on the impact of growing social inequality on social and political attitudes, and he is currently exploring methodological issues in the use of multi-level modeling in cross-national research.

**Douglas Baer** is Professor of Sociology at the University of Victoria. He has also held positions at the University of Western Ontario and the University of Windsor. He is currently the director of the University of Victoria's Branch Statistics Canada Research Data Centre. His main areas of interest are social inequality, political sociology, civic engagement and quantitative methodology. He is the editor of a book on *Political Sociology* (Oxford 2002), and has written numerous articles published in journals such as the *American Sociological Review*, *Social Forces*, and the *Canadian Review of Sociology*. Recent research has focused on voluntary association activity, immigration and comparative politics. He has taught quantitative methods courses at the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research Summer Program in Quantitative Methods for over 25 years.

This workshop was developed by the Research Advisory Subcommittee: Linda Gerber (chair), University of Guelph; Tracey Adams, University of Western Ontario; and Ann Kim, York University.

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## Qualitative Methods

Workshop Number: WS2

Workshop Organizer: Linda Gerber, University of Guelph

Workshop Moderator: Tracey L. Adams, University of Western Ontario

The primary purpose of this workshop is to provide expert advice to graduate students, young faculty, or established scholars currently engaged in or contemplating qualitative research projects. Two scholars will present recent research involving qualitative methods and analysis. The floor will then be opened for discussion, questions, and advice on the methodological issues and concerns of the workshop participants.

### Workshop Speakers:

**Meg Luxton** is a Professor of Women's Studies and Sociology at York University, a former Director of the Graduate Programme in Women's Studies and of the Centre for Feminist Research at York. Her research, based mainly on qualitative methods, focuses on sex/gender divisions of labour in the paid labour force and in the home; on the women's movement in Canada and internationally; on international efforts to measure and value women's unpaid labour; and on public policies designed to help people manage the competing demands of paid employment and caregiving responsibilities. Her most recent work examines the economic (in) security of older immigrant women. Her publications include *More Than a Labour of Love: Three Generations of Women's Work in the Home* (1980) and, with June Corman, *Getting By In Hard Times: Gendered Labour at Home and on the Job* Toronto (2001). She has won various awards for teaching, publications and her contribution to Canadian Sociology and to advancing women in academia.

**Dorothy Smith** was active in the women's movement as a graduate student, taught one of the first women's studies courses in Canada, and inspired the development of women's studies programs across the country. Her academic career, beginning with undergraduate work at the London School of Economics, took her to the University of California at Berkeley, the University of British Columbia, and the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education. Since her retirement from OISE, she has continued her work at the University of Victoria. Dr. Smith is the recipient of numerous awards from the American Sociological Association as well as the Outstanding Contribution Award and the John Porter Award from the Canadian Sociology and Anthropology Association (both in 1999).

The approach in her 2005 book, *Institutional Ethnography: A Sociology for People* has been adopted worldwide for the study of a range of institutions and for public policy research. She is the founder of feminist standpoint theory and institutional ethnography.

This workshop was developed by the Research Advisory Subcommittee: Linda Gerber (chair), University of Guelph; Tracey Adams, University of Western Ontario; and Ann Kim, York University.

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## Z-session: All Other

### Omnibus: Issues in Higher Education

Session Number: ZS1-A

Session Organizer: John Goyder, University of Waterloo

Session Chair: David Zarifa, Nipissing University

➤ **Maria C.L. Malo, Universidad Autonoma Metropolitana-Mexico**

#### **The Evaluation Of Mexican Public Higher Education: A Case Study At Five Universities**

Two decades ago, a state policy was launched in Mexico to attempt to evaluate public higher education. Since then, the sources of public funding for universities have been dependent upon the results of such evaluations. In order to fulfill the task of evaluating the public institutions, a set of organizations were created: CIEES (Inter-institutional Committees for Evaluation of Higher Education).

In this paper I conduct a comparative analysis of the evolution of five variables (Terminal efficiency, highest level of education of academic personnel, undergraduate and graduate enrolment, percentage of local students enrolled at the university, distribution of students in the different areas of knowledge) across five Mexican public universities (Nuevo Leon, Estado de Mexico, Aguascalientes, Veracruzana, Chihuahua), from 1994 to date. Some of the main problems that were detected in the first evaluation are still present: Terminal efficiency continues to be a priority for most of the universities; the highest level of education achieved by the members of the academic body and the type of contract under which they are hired has changed slightly; the old tendency of high student demand for degrees in business and law remains. The main sources for this analysis were the evaluation reports completed by the CIEES.

➤ **Yuriy Rarog, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture; Nikolai Oleinik, Belgorod State University**

#### **The Government Policy On Scholars' Entrepreneurial Activity Development And Classic Concept Of University**

Economic stagnation and shortage of financial resources push the Government of Canada to make R&D system cheaper and economically effective. Since the level of commercialization of innovation in Canadian universities is lower than in USA or European ones, the government attempts to oblige university scholars actively participate in business activity and transform their discoveries into innovations which have market value, and move innovations to the market.

Meanwhile, business activity of university professors can contradict to concept of academic duties and deteriorate quality of education by diverting scholars from teaching and doing basic research.

This paper investigates:

- o Basic postulates of Academic Entrepreneurship concept
- o Specific policy tools which are applied by government to support entrepreneurial activity of professors
- o Consequences of intersection of business and academia in terms of quality of education

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The author applies system and functional analysis of university, financial and system development modeling of alternatives to achieve understanding of multi dimensional character of problem and possible ways to increase economic output of university lead research projects from the prospective of social costs of university science commercialization.

➤ **Melonie Anne Fullick, York University**

**Subject To Change: Entrepreneurial Universities And Graduate Student (Self-) Development**

Graduate education has become an object of increasing attention for policymakers within the past 10 years or so. However, the attention has been framed as part of a schema of economic development designed to enhance national "knowledge economies" through the development of highly skilled human capital, and it occurs in the context of neo-liberal policy trends such as marketisation and privatisation. How has the logic of governance that has permeated universities affected the education of graduate students? How do graduate students "learn" what success means, and what is required of them in order to succeed in the developing international "market" for elite talent? Framing this problem with Foucault's governmentality theory, I explore the development of graduate student subjectivity in an environment of intense competition for academic work, wherein an ethos of autonomous entrepreneurialism is increasingly valued alongside--or above--more traditional qualities like collegiality. I argue that graduate students are expected to "sell" themselves as academics in a job market that offers ever fewer full-time, tenure-track positions, in an environment where "success" is still most often defined and measured through narrow academic parameters.

**Omnibus: Issues of Government, Business and Society**

Session Number: ZS1-B

Session Organizer: John Goyder, University of Waterloo

Session Chair: Patrizia Albanese, Ryerson University

➤ **Nilima Sonpal-Valias, University of Calgary**

**A Governmentality Analysis Of Canada's Nonprofit Sector And Its Sustainability Challenges**

Canada's nonprofit sector is the world's second largest, with 161,000 organizations, employing 2 million people and representing \$112 billion (7%) of the GDP. It plays a vital role in building strong communities, engaging citizens, and serving the public in almost every area of social and community life. Despite its significance, almost half the organizations in the sector feel severely constrained in fulfilling their missions. The most significant challenges, which include changing funding structures, onerous accountability demands and dwindling policy-influencing capacities, arise from the complex and arduous relationship between the nonprofit sector and the government.

The purpose of this paper is to propose that nonprofit-government relations can be fruitfully analysed using the governmentality literature as developed by Foucault and subsequent writers, and I provide examples from a preliminary effort doing so. I trace the evolution of the nonprofit sector in Canada and demonstrate how the sector has been problematized and what rationalities have been used to control it. I conclude by discussing how these technologies of control have resulted in the current challenges that the sector faces, and how the sector itself has bought into the responsabilization discourse to become a willing agent in its own control.

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➤ **Angela Kalyta, McGill University**

**Can Businesses Build More Highly Mutualist Circuits?: Current Insights, Future Questions**

For critics of contemporary capitalism, the sustainability/ corporate responsibility movement poses huge questions: Can sustainable practices actually "work" (change capitalist relations and succeed financially)? And if they can, will this movement be able to change how business is actually done? Or will sustainability codes just be used as new PR tools? This paper outlines a research program for the long term study of these questions. First, I explore the claims and goals of sustainability literature and operationalize these into observable characteristics with academic literatures. I argue that some sustainability literatures call on businesses to recreate the regulatory power and financial advantages of close-ties by building structures which incentivize trust and cooperation between all of their stakeholders. I offer diverse evidence (from business, economics, sociology, even biology) and my own brief ethnographic work to describe what these structures look like, and what they achieve for stakeholders. Finally, I consider formal and informal institutions which may pose barriers to and opportunities for the growth of truly mutualist business practices. I argue that in order to study the movement of this trend, we need to better understand the changing ways that businesses understand and strategically coordinate mutuality and social capital.

➤ **Matthew Hayes, St. Thomas University**

**Foucault, State Effects and Modern Technologies of Economic Government:  
Loose Theoretical Strings in the Political Sociology of Capitalist Modernity**

The paper addresses some theoretical loopholes in the modern sociology of the state. The paper seeks to build on the work of Timothy Mitchell's writings about Michel Foucault, who argues that there has been a transition in the object of government: population, theorized by Foucault, has been displaced by the economy. The paper retraces Mitchell's argument and articulates a sociological critique that attempts to understand the relation between society and economy. The state's 20<sup>th</sup> century entrance into economic regulation was initially undertaken on behalf of society, and evidences a continuation of the life of the population as the central concern of politics. More recently, however, this has changed. I trace this change to the 'technification' of economic government in the latter half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and to the persistence of a racialized international division of labour, by which some groups of workers are left outside disciplinary biopolitics. The paper hopes to draw new attention to problems of state power and government, and to draw useful linkages between a Foucaultian critical tradition and critical sociology from the Marxist and Weberian traditions that draw attention to the technification of modern forms of economic organization.

➤ **Kelly L. Greenfield, Memorial University of Newfoundland**

**"Coming Out Of The Darkness": The Governance Of Aquaculture In Rural Cambodia**

Worldwide fisheries are predicted to collapse by 2048, however, aquaculture is an emerging industry in many 'developing' countries. While there is a growing body of literature addressing the technical and economic aspects of aquaculture and development in rural Cambodia, the



social and cultural aspects are still relatively unexplored. This paper draws upon ten months of fieldwork conducted in Takeo Province, Cambodia, and will begin by discussing how the commitment to technology as a catalyst to development often ignores important issues, such as who has access to control over technology, and who decides what is 'appropriate' technology. Next, I will challenge the notion that technology can be introduced or developed without affecting social relations. I will end by examining the social, cultural and economic implications of the incorporation of various forms of technology into the aquacultural practices of rural rice and fish farmers in Cambodia.

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## **Omnibus: Issues in Food and the Ecosystem**

Session Number: ZS1-C

Session Organizer: John Goyder, University of Waterloo

Session Chair: Lori Wilkinson, University of Manitoba

### ➤ **Ivar Palmason, University of Manitoba**

#### **Localized Food Systems And Community Building: The Relationship Between Local Food Initiatives, Food Security And Social Capital**

This paper looks critically at contemporary food systems in Canada and the US, making a specific effort to identify 'local food initiatives' (LFIs) as an alternative and viable way to curb unsustainable environmental, economic and social implications of the current globalized neo-liberal food system. I focus specifically on the varying levels of social capital in communities in correlation LFIs in an attempt to isolate the effect LFIs have on social capital. The concept of social capital, as applied in the social sciences, highlights the central importance of networks of strong personal relationships in the development of individual wellbeing. LFIs cultivate social connections, and through community gardens, local food cooperatives and farmers markets, individuals develop a basis for trust, cooperation and collective action. I argue that LFIs increase food security within communities, as well as social capital among community members, fostering mobilization among participants to pursue their own interests as well as the interests of the greater community to which they are a part.

### ➤ **Rebecca Warden, Carleton University**

#### **Entering Through The Green Door: De-Constructing A Distinct Style Of Urban Food Consumption**

Our contemporary urban food system is characterized by processes of industrialization, globalization, and commercialization that have profoundly changed how individuals perceive, and more specifically, value, their food. In this paper I explore how food is valued by individuals who engage in an 'earthy artisan' mode of dining that has, I argue, assumed a distinct and meaningful niche-role within this larger urban foodscape. Specifically, I draw on data gathered from a series of semi-structured interviews with patrons of The Green Door Restaurant, a pay-by-weight, cafeteria-style vegetarian buffet. My analysis explores how notions of 'local,' 'organic,' 'sustainable,' and 'healthy' eating are enacted and perceived within this social space. I argue that dining at The Green Door Restaurant reveals and reflects a set of particularly desirable values for the contemporary urban individual and discuss the significance of dining in this social space both for the individual - in terms of how these values become implicated in processes of



identity management - and in terms of how these values define, shape, support, and challenge the larger mechanisms of our contemporary urban foodscape.

➤ **Hongming Cheng, University of Saskatchewan**

**Public Confidence In Food Safety In Canada And China**

Food safety has increasingly become a focus of academic research following a number of highly publicised incidents in Canada, China and other countries. This study analyzed the data sets that contain information about public opinion about food safety in Canada and China. The findings suggest that Chinese consumers are less confident about food safety than Canadian consumers. However, consumers in both countries are losing confidence in the past decade. A number of socio-demographic factors are identified to have a significant impact on public confidence in food safety in both countries

➤ **Evan W. Bowness, University of Manitoba; Rodney Kueneman, University of Manitoba**

**The Commons And Environmental Sociology: Linking Community And Global Initiatives**

Given the severity of several anticipated ecological disruptions, the social structures of concern to contemporary sociologists cannot persist in the long-run. We argue that successful social reconfiguration in response to the changes ahead will depend on efforts to: a) return to the community-level commons as a means of regulating localized human impact on ecosystems, and b) create common property institutions and agreements at the regional, national and international level. Environmental sociology can play a key role in refining new proposals to this end. Our paper begins by explicating the principles of the commons, such as subsidiarity, shared responsibility and decision-making, precaution, and intergenerational transmission of benefits. At the community-level, we consider initiatives guided by these principles--such as cooperative business models, social enterprises, co-housing, community-land trusts, and neighbourhood food security undertakings--that foster cooperation at the level of face-to-face interaction. We then consider the place of macro legally-binding commons trusts, which we argue are pivotal to the success of a global transition towards a sustainable social configuration. Here we expand on the work of Peter Barnes, emphasizing the fundamental role of the state in connecting the community to the global-level initiatives.

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**Omnibus: Contemporary Issues**

Session Number: ZS1-D

Session Organizer: John Goyder, University of Waterloo

Session Chair: Terry Wotherspoon, University of Saskatchewan

➤ **Gary R. Barron, University of Calgary**

**What Our Doing Does: The Unintended Of Mental Health Advocacy In Canada**

From the mid-nineteen nineties to the present a trend has occurred in mental health legislation across Canada, the introduction of community treatment orders and the broadening of committal criteria. For the first time in decades certain people with a diagnosis of mental illness are no longer allowed the right to refuse treatment, a condition not imposed on individuals living with any other diagnosis. Through reading of various statutes, news reports, and other documentation I use Alberta's mental health legislation as a case to provide context to understanding Canadian mental health legislation. I then take the discussion into the last

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decade of the twentieth and beginning of the twenty-first century and demonstrate how the new trend in Canadian mental health legislation was brought about through concerned and well-meaning mental health advocacy. Despite campaigns against stigmatization of mental illness, such advocacy has resulted in legislation informed by notions of the mentally ill as dangerous, while news reports during such campaigns have simultaneously reinforced such images in the media.

➤ **Angela Kalyta, McGill University**

**The Radical Potential Of Clutter: Why (We Think) We Need Capitalism**

Living with clutter is a central aspect of living with our brand of Capitalism, and as such it is potentially radical. In accommodating clutter we discipline ourselves into consumptive subjects. We make it easier to live with and acquire unneeded objects rather than question what we really need and what is worth having. And yet, clutter and storage receive very little academic attention. This paper explores our relationships to objects and some of their consequences. After a historical development of clutter, I critically engage Marx's concept of commodity fetishism using it to build new tools for understanding various forms of object fetishism. Given the sparsity of ethnographic data on this topic, I also explore the practices which I have observed which lead me to think so seriously about the place objects have in our lives. With a few examples, I argue that re-ordering seemingly small assumptions about the role of objects in our lives are at the root of some of today's most radical and creative economic movements. Finally, I contemplate the theoretical implications for understanding capitalist class relations, alienation and social change through the lens of object fetishes and future research questions.

➤ **Jennifer M. Elrick, University of Toronto**

**Immigrant Economic Integration As A Business Outcome Associated With Employment Models Within Firms: The Case Of The It Sector In Toronto**

In this paper, I combine concepts from New Economic Sociology with work from organizational sociology on employment models within firms in order to address an area of great concern in the sociology of immigration and integration: immigrant economic integration. Competing explanations for the poor labour market outcomes of highly-skilled immigrants in Canada have generally focused on the human and/or social capital possessed by immigrants, on the institutional context in which immigrant integration takes place, or on racial/ethnic discrimination on the part of employers. Without rejecting any of these explanations, I claim that hiring decisions pertaining to internationally trained individuals can also be seen as a business outcome. This business outcome is associated with the employment model in place in a given firm, in other words, with the internal logic around which employment and belonging are organized. In order to make that claim, I draw on concepts from New Economic Sociology, such as social and cultural capital (institutional, embodied, objectified), and integrate these concepts into a typology of employment models developed for the IT sector in Silicon Valley. Using 20 semi-structured interviews with hiring managers at software development companies in the Greater Toronto Area, I illustrate how particular employment models lead to an emphasis on social, cultural, or human capital in companies' hiring procedures, and how this emphasis can pose a particular barrier to the hiring of internationally trained individuals.



➤ **Lynn Caldwell, St. Thomas More College**

**Static Possibilities: Saskatchewan And National Space**

In this paper, I examine how settler-colonial space in Canada operates as powerful and "sticky" fiction. This notion of "sticky" draws from Sara Ahmed's (2003) question about "what sticks?" - as a question that frames inquiries into how investments in oppressive social norms and structures continue in spite of persistent efforts to resist them. I demonstrate Ahmed's analysis as useful for questioning what moves and holds in place particular identifications with Canada as settler-colonial space and with settler-colonial constructions of citizenship and nation. The research on which this paper is based focuses specifically on Saskatchewan as a static domain of possibility in Canada, investigating Saskatchewan as a productive site in constructions of settler-colonial Canadianness. I demonstrate effects of Saskatchewan functioning not as a mobile or flexible notion, but as a kind of stasis - as the static, or stuck, domain in which the future and past are contained. As counterpoint, and as contribution toward broader efforts to subvert the continued practices of racism in Canada, I argue for a commitment to questionable space as the grounds for social change and for collective life.