



# CSA

Canadian Sociological Association  
Société canadienne de sociologie

## 2020 Annual Conference London, Ontario

Originally Scheduled: June 1–4, 2020  
Cancelled: March 19, 2020

Program of panels,  
sessions and presentations

### Resisting Racism and Colonialism Combattre le racisme et le colonialisme

Western 



**congress 2020**  
OF THE HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
BRIDGING DIVIDES

**congrès**  
DES SCIENCES HUMAINES  
BÂTIR DES PASSERELLES

Dear members and colleagues,

The 2020 Canadian Sociology Association's annual conference has been cancelled.

We also care deeply about the vision that is embodied by the 2020 Conference theme. We see the hard work that has been done by the program committee, session organizers and individual presenters to bring this theme to life. We want our members to have the chance to engage directly with the outstanding keynote speakers and invited panelists who agreed to share their insights with us this year. We have decided to carry this theme over into the 2021 Conference, retaining many elements of the 2020 program and giving us time to dream about new components to add. We are delighted to announce that we will co-chair the 2021 Conference under the theme, *Resisting Racism and Colonialism*.

As sociologists, we know that the social ties that bind us together are crucial to all aspects of our wellbeing. We have many exciting initiatives we hope to continue supporting, such as our excellent journal, the *Canadian Review of Sociology*, and advocating for research supports for sociologists across Canada, as well as our new student mentorship initiative for Black and Indigenous students and students of colour. We value your membership in this organization because it allows us to strengthen the ties among us and do great things.

Warm Wishes,  
Tina Fetner, President  
Xiaobei Chen, President Elect  
Canadian Sociological Association

Chers membres et collègues,

La conférence annuelle 2020 de l'Association canadienne de sociologie a été annulée.

Nous nous soucions également profondément de la vision incarnée par le thème de la conférence 2020. Nous voyons le travail acharné qui a été accompli par le comité de programme, les organisateurs de session et les présentateurs individuels pour donner vie à ce thème. Nous voulons que nos membres aient la chance de dialoguer directement avec les conférenciers d'honneur exceptionnels et les panélistes invités qui ont accepté de partager leurs idées avec nous cette année. Nous avons décidé de reporter ce thème à la conférence 2021, en conservant de nombreux éléments du programme 2020 et en nous laissant le temps de rêver de nouveaux composants à ajouter. Nous sommes ravis d'annoncer que nous coprésiderons la conférence 2021 sous le thème « Résister au racisme et au colonialisme ».

En tant que sociologues, nous savons que les liens sociaux qui nous unissent sont cruciaux pour tous les aspects de notre bien-être. Nous espérons soutenir de nombreuses initiatives passionnantes, comme notre excellente revue, *la Revue canadienne de sociologie*, et plaider pour des soutiens à la recherche pour les sociologues à travers le Canada, ainsi que notre nouvelle initiative de mentorat étudiant pour les étudiant.e.s noir.e.s et autochtones et les étudiant.e.s racisé.e.s. Nous apprécions votre appartenance à cette organisation car elle nous permet de renforcer les liens entre nous et de faire de grandes choses.

Nos vœux les plus chaleureux,  
Tina Fetner, Présidente  
Xiaobei Chen, Présidente élue  
Société canadienne de sociologie

## Invited Keynote Lectures

### **The Changing Nature of Professional Self-Regulation in Canada**

*Dr. Tracey L. Adams, Western University*

Dr. Adams received the 2019 John Porter Tradition of Excellence Book Award for her book, *Regulating Professions: The Emergence of Professional Self- Regulation in Four Canadian Provinces*, (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2018).

This award-winning book analyzes the history of self-regulation of professions in Canada, as a long negotiation with state, and explores the emergence of professional self-regulation in four Canadian provinces from Confederation to the 1940s. It argues that in some countries, self-regulated professions have been treated as outdated, elitist and restricting competition, while, in Canada self-regulation has proven to build and support important institutions.

### **#Settler-colonialism, #racialization, and #(non-)belonging: The embracing of fascism and authoritarianism among some North American youth via Instagram**

*Dr. Alejandro Hernandez, Carleton University*

The resurgence of authoritarian and fascist trends in many countries is part and parcel of our current social landscape. Honouring Dr. Agnes Calliste's work, and making use of an interdisciplinary and intersectional analysis, this talk will address some of the ways in which settler-colonialism, racialization, and notions of (non) belonging interrelate, (re)producing discourses on—and an allegiance to—authoritarianism and fascism among some youth in Canada and the United States who make use of Instagram.

Dr. Hernandez will be honouring the work of Dr. Agnes Calliste who received the 2019 Outstanding Contribution Award. Dr. Calliste's work was foundational to establishing a tradition of critical, intersectional analyses of race in Canada. Focusing especially on Caribbean immigration, Agnes Calliste foregrounded the experiences of Black/Caribbean workers in Canada. Working from the political economy tradition, Dr. Calliste illuminated complex hierarchies of race, class and gender in structures of imperialism, colonialism, capitalism and patriarchy, and captured the agency and resistance of Black Caribbean and African Canadians. Her work on immigration policy revealed gendered and racist assumptions embedded within the immigration system, channeling Caribbean women to physically dangerous and servile work. Her research is an important counter to the narrative of Canada's self-awareness as a colour-blind, multicultural society. The study of race, immigration and gender are now central concerns of sociology in Canada as elsewhere around the world.

### **Reconciliation as the new frontier? Indigenous cosmologies, the state and the social**

*Dr. Vanessa Watts, McMaster University*

A century and a half of state-engineered colonization has produced a reconciliation discourse that relies on the state as a collaborator. Yet, Indigenous social systems and social movements continue to challenge statist efforts towards Indigenous erasure. This lecture will examine how reconciliation is oriented across competing interests and the ever solving of the Indian Problem.

### **Diversity Gap in Canadian Higher Education**

*Dr. Malinda S. Smith, University of Alberta*

This talk will feature Dr. Smith's recent research on racial diversity in leadership positions in Canadian higher education, barriers to inclusivity, and solutions to our existing racial and gender inequalities. Her research and engaged scholarship draws on critical theoretical perspectives in the social sciences and the humanities to explore questions of equity, human rights and social justice, African political economy and security studies, and diversity and decoloniality in higher education. Her recent published research traverses four main areas: first, diversity in theory and practice; second, critical African security studies including the temporality and spatiality of terrorism; third, global poverty and inequality, and, fourth, gender, critical race and intersectionality in higher education.

## Animal Agribusiness: Acting Against Speciesism

Session Code: ANS1

Research Cluster Affiliation: Animals in Society

The once distinct line between meat, dairy, and other animal-based products and vegan food is now blurry. Niche-vegan convenience foods mimic 'real meat' with no attention to the conditions in which nonhuman animals exist, despite a growing concern for animal welfare and rights. This session offers a critical discussion of topics such as farm animal sanctuaries run by human inmates, the surge of meat alternatives, and contrasting levels of concern for certain animals, based on species and their value to humans.

Organizer(s): *Rochelle Stevenson, Thompson Rivers University; Sarah May Lindsay, McMaster University*

Presentations:

### 1. The Silent Majority: Carnist Slacktivism and the Risk to Public Health

Over the past decade the corporate news media and numerous social media sites have served as conduits for public outrage surrounding the abuse and harm of non-human animals. We have witnessed high profile campaigns and activism over the maltreatment of captive wildlife in aquatic theme parks, the poaching of endangered wildlife, safari hunting, cruelty and neglect of dogs and cats in least developed and developing countries, and even the impact of climate change on wild animals. Despite a North American public that appears increasingly aware and vocal about animal welfare issues, the brutalisation of billions of food production animals every year continues to go largely unnoticed by the public and wilfully ignored by legislators. This paper examines some of the myriad consequences associated with the largely invisible world of raising, slaughtering, and processing animals for edible flesh, including (but not limited to) the transmission of food borne pathogens, the spread of zoonotic diseases and physical and emotional harm to slaughterhouse workers.

Author(s): *Stephen L. Muzzatti, Ryerson University; Kirsten Grieve, OAVT*

### 2. Less meat, same relations: The protracted benefits of plant-based meat alternatives

Animal advocacy groups occupy a unique place within meat consumption discourses, particularly at sites of consumption, such as restaurants. Although the production and consumption of animal products has been normalized within modern industrial societies, we are witnessing a shift towards plant-based options. I argue this shift, while laudable, continues to portray animal welfare concerns as inconsequential, hidden, and ignored. This paper discusses the rise of plant-based fast food burgers and its impact on human-animal relations. In sum, I argue the sale and advertisement of plant-based meats alongside meat products contributes to the production of knowledges and discourses that fail to relinquish or even challenge a speciesist lens. Pursuing a sustainable and ethical food system requires examining the ways we think and speak about farm animals, unravelling the complexity and interconnectedness of human-animal relations, and exposing the norms, ideas, and contradictions embedded in the ways meat is understood, and how this translates into both behaviour and policy. I contend the relational benefits of plant-based meat alternatives will be protracted until the counter-normative discourses of ethical consumption penetrate the fast food burger menu.

Author(s): *Wesley Tourangeau, Saint Mary's University*

### 3. Farm Animal Sanctuaries: Ongoing confrontation with technologies of factory farming

This research aims to study the contentions that Farm Animal Sanctuaries pose to human-animal relationships in modernity, which have developed as a result of globalisation within the meat industry and advancements in technology. The methodology was based on relativism and the method involved three semi-structured small-group interviews, conducted at locations of sanctuaries (situated across the UK). Purposive sampling was used and the sample varied by location and size of sanctuary. Data collected was transcribed and qualitatively coded to generate themes. Findings revealed that sanctuary contentions to established human-animal relationships by factory farming can be divided into 4 broad categories; Revealing horrors of factory farming (involving uncovering power relations in agribusiness); transforming relationships with animals (including letting them emotionally heal in accordance with their individual personalities and treating them as partial-pets); educating the public regarding welfare conditions in factory farms as well as animal sentience through practical experience or positive imagery of farm animals; and addressing retaliations made by agribusiness in the form of technologies or

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discursive strategies. Hence, this research concludes that the human-animal relationship in current times has been characterised by; (ideological and physical) distance from farm animals, commodification due to increased chasing of profits over welfare and exploitation using technological advancements, creating unequal power dynamics that rid farm animals of any agency. Challenges to this relationship can be influenced by local populations around the sanctuary but not so dependent upon size of it. This research can benefit from further academic exploration into farm animal sanctuaries and their role in feminist animal rights activism to enrich the ongoing fight against intensive farming.

Author(s): *Chetna Khandelwal, University of Calgary*

### 4. Prison Farms and the Production of Oppression

Federal penitentiaries are reviving the Kingston prison farms, which were closed in 2010. Eligible inmates will farm food products from goats for Feihe International, a Chinese dairy company. These farms will produce three distinct types of oppressions. Foremost, goats will experience physical and psychological violence through farming. Second, inmates working in dairy farms will compromise rehabilitation and aggravate criminogenic risk factors. Third, oppression against indigenous territory will occur as a result of prisons using agriculture as a tool of modern colonization. An intersectional feminist approach which applies an integrative framework, as identified by Evelyn Glenn, is required to address the interconnected oppressions that prison farms produce. This study will propose a sanctuary model as an alternative to the agriculture model that is currently being used in Kingston. A sanctuary model will allow the root causes of each oppression to be addressed in addition to radically changing the focus for correctional prison labour as a colonial tool. By focusing on the oppression experienced by inmates, this study will examine the extent to which a caring-killing paradox occurs in prison farms. Revealing the presence of a caring-killing paradox will provide evidence of the harmful effects of prison farms on inmates.

Author(s): *Varun Joshi, University of Guelph*

## Structural Speciesism: Advocacy, Violence, and the Law

Session Code: ANS2

Research Cluster Affiliation: Animals in Society

Substantive revisions to both criminal and regulatory law related to nonhuman animals are needed; very few changes have been successful despite multiple attempts over the past three decades. Animals are considered property under the law, which complicates efforts for legal reform. This panel explores intersectional aspects of human/animals and the law, specifically around issues of speciesism, associated capitalist-driven violence, and the powerful opportunity to build solidarity across social justice initiatives. The panel will discuss, from various perspectives, how we as humans might be able to bring animals in from the periphery of law in an effort to move animals closer to the centre.

Organizer(s): *Rochelle Stevenson, Thompson Rivers University; Sarah May Lindsay, McMaster University*

Presentations:

### 1. “Nomic” Theorizing of Human-Animal Relations: An animal cruelty case analysis

Recently, there has been research within the critical animal studies field or green criminology which discusses that animal cruelty crimes do not occur solely in childhood and they do not always occur in isolation from other forms of violence. This paper aims to add to the growing sociological and criminological work on animal cruelty. This work is from a section of my Master’s thesis where I apply Durkheimian theory to analyze animal cruelty cases from across Canada from a sociology of morality perspective. I collected cases from the National Centre for the Prosecution of Animal Crueltys (NCPAC) case law database and performed an analysis of the details of the perpetrator’s life that were detailed within the case report, looking for an instance of anomie. This presentation will focus specifically on the recommendations section of my thesis which provides a “nomic” theorizing of how we can facilitate informed, healthy relationships with animals through the use of humane education, connected communities, Indigenous theory, and multi-species flourishing.

Author(s): *Lauren Sharpley, University of Windsor*



## **2. Voices of Voiceless Victims: "The Animal" in Canadian Criminal Animal Cruelty Case Law**

Recent changes in Canadian legislation increasing the potential sanctions for animal-related offences seem to imply that mistreatment, neglect, and abuse are taken more seriously by the criminal justice system. However, animal cruelty cases are infrequently prosecuted, and often result in minimal sanctions relative to the sanctions available. Critically examining how animals appear in discourses used by criminal justice system actors in animal cruelty cases could highlight some possible reasons why substantive change to the animal cruelty sections in the Criminal Code (such as addressing the problematic language) has proved so difficult to achieve, and criminal animal cruelty charges rarely laid. This research entails a qualitative discourse analysis of prosecuted animal cruelty cases, looking at both trial and sentencing transcripts through a critical and nonspeciesist lens. This presentation will focus on two research questions. One, how are animals conceptualized in prosecuted animal cruelty cases? Two, how does the conceptualization of animals affect trial outcomes and sentencing decisions?

Author(s): *Rochelle Stevenson, Thompson Rivers University*

## **3. Confronting White Privilege & Cultures of Capitalism in Animal Advocacy**

There are two central problems undergirding this research. First, this project largely emerged out of a concern for the immense socio-ecological implications associated with the conversion of live animals to meat, eggs, and dairy products in Canada and the United States in an industrial context. Within this project, these consequences for animals, humans, and the earth are understood as closely tied to a white supremacist and capitalist logic. Second, this research is concerned with what can be understood as the problem of engaging with such consequences within the competitive and divisive limits of a white supremacist and capitalist system, rather than seeking the abolition of these systems (Deckha, 2008; Wrenn, 2015). As such, this project is interested in the consequences associated with a reliance on particular rhetoric, strategies, language, and assumptions within spaces of resistance and advocacy. With these problems in mind and relying on the theoretical dimensions of critical animal studies and the methodological field of critical discourse analysis, this project examines the ways in which the logic that produced and maintains the current system of animal agriculture in Canada and the United States is re-inscribed and/or challenged in some of the emergent spaces of resistance. More specifically, this project examines the ways in which white privilege and cultures of capitalism are reproduced and/or contested in online spaces of vegan advocacy. These online spaces of vegan advocacy are thought to represent a valuable site of investigation, given the increasing number of individuals and groups using online platforms for social advocacy and organizing in the digital age and the capacity for online spaces to facilitate a more democratized access to knowledge than is possible via formal education (Boler and Phillips, 2015; Sandlin, Shultz, and Burdick, 2009). Overall, this work emphasizes strategies for building solidarity across various social justice movements.

Author(s): *Ellyse Winter, University of Toronto*

## **Qualitative Research Methods in Practice I: Exploring the Research Process**

Session Code: APS1A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Applied Sociology

This session explores various challenges, as well as innovative approaches to, conducting qualitative research.

Organizer(s): *Sara Cumming, Sheridan College*

Presentations:

### **1. Qualitative Interviews: Practices of the South and Theory of the North**

Qualitative theory books provide us a clear and concise road map for recruiting participants for qualitative interviews and the process of conducting in-depth interviews. While on ground experience of the researchers are not always in-line with qualitative theory, especially in the context indigenous societies of the global south. There is a wide difference between theory developed at the north and the practices of qualitative researchers at south. A researcher of the south has to think and adopt a contextual approach in order to get his work done instead of sticking the theoretical guidelines. Due to the lack of awareness of indigenous people regarding the research procedures, they proceed for interview with their own choices while the researcher has to take care of the local participants. It is the community and participants that influence the research process which results in deviation

from the rules qualitative research books. This paper briefly discusses experience of the researchers of a qualitative research project on "Culture and Peacebuilding" in Pakhtun Tribal Society of Pakistan. The focus of the paper is on the process of qualitative data collection through in-depth interviews in Pakhtun tribal society in comparison to the qualitative theory for conducting qualitative interviews. It highlight the similarities and diversions between theory and practice in recommend the documentation of qualitative research practices that are in place in the global south.

Author(s): *Nizar Ahmad, Bacha Khan University Charsadda; Paghunda Bibi, Bacha Khan University Charsadda*

## **2. "Where we are from" : The Intersection of Student Voice, Culture, Learning, and Place**

Supporting Indigenous students and including Indigenous perspectives and experiences in education are priority areas in Canadian education policy and practice. In the broader context of adult-driven education decision-making, however, what role do Indigenous student voices play in shaping educational processes and learning environments? This presentation reports on a student photovoice component of a larger community-based participatory action research project that focused on engaging parents and students in decision-making processes related to the planning/design phases of their new replacement school. Photovoice is an approach that uses photography to empower individuals to share their voice and express their views, and to become actively involved in influencing decisions that affect them. This project involves twenty Indigenous students in grades 6, 7, and 8 who attend an Indigenous program of choice public school in central Alberta. Students took photos and shared stories in response to the guiding question: What matters to me about my school? This presentation provides an overview of project activities as well as findings related to the significance of relationships, language, art, and culture. This presentation concludes by considering the broader implications and limitations of actively involving students in improving their own schools and learning experiences.

Author(s): *Emily Milne, MacEwan University; Terry Wotherspoon, University of Saskatchewan*

## **3. Researching Up: A Ph.D. Student's Reflections on the Challenges of Conducting Qualitative Research with the Judiciary**

The judiciary plays a vital role in Canada's constitutional democracy. As neutral, independent arbiters, judges resolve disputes between individuals and individuals and the state while ensuring adherence to the rule of law and acting as a powerful check on the power of the state. Undertaking empirical research with members of the judiciary is a challenging task, particularly for junior researchers and graduate students. Using a case study of a qualitative research project conducted with judges of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice, this paper discusses some of the challenges that researchers may encounter when conducting research with members of the judiciary, and proposes solutions that may be helpful in overcoming these difficulties.

Author(s): *Kory Smith, Carleton University*

## **4. The introvert's survival guide to fieldwork: Exploring qualitative research experiences in rural Saskatchewan**

Despite an abundance of literature on theoretical methods and methodologies for conducting qualitative social science research, there is an absence of material linking these practices to the emotional and social challenges of stepping into the field for the first time. This autoethnographic study follows the experience of an introverted PhD Candidate who finds herself immersed in a challenging new environment as she begins her fieldwork, investigating the social impacts of climate change in small-town Saskatchewan. Linking experience to literature, this study explores themes of integrity, isolation, self-representation, and the blurry lines between personal relationships and research participation often inherent in ethnographic fieldwork. This study is intended to help provide some clarity and potential support for other researchers who are at the start of their fieldwork practices.

Author(s): *Holly Katherine Campbell, University of Regina*

## **5. The Politics of Gender Identity in Qualitative Research**

Despite the availability of abundant literature from white female sociologists and anthropologists that highlight gender barriers that they face in undertaking fieldwork in developing countries, there is a dearth of studies that demonstrates the challenges facing men in the processes of negotiating identity and interacting with female research participants. This article elucidates how complex gender identity negotiations are played out in fieldwork process. Drawing on a recent experience of fieldwork undertaken in Southern Ethiopia, the paper elucidates how fieldwork serves as a space of complex interaction through which male researcher's gender identity and that of female research participants' interests are intersected, conflicted, collaborated and negotiated. Supporting the argument for situated knowledge, the article demonstrates how the conceptualization and understanding of

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gender identity influences the manner of communication as well as the nature and quality of information generated in research processes.

Author(s): *Esayas Geleta, Douglas College*

### Qualitative Research Methods in Practice II: Case Studies used to Explore, Identify and Evaluate Social Phenomena

Session Code: APS1B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Applied Sociology

This session presents findings from qualitative research in diverse areas of sociological study.

Organizer(s): *Sara Cumming, Sheridan College*

Presentations:

#### **1. Behind the Lines - Voices of the Toronto Community Police**

As part of a large-scale evaluation of the Neighbourhood Community Officer Program of the Toronto Police Service, two rounds of focus groups were conducted a year apart, in 2019 and 2020. These focus groups consisted of forty Neighbourhood Community Officers. This paper will outline the voices from the behind-the-line officers. Giving an insight into their views of how the overall police culture and the demands of the community place them in a dichotomous and often conflicting role. They are pulled between the overarching police culture of being a “real” police officer whose main role is fighting crime, and being an active member of the high risk communities in which they serve.

Author(s): *Alyssa Ferns, Algonquin College; Doug Thomson, Humber College*

#### **2. Transitioning Beyond Academia: Examining the Career Preparedness of Social Science PhDs**

Recent media reports acknowledge the increasing involvement of PhDs in employment sectors beyond academia. However, institutional perceptions of careers beyond academia for social science PhDs, and graduates' preparedness to pursue careers in these sectors, is uncertain. The current paper draws on new institutional theory's concepts of normative isomorphism, inertia, and ceremonial compliance to inform these perspectives. To determine social science PhDs career preparedness, this research aims to determine: (1) Whether career opportunities presented and promoted to social science PhDs have evolved alongside market demand; and (2) Whether social science PhDs feel their program prepared them for versatile career pathways upon graduation. Drawing on 28 interviews with PhDs from 5 social science disciplines, the results suggest that departments are largely isomorphic in nature, focusing heavily on their graduates pursuing an academic appointment. While institutions have introduced additional professional development initiatives, changes appear superficial at least in part, as many respondents did not feel they had a meaningful impact on their career preparation. To resolve these concerns, some participants reflected on the value associated with internship opportunities offered during the PhD program.

Author(s): *Brittany Etmanski, University of Waterloo*

#### **3. Queerly faithful: A queer-poet community autoethnography on identity and belonging in Christian faith communities**

The Queerly Faithful Project aimed to explore five LGBTQI+ Christians' experiences of belonging and identity in faith community. Qualitative research projects such as this that aim to collect and analyze data relating to sensitive topics amongst vulnerable communities require creative approaches that elevate the dignity of participants and provide pragmatic knowledge transfer mediums that positively impact the communities involved. With this aim in mind, the Queerly Faithful Project utilized community autoethnography, talking circles, participant-produced poems, reflective poetry, and zine-making to explore these experiences and produce an activist tool for use in the participant's communities. The project results include a thematic analysis of textual data and transcripts, as well as a poetry and artwork compilation in the form of a zine. Participant contributions and transcripts revealed the inadequacy of many traditional identity development models to account for the synergetic relationship between sexual and religious identities beyond reductive integration. The project successfully contributes to academic



discourse surrounding the intersections of sexuality and religion while producing a practical activist tool and developing community amongst the project participants.

Author(s): *Eric James Van Giessen, York University*

#### **4. Disclosure of People Living with HIV/AIDS: To Whom, Why and Why Not?**

Though improvements have been made in detecting HIV/AIDS over the last decade, the disclosure of HIV status still remains a complicated task for people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHAs) due to the sensitive nature of the disease. This study sought to understand the dilemma of PLWHAs regarding whether or not to disclose their health status, whom to disclose it to, and to what extent. Through qualitative interviews with 30 PLWHAs in Bangladesh, this study shows that HIV/AIDS is a restricting experience due to various factors including social and economic conditions for PLWHAs, culturally sensitive point of view, unbalanced gender roles and power differentials. This study found that PLWHAs selectively disclosed their identity to their family members, friends and relatives but all were disclosed to health professionals for getting treatment. The findings indicate that the decisions regarding their disease identity were motivated by several factors, e.g., question to authenticity, stigma, cultural taboo, religious morality and social exclusion. The research participants also indicated that HIV/AIDS disclosure has consequences for their personal identities, and the fatigue and stigma that they often experience can cause disruption to their normal life activities and social life. The findings of this research should be of benefit in ascertaining better understanding of the disclosure pattern of PLWHAs and to provide a more culturally appropriate disclosure strategy for prevention and treatment services and de-stigmatizing HIV in Bangladesh.

Author(s): *Sifat E Sultana, University of Saskatchewan*

#### **5. Exploring The Effect of Maternal Heroin Use: A Single-Case Study On Long-Term Neonatal Learning Outcomes**

Heroin has become one of most used opioid drugs by pregnant women, becoming an increasing concern to obstetricians. Heroin abuse has major social and medical implications and in pregnancy, it has adverse effect on the mother, the fetus and the new-born child. Children who are exposed to maternal heroin use reveal a delay in cognitive function at 3 years of age, lower verbal ability, reading and math skills, and delayed acquisition of motor milestones. Preliminary evidence suggests an association with prenatal heroin exposure and compromised memory performance and academic achievement in adolescence. Several brain regions are altered due to maternal heroin use such as the hippocampus, amygdala and frontal cortex resulting in possible functional deficits in memory, learning and executive functioning that can last a lifetime. Numerous studies, including large longitudinal studies, have explored the effects of maternal exposure to drugs and alcohol on children's development. However, despite this research, there is currently only a paucity of research on opioid exposure (i.e. heroin) during pregnancy. The current study explores the relationship of maternal heroin use on neonatal learning development and outcomes. These documents provided me with significant information on a variety of learning skills and work habits such as areas of Responsibility, Independent Work, Initiative, Organization, Collaboration and Self-Regulation as well as information on subject areas including Language, French, Mathematics, Science and Technology, Social Studies, Health and Physical Education and The Arts. The results suggest an evident negative effect of maternal heroin use on cognitive development but limited long-term effect due to early adoption and support systems. Overall, the results can influence adoptive parents, foster homes and any environments that a child who was prenatally exposed to heroin has now been situated in. There is a significant gap in literature on maternal heroin exposure that needs to be addressed, and these findings fill that gap.

Author(s): *Jake Maiuri, Brock University*

### **Applied Sociology Using Quantitative Methods: Reflecting on Data and Measures**

Session Code: APS2A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Applied Sociology

This session will address new approaches to data and measures with respect to quantitative methods in applied sociological research.

Organizer(s): *Kristyn Frank, Statistics Canada; Sara Cumming, Sheridan College*

Presentations:

**1. Widening Access to Statics Canada Masterfile data: The Research Initiative on Education + Skills (RIES)**

The University of Toronto has partnered with the Federal Government of Canada to implement an innovative and collaborative policy research initiative, the Research Initiative on Education and Skills (RIES). The objective of the RIES is to access, analyze and mobilize large scale data relating to the education, skills, and labour market outcomes of Canadians. At its core, the RIES is a collaborative initiative involving several partners and is designed to make Masterfile Statistics Canada data accessible to a wide range of researchers and to increase the return on investments already made in large scale data collection. The lasting goal of the initiative is to build infrastructure and capacity to ensure a continued impact. Products from this endeavor are intended to inform policy development, and the RIES provides an opportunity to bridge knowledge transfer between academics, policymakers, practitioners in the education and skills space, and the wider Canadian public.

Author(s): *Brad Seward, University of Toronto; Elizabeth Dhuey, University of Toronto*

**2. Informing on inclusion: A conceptual framework to enhance the relevance and usability of the ethnocultural statistical information disseminated at Statistics Canada**

In 2019, the Government of Canada has launched a new Anti-racism Strategy with the explicit mandate “to ensure that data is collected to measure how effective community programs and government initiatives are, and where the most impact is achieved”. Monitoring and assessing progress in inclusion of ethnic minority groups necessitate the use of robust, well-defined indicators structured in a way that render the multifaceted aspect of this complex social process. Without any clear operational definition or conceptual framework, researchers, policy makers and other social actors are left with a myriad of possible indicators, all of which are having their own strengths and limitations. Often presented as piecemeal information, it becomes hard to translate these into comprehensive measures and policies that impact the life of Canadians. With the aim to remediate to this lack of commonly shared statistical indicators to measure and monitor inclusion of ethnic minority groups overtime, Statistics Canada is in the process of developping a new framework. In this presentation I will share a working version of the proposed framework with the intent of collecting feed-back from the audience on its relevance and usability before it gets finalised and officially released.

Author(s): *Laetitia Martin, Statistics Canada*

**3. Cultural Frame Switching in the Defence Workplace Well-Being Survey**

Cultural Frame Switching (CFS) refers to the process through which individuals who master a second language begin to adopt the values and beliefs of the culture associated with their second language (Zavala-Rojas, 2018). It has been well-established that language is a carrier of culture (Cohen, 2009; Oysterman and Lee, 2008), and two or more cultural groups may provide significantly different answers even when the translations are good and groups of respondents are similar (e.g., Bond and Yang, 1982). Using validated scales that measure key factors known to influence well-being (e.g., work-family conflict, job stress) as well as outcomes (e.g., psychological distress, turnover intentions), this paper examines the nature of CFS that occurs among French-speaking respondents who answered questions from the Defence Workplace Well-Being Survey (DWWS) in English by comparing them to respondents who filled out the survey in their First Official Language. The DWWS was sent to 43,387 members of the Canadian Armed Forces/Department of National Defence (CAF/DND) Defence Team, which includes Regular Force, Primary Reserve, and civilian personnel. There were 13,112 usable responses (32% response rate). Of the 3,626 respondents who identified French as their first official language, 1,280 (35%) elected to do the survey in English.

Author(s): *Stefan Wolejszo, Department of National Defence*

**4. Best Practices for Measuring Community Characteristics across Canada: A Comparison of Coding Classifications for the DMTI Estimated Points of Interest Dataset**

Researchers are continually seeking more effective and efficient measures of geographical context. Community scholars - in particular - are tasked with finding data to best capture the impact of residential services, physical resources, and social institutions on individual outcomes. One outlet for such data is DMTI Spatial Enhanced Points of Interest Dataset (EPOI). The EPOI file is a national repository of over one million Canadian businesses and recreational points of interest. The database is generated through CanMap Streetfiles (digital map data), which includes geocodes of each points precise location. The data points include everything from healthcare facilities and education resources to shopping centres and golf courses. Each service, business, or resource in the EPOI database is assigned to a respective category using Standard Industrial Classification codes (SIC). In 1997 these

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codes were updated to a new scheme: The North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS), although both are still used. It is not clear, however, which is the more reliable coding criteria: Preliminary checks of EPOI's in select Canadian regions underscore wide discrepancies between SIC and NAICS codes. Further examination of the data also highlights inconsistencies in measured versus observed points of interest, depending on classification type and coding scheme. The main challenge for researchers interested in using these data is that few studies address these discrepancies or compare SIC versus NAICS coding schemes. Our study helps identify these inconsistencies and answer questions related to which codes work best using several regions from Canada as case studies. Our claims are supported by data checks comparing SIC and NAICS codes by point with publicly available data from other regional sources (i.e., municipality, provincial, google maps, etc.). We conclude our paper by offering a "best practices" guide for using EPOI data based on SIC versus NAICS coding across various points of interest in Canada.

Author(s): *Marisa Young, McMaster University; Sean Leipe, McMaster University; James Watson, McMaster University*

### Applied Sociology Using Quantitative Methods: Studies on Education, Health and Migration

Session Code: APS2B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Applied Sociology

Presenters in this session will discuss their applied research on issues related to the sociology of education, health and migration.

Organizer(s): *Kristyn Frank, Statistics Canada; Sara Cumming, Sheridan College*

Presentations:

#### **1. Exploring the Ethnic Immigrant Inflows from Latin America to Canada 1981-2016**

Using 2016 census data, the study carried out five socio-demographic explorations of 25 ethnic immigrant inflows from Latin America to Canada occurring between 1981 and 2016. The population represented by these inflows comprised approximately 470 thousand immigrants. The data was drawn from two special 2016 census tables which collected information on immigrants admission categories (economic, family and refugee) and their reported ethnic ancestries. Explorations focused on the following aspects: census counts and periods of arrival, residential preferences, admission class mix, population configurations and human capital attainment profiles. Five main historical immigrant waves had been already been identified by Canadian scholars: Lead or EuroLatino, Andean, Coup, Central American and Technological or Professional. Evidence of the presence of these immigrant waves were found in the census data explorations undertaken. Census figures revealed that the largest ethnic immigrant inflow corresponded to those reporting Spanish ancestry (158 thousand or 34% of the total) followed by the Colombian, Mexican, Salvadoran and Peruvian ones. Residential concentrations in the provinces of Ontario and Quebec were also detected. Explorations suggest that "Latino" communities in Canada are emerging as the demographic product of a mixture of admission classes which are uniquely distributed in age-gender cohorts of their respective population configurations. Human capital attainment explorations revealed that inflow members of the working populations corresponding to the fifth technological or professional wave from countries such as Venezuela, Mexico, Brazil and Colombia ranked at top levels of educational and income achievements, those admitted as economic class in particular. The study of Latin American ethnic inflows to Canada is specially relevant for social policy because it represents a "collective" case study where the researcher is able to summarize a complex immigration picture through the examination of geographical region representing a sample of units which ensures maximum variation in terms of several push-pull migratory factors at work.

Author(s): *Fernando Mata, University of Ottawa*

#### **2. Double advantage: Intra-school socioeconomic heterogeneity in primary education in America and Scandinavia**

It is well established for a wide range of countries and welfare state types that children with high socioeconomic status (SES) do better in school than their peers. However, it is less documented how this academic achievement gap emerges and develops throughout school and whether its patterns differ by SES group. In this paper we use data from the U.S. and Denmark and present three findings: (1) There are substantial socioeconomic differences

in academic achievement, (2) even among the top performers, high-SES students are more likely than low-SES students to retain their top position, and (3) these patterns do not differ substantially between the U.S. and Denmark, despite the considerable differences in school systems, welfare state policies, and overall inequality between the two countries.

Author(s): *Anders Holm, Western University; Anders Hjorth-Trolle, The Rockwool Foundation*

### **3. Computing an index of student's socioeconomic status through Item-Response Theory models: potentialities and limitations**

Measures of family socioeconomic level are exceedingly important contextual indicators for the investigation of the inequalities in access, trajectory and learning of primary and secondary-school students. To feed this debate, this paper presents a methodological reflection on a socioeconomic status index of young applicants at the Brazil's National High School Exam (acronymed in Portuguese as Enem), providing details on the creative process and the technical procedures for generating a synthetic measure of individuals' social position. To do so, we used Enem's databases from 2011 to 2017 to construct an indicator that synthesizes information about family income, household goods and parental schooling, through the Samejima's graded-response model from Item Response Theory (IRT). Subsequently, the research explores a set of validations of the indicator, as well as exemplifies potential applications and limitations. Knowing that the construction of numerical measures in social sciences requires the explanation of the theoretical and conceptual schemata that inform the analysis, the presentation will primarily entertain the articulation between a theoretical-abstract framework and an operational-empirical one for the study of social stratification and educational inequality.

Author(s): *Adriano Souza Senkevics, University of Sao Paulo; Gabriela Thamara de Freitas Barros, National Institute for Educational Studies and Research; Adolfo Samuel de Oliveira, National Institute for Educational Studies and Research; Adriano Ferreti Borgatto, Federal University of Santa Catarina*

### **4. Family income and self-rated health in Canada: Using fixed effects models to control for unobserved confounders and investigate causal temporality**

The objective of this study was to determine whether the association between family income and adult self-rated health in Canada is causal in nature. The data came from the 2012, 2014 and 2016 waves of the Longitudinal and International Study of Adults linked to current and historical family income data from the Canada Revenue Agency. We used fixed effects OLS regression models to depict associations between changes in self-rated health from 2012 to 2016 and changes in family income from 2011 to 2015, 2008 to 2010, 2005 to 2008, 2002 to 2004 and 1999 to 2001. Interestingly, an increase in education was associated with a contemporaneous improvement in self-rated health for men and becoming married or common-law corresponded to a decline in self-rated health five years later for women. In regards to family income, we identified a small positive effect of family income on self-rated health operative over twelve years or so, but for men only. We also identified a small negative effect of family income on self-rated health operative over fifteen years or so, but for women only. These weak associations between family income and self-rated health are likely causal in nature. These findings make an important contribution to a national context where nearly all previous research linking income to self-rated health is cross-sectional in nature and therefore incapable of establishing causality. In addition, the implementation of lagged models where changes in income preceded changes in self-rated health by as much as sixteen years offers some assurance that family income has a causal effect on self-rated health rather than the other way round. The effects of family income on self-rated health in Canada may not be strong but apparently they do exist.

Author(s): *Gerry Veenstra, University of British Columbia; Adam Vanzella-Yang, University of British Columbia*

### **5. Feeding Patterns and Diarrhea Incidence Among Children in Bangladesh: A Study Using Data from Demographic and Health Survey, 2014**

Diarrhea is considered to be one of the influential factors of child death in Bangladesh. While it is known that diarrhea is a water-driven disease, due to the lack studies a little is known about the extent to which various feeding patterns contribute to such an incidence. Our paper intends to fill this gap by looking into different feeding patterns and their influence on the diarrhea incidence among children in Bangladesh. Using data collected for the Demographic and Health Survey, 2014, this paper reveals that feeding patterns can influence the diarrhea incidence among this group of children to a great extent. This paper finds that the incidence of diarrhea is likely to elevate if diarrhea affected children are fed plain water from any source and any kind of juice. However, breast feeding, feeding soup or clear broth, prescribed baby food, and clean water from tube well tend to be help fight diarrhea incidence among children in Bangladesh. The results are found to be consistent even after controlling for sociodemographic variables including age and sex of children, age and education qualification of parent and

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number of children in the family. The results of this study could contribute to treat diarrhea among children in Bangladesh as well as similar other countries in the world.

Author(s): *Iqbal Ahmed Chowdhury, Dalhousie University; Mohammad Mojammel Hussain Raihan, University of Calgary*

### Applied Sociology and Diversity I: Intersectionality and Marginalized Populations

Session Code: APS4A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Applied Sociology

This session explores intersectionality and marginalized identities. Papers investigate the intersection of gender and religion, age and sexuality, sexuality and religion, and sexuality and ethnicity.

Organizer(s): *Sara Cumming, Sheridan College*

Presentations:

#### **1. Enhancing the quality of care for older LGBTQ persons: Development of a research-based film**

Many older LGBTQ adults avoid using formal home care services for fear of encountering discrimination and disrespect from providers. This is concerning, since home care services play an important role in maintaining and strengthening the mental health and resilience of older adults through positive human contact and direct help with activities of daily living. Home care providers may lack awareness of the unique needs of LGBTQ2IS persons and hold stigma regarding sexual and gender diversity in later life. In part, this is due to gaps in the formal education and training of providers regarding health issues and needs of LGBTQ2IS persons. Research-based film is particularly effective for health education and practice change as this arts-based approach to knowledge translation nurtures empathy and supports transformative learning, both of which are crucial for shifting deeply held beliefs and values. In collaboration with community partners we have developed a short research-based film - *Out at Home* - to enhance the capacity of home care providers to provide culturally appropriate and sensitive care for LGBTQ2IS older adults. Our film combines documentary footage of interviews with LGBTQ2IS older adults and advocates, as well as dramatized vignettes based on research to model examples of how to provide quality care to LGBTQ2IS older adults in the context of common home care interactions. In this paper we will explore the development of this film and demonstrate its potential for reducing stigma and improving gaps in knowledge regarding LGBTQ2IS older adults in home care services.

Author(s): *Alisa Grigorovich, Toronto Rehab Institute - UHN; Siobhan M. Churchill, Western University; Jess Boule, Guelph University*

#### **2. Black Canadian Muslims: Gendered Differences in Experiences of Discrimination and Civic Participation**

The diversity within the Canadian Muslim population needs to be addressed. By focusing on the experiences of black Canadian Muslims, this presentation demonstrates the unique experiences of minorities within minority groups, and how these experiences are masked when collapsing the group together. Specifically, I highlight the variance in experiences by intersecting identities for outcomes of discrimination as well as participation in voting, civic engagement, and religiosity. This presentation is based on a collaborative report created in response to Canadian Muslim community organizations concerns about Muslims in Canada.

Author(s): *Sarah Shah, University of Toronto*

#### **3. Working with Diversity: LGBTQ Muslims**

Over the last decade in Canada, a LGBTQ Muslim intersectionality has gained some visibility in social science research, yet, remains largely ignored within normative LGBTQ communities in the arenas of program and service provision. There especially exists a gap concerning how to best support LGBTQ Muslim and their families within the scope of the helping professions, social work practice as it relates to service provision and programming. This presentation will focus on the many hegemonic discourses that construct and influence the lives and identities of LGBTQ Muslims. An overview of the existing research on sexually and gender diverse Muslims in the global North will be outlined. This will highlight some key issues facing LGBTQ Muslims as these relate to sexuality, religiosity,

gender identity and expression, families of origin, racism, and Islamophobia. Emphasis will be placed on exploring Rahman's concept of homocolonialism which offers nuanced understandings of gender and sexuality, LGBTQ rights in the global North, Islamophobia and conservative Muslim intolerance for LGBTQ rights. The presentation will argue that the three aforementioned aspects of homo-colonialism triangulate and can invisibilize LGBTQ Muslim sexualities as their identities, and lived experiences transcend hegemonic norms found in both LGBTQ and Muslim communities. In order to address the service gaps, focus will be placed on affirmation of a LGBTQ Muslim intersectionality, critical self reflexivity, and decolonization of gender and sexuality, coming out and performing of LGBTQ lives and identities.

Author(s): *Maryam Khan, Wilfrid Laurier University*

#### **4. Doing Difference, Not Diversity: LGBTQ-Muslims in the Queer mainstream**

This paper interrogates the effectiveness of diversity and inclusion models for minority groups within LGBTQ institutions. I draw on two-years ethnographic research and a total of 44 interviews with leaders of both LGBTQ-Muslim organizations and mainstream LGBTQ organizations in Toronto, Canada; I also examine the historical records of several LGBTQ groups from the Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives (CLGA). The article analyzes the inclusion of LGBTQ-Muslims in LGBTQ organizations, looking at how such organizations have responded to the increasing ethnic/racial diversity reflected in queer and trans communities. The archival data reveal a historical exclusion of BIPOC (Black Indigenous and People of Color) populations from LGBTQ groups; coupled with the interview findings, I show that while many mainstream queer organizations endorse diversity and inclusion as primary mandates, BIPOC community members, such as LGBTQ-Muslims, feel fundamentally excluded and underrepresented by them. The paper therefore critiques 'diversity and inclusion' as a mandate that, while consistently articulated as one of the most urgent priorities of 'progressive' institutions, often neglects those it seeks to include. The institutional practice of diversity is hence evaluated through the narratives of those occluded by it.

Author(s): *Golshan Golriz, McGill University*

#### **5. A Rainbow That Cannot See Colour: Understanding the Invisibilization of Queer South Asian Women in Pride Toronto**

This paper seeks to elucidate the inner workings of Pride Toronto, as well as explicate the underlying meanings and thought processes of dominant actors therein, in order to understand how power operates to culturally reproduce and justify the structurally-ingrained mechanisms which invisibilize Queer South Asian Women (QSAW). Using a critical ethnographic approach, this paper delves beneath the surface to uncover the internal power dynamics, flawed knowledge acquisition processes, and performative efforts towards diversity and inclusion, which persistently render QSAW invisible. This paper finds that people in positions of power within Pride Toronto culturally reproduce the mechanisms by which QSAW are invisibilized, and minimize their individual agency by shifting the responsibility for exclusion onto the organization, which allows the invisibilizing practices to persist and become justified. It further finds that Pride Toronto actively exert an ongoing colonial control of South Asian bodies, which maintains their position outside of queer belongingness.

Author(s): *Sonali Patel, University of Ottawa*

### **Applied Sociology and Diversity II: Exploring Community and Sense of Belonging**

Session Code: APS4B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Applied Sociology

This session explores issues of diversity, eliminating bias, building sense of belonging and inclusive practices.

Organizer(s): *Sara Cumming, Sheridan College*

Presentations:

#### **1. When curiosity sends the wrong message: exploring therapist biases**

Our current political climate in the Global North has swung drastically to right. We see increasing conservatism in the United States, Canada, and Western Europe. Therapists, researchers and educators who work with LGBTQ+ and racialized communities cannot ignore the political context in which our clients and service users are seeking



mental health support. This presentation is an opportunity for those who work with marginalized groups to explore how structural power enters the transactional relationship and to consider specific ways that our biases can show up in our work. Learning outcomes: 1. Review anti-oppression theory and connect it to our day-to-day work; 2. Examine case scenarios and observer "curiosities" that can carry potentially harmful subtexts; 3. Explore examples of racist, homonegative, and ableist biases that commonly show up in therapy (and perhaps in other contexts); 4. Discuss intervention considerations for leading a more self-aware practice

Author(s): *Rahim S. Thawer, Affective Consulting & Psychotherapy Services*

## **2. An evaluation of the Toronto Police Service Neighbourhood Community Officer Program**

In 2019 the Toronto Police Service adapted their Neighbourhood Community Policing program based on the results of prior academic research. The changes were made to make the officers more visible, trained and autonomous and new officers were placed into specific high risk neighbourhoods across the city. Humber College was asked to assist in providing an independent evaluation of the new program as the model was planned to become standard across the city. This presentation will provide the results of the quantitative and qualitative evaluation of the enhanced model. Drawing from community surveys as well as surveys and focus groups of the Neighbourhood Community Officers, the research shows the positive impact that this style of policing is having for communities as well as the officers themselves.

Author(s): *Doug Thomson, Humber College; Joanna Amirault, Humber College; Alyssa Ferns, Algonquin College*

## **3. "If you're gonna work with Black communities, you have to consider these things better!"**

In an age of evidence-driven program evaluation, community-based organizations are challenged to source knowledges that are reflective of their Black clients' everyday lives and contexts in order to advocate for funding for programs and policies which are effective. Yet, these community-based organizations, which often lack the institutional capacity to execute such research projects, are also cautious about navigating potentially exploitative relationships with academics. Our research team -consisting of one White Canadian female professor and a Black Caribbean immigrant PhD student (now postdoctoral fellow) -have engaged in a two- year research project on young black motherhood. Aiming to create a research process that is inclusive and social-justice-oriented, we fostered a working group with a young Black mother and the clinical staff of the Afrocentric community health centre, TAIBU, in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). Together, we designed and conducted research, using narrative and visual approaches, with 15 Black mothers aged 17-29 in the GTA. This presentation details some of our Afrocentric, feminist, and decolonial approaches to collaborative community research. We discuss our process of building the team; the strategies we employed to acknowledge and navigate challenges inherent in university-Black community research collaborations; the steps we took to recognize and respond to issues of privilege and power; and some key lessons we have learnt about building inclusive and equitable research collaborations.

Author(s): *Sadie Goddard-Durant, Brock University; Andrea Doucet, Brock University; Kimberley Moore, TAIBU Community Health Centre; Jane-Ann Sieunarine, TAIBU Community Health Centre; Princilia Bobwa, TAIBU Community Health Centre*

## **4. 'I've caught the MMA bug!': Experiences of young girls in a mixed-gender/martial arts after school program**

This urban ethnography explores how a group of female youth negotiated a sport-for-development program centred upon the traditionally masculine pastime of mixed martial arts (MMA). The setting is a non-profit youth centre offering free after-school programming for 'at risk' youth aged 11-18years. Since 2018, a comprehensive MMA program has been offered as part of the centre's broader social mission to provide a safe and inclusive space for youth, while deterring more 'deviant' forms of leisure. One trend we have witnessed is the sheer dedication of female youth, who regularly call-out the boys for lacking in intensity and commitment. Our study, thus, raises important questions about the role(s) this MMA program plays in the lives of female youths; the internal gender dynamics of sport-for-development programming; and about the tensions and contradictions embodied by female youth with respect to their class, race, and gendered identities. In so doing, we highlight the voices of an often-overlooked youth population who - with their fists, feet, elbows, and soul - regularly disrupt the problem/victim couplet (Gilroy, 1987) that has effectively enveloped the public's perception of their community.

Author(s): *Emma Balazs, McGill University; Jordan Koch, McGill University*

## **5. The Experiences of Adolescent Female Syrian Refugees in Canada**

Recognition of growing diversity in Canada, including the resettlement of Syrian war refugees following the start of armed conflict in 2011, means that numerous social service sectors are assessing new needs and

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accommodations for clients. Research that bridges the gap between applied and conventional academic sociology is crucial to not only inform best practices for serving diverse communities like Syrian newcomers but to shift paradigmatic approaches to questions concerning immigrant integration in the academic literature. This paper shares data from rise (refugee integration, stress, and equity) team at the university of Toronto, a cross-generational interview study that involves Syrian newcomer mothers and their teenage children in the peel and Toronto regions of southern Ontario. Specifically, the paper will describe and compare the experiences of Syrian newcomer girls between the ages of 13-19 across two waves of data collection in 2019 and 2020. In doing so, the presentation will look into youths' degree of integration into schools and society at large; their future goals and ambitions; how they participate in the larger community; their ties to their home country as well as how they maintain ties in Canada; and their present-day challenges, accomplishments, and stressors.

Author(s): *Fatema Isam, University of Toronto; Fatima Al Saadie, University of Toronto*

### Navigating the non-academic job market as an Applied Sociologist

Session Code: APS5

Research Cluster Affiliation: Applied Sociology

Graduate training helps students develop skills and competencies that can be applied in non-academic work-setting, however, students often have little awareness around how to leverage their training in the job market. This panel features sociologists working in a range of careers outside of academia. Panelists will discuss how they identified career paths that allowed them to apply their skills and interests, explain how to write a resume selling academic skills to the market, and offer other suggestions and possible resources to help with the job search. Following their presentations, panelists will take questions from the audience. This panel is co-sponsored by the Applied Sociology Research Cluster and Student Concerns Subcommittee.

Organizer(s): *Kristyn Frank, Statistics Canada; Awish Aslam, Western University; Emma Kay, Dalhousie University; Nicole Malette, University of British Columbia*

Panelists:

- Andrea Dean, Organizational Development Consultant and PhD Candidate, Western University
- Christine Pich, Graduate Career Transitions Mentor, Carleton University
- Animwaa Obeng-Akrofi, Community Outreach Advisor, Calgary Catholic Immigration Society and PhD student, University of Calgary
- Shane Dixon, Senior Research Associate, Centre for Research on Security Practices, Wilfrid Laurier University

### Quantitative research in Canadian inequality

Session Code: APS6

Research Cluster Affiliation: Applied Sociology; Social Policy and Social Equality

Many different inequalities persist in Canadian society. The aim of this session is to assemble and showcase leading research on inequalities that has been done in full or in part in the Statistics Canada RDCs (Research Data Centres).

Organizer(s): *Grant Gibson, Canadian Research Data Centre Network; Charles Plante, University of Saskatchewan*  
Presentations:

#### **1. Awareness and usage of Canada's Food Guide: A comparison of recent and established immigrants to native-born Canadians in Ontario.**

As part of Canada's vision for a healthier population, reducing the risk of nutrition-related chronic diseases by disseminating healthy eating messages through Canada's Food Guide has been considered as one of the priorities of Canadian public health strategies. This mixed-method study discusses the limitations of such an individualistic approach and how it neglects the role of underlying structural inequalities that may influence people's

opportunities for healthy eating. More consideration is needed regarding how social context may influence food choices and eating practices. A mixed-method is employed, with the following two objectives. First, by analyzing data from the 2015 Canadian Community Health Survey, this study examines the awareness and usage of Canada's Food Guide among Canadian adults in Ontario, comparing how immigrants, both recent and established, differ from native-born Canadians. Second, I draw on qualitative data from 45 in-depth interviews with recent immigrants and international students to further explore their general experiences in accessing and using Canada's Food Guide. This article also identifies several notable policy implications to be considered for more inclusive and equitable future public health strategies on healthy eating -to better address the specific needs of the immigrant population in Canada.

Author(s): *Eugena Kwon, Saint Mary's University*

## **2. (Mis)match between intended and actual occupation of immigrants in Canada's labour market: Using the O\*Net database and RDC linkages**

This research project uses a linkage between the International Migration Database (IMDB) and the Longitudinal and International Study of Adults (LISA) to examine and measure the occupational (mis)match of immigrants in Canada over time. We examine the extent of the (mis)match between intended and actual occupation of immigrants in Canada's labour market, and whether it decreases over time for different categories of immigrants. We find a significant association between elapsed time since arrival and the probability of a match between the intended occupation (as reported in the landing file of IMDB) and the occupation held during the year of observation (as reported in the survey data). Our paper uniquely characterizes and models this mismatch and its change over time by developing a measure of fit between the intended and actual occupation based on occupational task content data. This occupation-level data is obtained by using a crosswalk between the US O\*Net database and the Canadian National Occupational Classification (NOC). This allows us to develop a continuous measure of distance between intended and actual occupational skills rather than categorical measures of job (mis)match that may not capture the severity of an eventual mismatch. Further, our analysis looks at disparities in this occupational mismatch that are tied to gender and race.

Author(s): *Naomi Lightman, University of Calgary; Xavier St.-Denis, University of Toronto*

## **3. Contextualizing Cancer: Does Neighbourhood Ethnic Density Protect Immigrants from Cancer?**

Canadian immigrants are less likely to be diagnosed with cancer than their Canadian-born counterparts - especially those coming from developed countries (Cheung et al. 2017; McDonald et al. 2017). Despite this research puzzle, the mechanisms protecting immigrants from cancer remain unknown. This paper investigates the role of neighbourhood ethnic density in explaining cancer incidences among immigrants and non-immigrants. Neighbourhoods with a high proportion of ethnic minorities tend to be deprived of health-promoting economic resources; however, the psychosocial benefits of ethnically homophilous ties might counteract the noxious conditions of ethnic neighbourhoods (Macintyre et al. 2002). Ethnic density is operationalized as the proportion of co-ethnic residents within the census tract. Immigrants living in neighbourhoods with high co-ethnic density have higher self-rated health and lower rates of death due to cardiovascular disease and heart disease (Pickett and Wilkinson 2008). Could the protective effects of a co-ethnic neighbourhood extend to cancer outcomes? To answer this question, I use multilevel regression models to analyze the 1991 Canadian Census Health and Environment Cohort (CanCHEC). The CanCHEC is a Canadian population-based dataset that links the Census to tax files, along with mortality and cancer registries. Contextual information of neighbourhoods is derived from the 1996, 2001, and 2006 Census. With longitudinal postal code information from the tax files, I assess how changes in co-ethnic density over time explain cancer rates of immigrants across ethnic groups.

Author(s): *Tina Luu Ly, Western University*

## **4. Changes in the socioeconomic situation of Canada's Black population, 2001 to 2016**

The presentation is based on a statistical project undertaken in the context of the International Decade for People of African Descent and examines the evolution of the socioeconomic situation of the Black population in Canada for the period 2001 to 2016. The presentation will highlight the key results related to labour market participation (employment and unemployment rate) and income of the adult population aged 25 to 59 years old. Black populations are compared with the rest of the Canadian population. The three censuses of 2001, 2006 and 2016 as well as the 2011 National Household Survey (NHS) were used for this study. Moreover, populations are stratified by sex and by generation (first, second and third+ generations). Results indicate that the Black population is not only diverse in their demographic characteristics, but also in their socioeconomic outcomes, with large differences by sex and by generation and clear interaction effects of these two characteristics on

socioeconomic outcomes. The evolution of their situation is also diversified. In total, two main conclusions emerge: Black men born in Canada (second and third+ generations) generally face a poorer situation in the labour market than the rest of the male population and their situation has not improved significantly over the years; the situation of first and second generation Black women, however, is closer to the situation of other women and has improved over the last decade.

Author(s): *René Houle, Statistics Canada; Hélène Maheux, Statistics Canada*

## La recherche sociologique en français: survol d'études théoriques et empiriques au Québec et chez les communautés francophones au Canada

Session Code: CAD1A

Theme: Canadian Sociology

Cette séance a pour objectif de créer un espace d'échanges en français pour des travaux théoriques et empiriques en sociologie traitant d'enjeux touchant la francophonie au Québec et chez les communautés francophones en situation minoritaire au Canada. Les présentations aborderont divers thèmes incluant les dynamiques sociales en milieu scolaire, les inégalités dans l'accès au marché du travail, la santé des communautés de langue officielle en milieu minoritaire et le rapport entre religion et migration interprovinciale. À la fin de la séance, les communications seront commentées afin de favoriser un échange.

Organizer(s): *Johanne Jean-Pierre, Ryerson University; Jean-François, University of Toronto*

Presentations:

### **1. Migrations interprovinciales et religions chez les francophones de l'Ontario et du Québec : portrait diachronique de flux migratoires en mutation (1971-2016)**

Cette présentation présente les résultats obtenus par l'un des volets de ma thèse de maîtrise en cours. Le projet, intitulé : (Im)migrations francophones au Canada : populations affluentes et déterminants religieux, m'a conduit à rendre compte des déterminants religieux des migrants francophones entre les provinces canadiennes. Lors de cette présentation, je souhaite y proposer une analyse – sensible de la dimension religieuse – des flux migratoires d'individus francophones entre le Québec et l'Ontario. En me servant des données de recensement (Statistique Canada, 1971 à 2016), je pose les questions suivantes : 1) Qu'est-ce qui caractérise, au niveau religieux, les francophones qui migrent entre le Québec et l'Ontario (ou inversement)? 2) Que pouvons-nous dire de leur appartenance religieuse relativement au contexte social, historique et politique en vigueur au moment du déplacement? Les données produites jusqu'à présent nous permettent d'affirmer que les individus appartenant à des minorités religieuses sont plus susceptibles de migrer à l'extérieur du Québec que les catholiques. Nous verrons alors que l'hypothèse selon laquelle « le Canada-français se perpétuerait grâce aux Québécois francophones (et catholique) nés au Canada » (Castonguay, 2012; Laniel, 2017) doit être relativisé et nuancé à lumière des mouvements migratoires interprovinciaux de la majorité Québécoise catholique francophone et de certaines communautés minoritaires très mobiles. Je tenterai alors de nuancer le portrait en montrant les compositions religieuses émergentes de ces flux. Le regard sera alors posé sur une série de données statistiques diachroniques originales qui éclairent les parcours migratoires d'individus appartenant à certaines communautés religieuses non traditionnellement canadiennes. Nous en proposerons une description et une explication relatives aux principales variables en jeu et au contexte sociopolitique en place.

Author(s): *Jacob Legault-Leclair, Université d'Ottawa*

### **2. Bilan qualitatif de la recherche sur la santé des communautés de langue officielle en situation minoritaire de 2009 à 2019**

Depuis 2003, le gouvernement fédéral a élaboré et mis en œuvre plusieurs plans d'action pour vivifier les deux langues officielles du Canada et soutenir plus spécifiquement les communautés de langue officielle en situation minoritaire, les francophones vivant à l'extérieur du Québec (CFSM) et les anglophones vivant au Québec (CASM). Ces plans d'action ont contribué à donner un essor substantiel à la recherche portant sur la santé des CLOSM, comme en font foi les recensions d'écrits portant sur la production scientifique sur la santé et les services sociaux. À titre d'exemple, Sauvageau (2018) a dénombré une soixantaine de publications sur les CFSM parues entre 1990

et 2001 et quelque 235 par la suite jusqu'en 2016. En premier lieu, nous proposons un cadre d'analyse de la recherche portant sur la santé des CLOSM permettant d'organiser et de faire état des connaissances. Puis, nous présenterons un bilan qualitatif de la recherche de la dernière décennie qui offre une vision sur les résultats de la recherche et des connaissances acquises portant sur les besoins en santé et les services sociaux et de santé offerts aux CLOSM. Ce bilan qualitatif a été effectué à partir d'un échantillon de 84 articles parus entre 2010 et 2019 d'un ensemble préliminaire de quelques 250 publications repérées par l'entremise de EBSCOhost et Google Scholar. A été exclue la recherche ne concernant pas les CLOSM. Vu l'importance accrue qu'ont prises les notions d'application, de transfert ou de mobilisation des connaissances, il nous apparaît utile de dresser un bilan qualitatif des connaissances qui se dégagent de la recherche pouvant d'une part, éclairer l'identification des axes prioritaires de recherche de manière systématique et d'autre part, mobiliser les connaissances acquises par les recherches afin de mieux répondre aux besoins et d'améliorer l'accès aux services des communautés linguistiques officielles en situation minoritaire.

Author(s): Louise Bouchard, Université d'Ottawa; Jacinthe Savard, Université d'Ottawa

### **3. Le sociologue dans la cité ou quand le chercheur devient médiateur : enjeux éthiques d'une enquête sur la discrimination ethnique à l'embauche à Québec**

Analysant les médiations inhérentes la méthode du testing – fondée sur la tromperie des employeurs pour contrer le biais de la désirabilité sociale, les enjeux de la restitution des résultats sont discutés. L'accent est mis sur le caractère collaboratif et conflictuel de la diffusion des données scientifiques avec divers publics, notamment dans les colloques et les médias. En transgressant deux principes propres la recherche en sciences sociales, nous avons tenté de prendre des décisions la fois pour maintenir le caractère anonyme de la recherche et favoriser le partage des résultats. Face aux défis et dilemmes rencontrés durant l'enquête, les chercheurs ont fait preuve de réflexivité afin de prendre les meilleures décisions pour concilier ces deux objectifs. Plus précisément, l'enquête examinait les effets de l'origine ethnique et du genre l'embauche dans la ville de Québec, région métropolitaine caractérisée par la récente hausse des crimes haineux, l'attentat à la Grande Mosquée de Québec en janvier 2017 et le contexte de la rareté de main-d'œuvre. Innovant avec une perspective intersectionnelle, celle-ci a permis de dévoiler la forte variation des inégalités rencontrées par les minorités racisées et l'existence d'une hiérarchie ethnique modérée par le genre féminin. Appuyée par de nombreuses statistiques très significatives, cette recherche a également influencé la tenue d'une étude de caractère scientifique dans une radio-publique de Québec.

Author(s): Jean-Philippe Beauregard, Université Laval

### **4. La discipline scolaire en question : regards des élèves immigrants et réfugiés**

Les élèves immigrants et réfugiés peuvent faire face à de multiples défis en milieu scolaire tels que l'apprentissage d'une nouvelle langue ou la difficulté de nouer de nouvelles amitiés. Cependant, les points de vue de ces élèves par rapport aux pratiques de discipline scolaire sont moins connus. Dans le cadre d'une étude bilingue qui visait à identifier les pratiques prometteuses non-punitives en matière de discipline scolaire dans trois centres urbains ontariens, les perspectives de jeunes et d'adultes francophones et anglophones ont été recueillies. Les données analysées proviennent d'entrevues effectuées auprès d'élèves du secondaire âgés de 16 à 19 ans ainsi que de groupes de discussion effectués auprès de parents, de bénévoles et de professionnels de l'immigration. Les résultats indiquent des similitudes et des différences entre les points de vue des élèves immigrants et réfugiés des écoles de langue française et celles des écoles de langue anglaise. Finalement, il est à noter que des participants francophones ont souligné un besoin criant de personnel non-enseignant qualifié pour soutenir le bien-être psycho-social et la santé mentale des élèves. Cette étude démontre l'importance de recueillir de multiples points de vue dans les études en éducation pour comprendre une question sociale, en incluant les voix des minorités de langue officielle et en privilégiant la voix des jeunes.

Author(s): Johanne Jean-Pierre, Ryerson University

## **La recherche sociologique en français: survol d'études théoriques et empiriques d'enjeux internationaux**

Session Code: CAD1B

Theme: Canadian Sociology

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Cette séance a pour objectif de créer un espace d'échanges en français pour des travaux théoriques et empiriques en sociologie traitant d'enjeux internationaux. Les présentations aborderont divers thèmes touchant l'inclusion, la radicalisation et les défis liés à la mobilité transnationale – dont la précarisation et les obstacles à la mobilité sociale. À la fin de la séance, les communications seront commentées afin de favoriser un échange.

Organizer(s): *Johanne Jean-Pierre, Ryerson University; Jean-François, University of Toronto*

Presentations:

### **1. Sur les traces des immigrantes Africaines ans la prostitution a Istanbul (Turquie)**

Si au niveau international on s'inquiète beaucoup de l'ampleur de l'immigration, la situation des immigrants (es) est bien plus inquiétant dans les pays de destinations, surtout pour les jeunes filles qui arrivent du continent africain et vivent dans la clandestinité. Le phénomène de la clandestinité des jeunes filles renforce davantage leur vulnérabilité dans certaine pratique telle que la prostitution et tous les effets corolaires qui peuvent compromettent leur insertion harmonieuse au sein de la société. En effet, la prostitution se considère comme un problème sans frontières qui affecte plusieurs sociétés et communautés dans le monde entier. En Turquie, le phénomène de la prostitution connaît des tracasseries depuis l'arrivée au pouvoir du gouvernement « Islamo-conservateur » actuel qui a adopté des mesures drastiques pour tenter de contenir le phénomène, mais il est constaté qu'il n'y a pas eu de véritable changements notables. Par ailleurs, quelques « nids de prostitutions » ont visiblement disparu mais le phénomène demeure sous d'autres apparences où seuls les « prosélytes » peuvent facilement se frayer le chemin des quelques endroits de prostitution qui continuent de résister aux manœuvres des autorités. C'est dans ce contexte que la présente étude vise à analyser les pratiques prostitutionnelles des immigrantes africaines à Istanbul, capitale économique de la Turquie. En nous appuyant sur la recherche-action, nous avons créé une stratégie de collecte de données destinée à amener les immigrantes africaines dans la prostitution à prendre la parole librement, tout en leur garantissant la confidentialité. La culture africaine étant influencée par la philosophie du communautarisme, la collecte des données sur le phénomène de la prostitution des immigrantes africaines a été caractérisée par une stratégie comportementale de l'enquêteur dont le récit de vie fût la technique principale de collecte de données. L'analyse des discours ainsi que les résultats des entretiens semi-directifs menés en amont et en aval avec les immigrantes africaines dans la prostitution nous ont permis de découvrir que l'idéologie culturelle de la sexualité, l'utilisation des technologies de l'information et de la communication, les tâches réalisées au quotidien renforcent les pratiques prostitutionnelles des immigrantes africaines à Istanbul.

Author(s): *Amara Keita, Bursa Uludag University*

### **2. Une analyse macrosociologique du domaine d'expertise de la radicalisation : la théorisation d'un réseau d'experts**

Dans cette présentation, on souhaite discuter de la partie théorique d'une recherche sur l'émergence du terme de radicalisation au début des années 2000 en Europe et en Amérique du Nord. Ce terme est apparu lorsque des gouvernements ont fait face au phénomène de la violence terroriste de type domestique. Il a mené à la constitution d'un nouveau domaine d'expertise à la croisée de la science et du politique. N'étant pas régie sous la forme d'une profession encadrée, la nature interstitielle de ce domaine rend difficile le travail de définition de notre objet d'étude. Une définition rigide pose le risque de mettre en exergue une série de pratiques en marge du domaine. Face à la sociologie traditionnelle des professions, on va défendre l'utilisation d'une théorie de l'expertise. Rassemblé sous des parcours et des formations différentes, le réseau d'expertise offre un angle d'analyse beaucoup plus large que celle de la sociologie des professions. En proposant une analyse du discours des experts, il est possible de proposer une démarcation conceptuelle sous l'angle de la théorie de l'expertise.

Author(s): *Gilbert McLaughlin, University of Ottawa*

### **3. Le " Prix " de l'Ascension Sociale chez des Descendants d'Immigrants Nord Africains en France**

L'expérience de la mobilité sociale a fait l'objet de nombreuses études sociologiques depuis les analyses menées par P. Bourdieu sur les « transfuges de classe ». Ces recherches ont notamment mis en évidence les « couts » de la mobilité : le sentiment de « décalage » que peuvent éprouver ces « transfuges de classe » dans des milieux célébrant les codes et les pratiques des classes dominantes. Doutes, perte de repères, humiliations peuvent ainsi découler de cette trajectoire ascensionnelle, et de l'expérience « d'habitus clivé » qui en résulte. A partir d'une quarantaine d'entretiens semi-structurés avec des immigrants nord-africains dits de « seconde génération » inscrits dans des établissements d'études supérieures d'élite en France, cette recherche intitulée « From the



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Margins to the Elite » et publiée prochainement chez Routledge, montre que l'expérience de ces individus, et en particulier, les « couts » associés à leur trajectoire de mobilité ascendante ne peuvent être capturés uniquement à partir d'une analyse en termes de classe sociale. Les récits recueillis révèlent en effet le processus de racialisation que les personnes interviewées subissent de façon genrée au sein de leurs institutions d'élite, accueillant majoritairement des étudiants issus de classes aisées et « blancs ». Beaucoup d'entre eux mettent en évidence le racisme ordinaire subi ainsi que des pratiques institutionnelles qui les excluent à partir des représentations stéréotypées de leurs origines ethnique et religieuse. Ainsi, une analyse s'inscrivant dans une perspective intersectionnelle est nécessaire afin de cerner les expériences de mobilité sociale des personnes interviewées. Le « prix » à payer pour réussir dans les milieux d'élite français résulte d'inégalités de classe et de race. De plus, le papier montre que les stratégies de résilience déployées par ces derniers reflètent également le double processus de minorisation qui est le leur.

Author(s): *Shirin Shahrokni, York University*

### Sociology of Canadian Sociology

Session Code: CAD2

Theme: Canadian Sociology

We feature research that contributes to the sociology of Canadian sociology whether the topic is the socio-political context of sociology in the past, the present, or the future. This includes biographical studies of individual sociologists; histories of departments, research centres, and professional associations of sociologists and like-minded social scientists. For many years, university administrations have required that departments undergo periodic reviews. However, the results of these self-examinations are rarely shared with the community of sociologists at other universities. For that reason, we also invited personal reflections about the possible futures of departments of sociology as their faculties respond to the restructuring of universities due to the neo-liberal constraints and opportunities now being imposed on the academy.

Organizer(s): *Stephen Harold Riggins, Memorial University; Neil McLaughlin, McMaster University*

Presentations:

#### **1. Is there a canon in Canadian Cultural Sociology?**

Canadian sociology rests on unique intellectual terrain, given the simultaneous political-economic and cultural influences of the U.K., U.S., and France. As a subfield, cultural sociology is likewise intellectually broad and widespread, its boundaries overlapping with many other subfields. Given these conditions -diverse intellectual influences and centrality within the broader field of sociology -we examine whether there is a canon in Canadian cultural sociology. To assess what Canadian sociologists deem canonical, we examine how cultural sociology is taught across Canada. We analyze cultural sociology syllabi (N=37), as well as survey data from instructors of cultural sociology in Canada (N=28). Our analysis of syllabi reveals wide variation with regard to the authors assigned in courses on cultural sociology. At the same time, the framing of authors with regard to the topics covered in syllabi, as well as survey responses from course instructors, suggest that there are more similarities in pedagogical approaches to cultural sociology than there are differences. Specifically, the majority of instructors in our sample emphasize the importance of identity and representation, production, and consumption. We thus find that there is a pedagogical canon in terms of the topics deemed important to the study of cultural sociology, and a plurality of thinkers are used to explore these topics. We conclude by outlining the importance of our findings for research on the field of cultural sociology, and canon studies.

Author(s): *Kim de Laat, University of Toronto; Allyson Stokes, Memorial University*

#### **2. Doing Science Differently: the sociology of social science in Canadian health science faculties**

This paper focuses on the careers of sociologists and like-minded social scientists who are working in Canadian health science faculties. We situate our analysis within the current neoliberalized context to call attention to how quantifiable measures and notions of productivity impact the hiring and promotion of qualitative sociologists in the health sciences. Specifically, their careers are often hindered by the imposition of evaluation criteria that do not fit their scientific paradigms. Neoliberal logics have shaped assessments of the knowledge produced by

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qualitative social scientists so that quantity of publications is considered more valuable than quality. In light of this, we introduce a framework that identifies the many unique features of qualitative research and suggest metrics that allow for the appropriate evaluation of the careers of scholars who follow these approaches. This is a particularly urgent issue given the current academic climate of the promotion of “interdisciplinary” scholarship in health research, which masks a hierarchy in which positivist approaches are more highly regarded than qualitative sociological research.

Author(s): *Fiona Webster, University of Western Ontario; Denise Gastaldo, University of Toronto; Steve Durant, University of Toronto; Joan Eakin, University of Toronto; Brenda Gladstone, University of Toronto; Janet Parsons, University of Toronto; Elizabeth Peter, University of Toronto*

### 3. Locating The Khaldunian Malakah In The Bourdieuen Habitus

This paper will situate the development of Bourdieu's habitus in a French colonial knowledge regime shaped by the social thought of Ibn Khaldun, a 14th-century Muslim social philosopher. By doing this, the paper will excavate for traces of Khaldunian Southern theory in the Northern theory of Bourdieu. The paper will begin with a brief discussion of the western historical trajectories of the concept of the habitus from the time of Aristotle to modern social theory. It will then situate the work of Bourdieu and Khaldun in the French colonial field. Finally, it will contrast Khaldun's Malakah to Bourdieus habitus, demonstrating the content-fit between the two concepts.

Author(s): *Mohammed Al-Ani, McMaster University*

## Anti-Black racism in Canadian universities and its impact on Afro-Caribbean Black (ACB) students I

Session Code: CER1A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Critical Ethnicity and Anti-Black Racism

Despite notable interventions to disrupt anti-Black racism in Canadian Universities, African Caribbean Black (ACB) university students encounter a white settler, colonial, social discourse which impedes negatively on their academic development. This social discourse does not recognize the intelligence or the need for ACB Canadian students to be educated, as it maintains and normalizes white undergraduate and graduate students as deservers of a “quality education.” There is a misconception that forms of discrimination, based on race, do not enter the academic communities. Notwithstanding the paucity of sustained empirical data, ACB students are impacted by anti-Black racism, which problematizes their academic development.

Organizer(s): *Warren Clarke, Carleton University; Sonia Bizimana, University of Ottawa*

Presentations:

### 1. Racism is a reality, but should we let it affect our dreams?

“Dreams of African Youth” is a non-fiction literary work written by the young Cameroonian Danièle Mbolo. The book was initially written in French and published in France in 2019. The book describes her views on the challenges of young African immigrants in Canada. As a result of many international students' testimonials, she sees life as a struggle that we must win as good, ethical, loyal and responsible soldiers both to ourselves and to world around us. “Life is not for complainants, but for those who can see that societal ills are in fact wounds of the sword we plunge into each other”. Revising some narrative about immigration from myriad perspectives helps in creating ways that bring out the best in all of us. Racism is still a reality. Nonetheless, she proposes how immigrants and western people can work together as joint world citizens to reshape a universe where wealth and opportunities are currently lopsided. Also, it is a message of hope, about how we can keep our identity, transcend mutual prejudices. It aims at encouraging immigrants to weave new dreams, new realities and rewrite negative narratives about us.

Author(s): *Danièle Mbolo, University of Moncton*

### 2. Learning while Black in 'Critical' Spaces

Attention is often given to the pedagogical practices of faculty who teach courses in fields and disciplines purported to be committed pedagogically and politically to interdisciplinary scholarship, social justice and difference. Scant attention, however, has been paid to the learning experience in these (so-called) critical spaces.

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In this paper, I first explore, as a Afro-Caribbean student, my learning experiences in the Political Science departments at two Canadian universities as an undergraduate student and now as a doctoral student. Second, I offer reflections on the intellectual and exisential opportunities and challenges that exist in these white dominated - yet self-described critical spaces. Finally, I conclude with thoughts on how being a first-generation Canadian intervenes in my experience of post-secondary.

Author(s): *TKA Pinnock, York University*

### 3. Unearthing Race, Racism and Inequity

This presentation is based on research and in-depth qualitative interviews with students who self-identified as Black or of African descent at the University of Toronto. The pedagogical goal was to unearth the ways in which race, gender, and class mutually reinforce one another and inform racialized peoples everyday university experiences and to center the narratives of African, Carribean and Black students. It further explores the university as a site of deeply racialized social relations and hierarchical knowledge production, including settler mythologies. It therefore adopts an intersectionality and political economy approach to phenomenological study. Grounded in the epistemological framework of Black, anti-racist feminist thought, this research is rooted in the lived experiences of African, Carribean and Black women, men and other historically marginalized groups and builds an institutional account of students of Black or of African descent in a predominantly white institution. The presentation will also be supplemented by research conducted while at McGill University on the impact and dearth of critical race pedagogy in law schools and universities across Canada, including experiential insights from the first ever Slavery and the Law course at McGill.

Author(s): *Simone A. Akyianu, Canadian Human Rights Commission*

### 4. "Why don't Black students look at me?" - An examination of "the Black nod" at The University of British Columbia

"The Black nod" is a familiar gesture among members of the Black community. It begins with establishing eye contact with another Black person, and is followed by a subtle lowering of the head. The nod can be understood as an act of acknowledgement, or solidarity, among Black people in predominantly white environments. However, at the University of British Columbia (UBC), where Black students make up a very small percentage of the total student body, the nod does not appear to be a frequent occurrence. Using an intersectional feminist lens, we conducted seven semi-structured, in depth interviews with Black students at UBC to investigate this phenomenon. Our analysis suggests that the decision to make eye contact with other Black students, and thus, participate in the nod, is largely informed by how students perceive the sociocultural context of UBC. We argue that there are two competing discourses surrounding the social environment of UBC: UBC as a multicultural space, and UBC as an anti-Black space. Based on these perceptions, we constructed a four-way typology of Black student's action, in relation to the nod, at UBC: 1) acknowledgment, 2) withdrawal, 3) ignor(ance), 4) duty. We found that students tend to move between these four different types of action. Our findings highlight the diversity of Black student experiences in the post-secondary context, while also drawing attention to how popular discourses surrounding Canadian multiculturalism obfuscates the very real challenges experienced by Black students in finding a sense of community on university campuses.

Author(s): *Kayonne Christy, University of British Columbia; Brett Matsushita, University of British Columbia; Aika Ishage, University of British Columbia; Julia Goldman-Hasbun, University of British Columbia*

## Anti-Black racism in Canadian universities and its impact on Afro-Caribbean Black (ACB) students II

Session Code: CER1B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Critical Ethnicity and Anti-Black Racism

Despite notable interventions to disrupt anti-Black racism in Canadian Universities, African Caribbean Black (ACB) university students encounter a white settler, colonial, social discourse which impedes negatively on their academic development. This social discourse does not recognize the intelligence or the need for ACB Canadian students to be educated, as it maintains and normalizes white undergraduate and graduate students as deservers of a "quality education." There is a misconception that forms of discrimination, based on race, do not enter the academic communities. Notwithstanding the paucity of sustained empirical data, ACB students are impacted by anti-Black racism, which problematizes their academic development.

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Organizer(s): *Warren Clarke, Carleton University; Sonia Bizimana, University of Ottawa*

Presentations:

## **1. The Afro-Caribbean Mentorship Program (ACMP)**

The norm in Canadian Universities is to employ Equity Services departments as the main respondents to Anti-Black racism and other forms of discrimination, leaving, at times, many White faculty and staff not responsible for their direct or indirect uncomfortable approach to ACB students which gives a sense anti-Black racism. With Equity Services being the “referee” in deciding how serious each case of anti-black racism is and what actions to take, it is ACB students who speak up, and lodge formal complaints, against anti-Black racism who suffer academically. The suffrage they encounter is a direct impact on their labour-power that is supposed to be used to gain a “quality University education.” However, they have to expend their time in getting support for racial discrimination, while keeping up with their school work, which becomes problematic. In 2018, Carleton University graduate and undergraduate students recognized the need to support ACB students at Carleton University, the result was to form the Afro-Caribbean Mentorship Program (ACMP). This social initiative acknowledges the sense of anti-Black racism on campus, but it takes it a step further to work in a relationship of solidarity with all ethnic groups within the University space and the broader Ottawa community. The work ACMP employs are free monthly workshops that are meant to empower, support and educate ACB students while educating folks of differing ethnicities about the importance of dispelling anti-black racism. The ACMP initiative is one example that works to combat anti-Black racism, but also to work to empower the Carleton University community to work together and recognize ACB students as deservers of a good quality education in comparison to their white counterparts.

Author(s): *Warren Clarke, Carleton University; Sonia Bizimana, University of Ottawa*

## **2. The Struggle Continues: Anti-Black Racism in Canadian Universities**

Canada is a thriving settler colony premised on indigenous genocide, anti-black racism as a result of Transatlantic slavery, indentured servitude and white supremacist immigration policies. In settler colonies, colonialists never leave, and an institutionally upheld settler colonial narrative is required to prevent decolonization. This narrative relies on the reproduction of knowledge in Canadian universities. While universities in Canada are beginning to acknowledge settler colonialism via Indigenous demands for decolonization and the critiques of anti-racist discourses such as multiculturalism, anti-Black racism remains Canadian university’s best kept secret. These spaces are presented as safe havens for Black students to enjoy their university experience and engage in anti-hegemonic thought formation premised on “diversity and inclusion.” Diversity and inclusion are hegemonic reconfigurations of the settler colonial narrative that work to prevent anti-hegemonic thought and decolonization through discourses of anti-racism. To maintain this diverse and inclusive image, ACB students are utilized as visual props in advertising as well as to fulfill statistical quotas for the university. All while experiencing violent intellectual opposition, physical discrimination, micro-aggressions from peers, professors and administrators, lack of representation in faculty and administration and silencing of radical works, movements or ideas that are pro-Black or challenge anti-Blackness. For radical and non-radical ACB students alike, this experience can be violent. This article will draw upon an autobiographical reflection of my experience as an undergraduate student in a Canadian university to challenge Canadian university’s presentation as safe spaces for Black Canadian students. Rather, they are fundamentally anti-Black institutions founded and maintained on the commodification and destruction of Black bodies.

Author(s): *Sarah George, Carleton University*

## **3. White Spaces: How to Navigate White Spaces When You are Not White?**

Black people, when navigating through public spaces often experience feelings of discomfort, anxiety and a sense of being ostracized. These feelings emerge due to their skin colour as they are aware that specific public spaces are spaces in which people who look like them are accepted. These spaces, which may range from grocery stores to schools, workplaces, courtrooms, shopping malls and more, are what many people of colour define as “White Spaces”. These spaces are seen as spaces in which White people belong, while does of other races (specifically Black people for the purpose of this report), must strategically navigate through to ensure they feel included, safe, and most importantly, to ensure they stay alive. Elijah Anderson defines the space as “settings in which black people are typically absent, not expected, or marginalized when present” (2015, p. 10). The inability to navigate through common public spaces in society is a social problem felt by Black people and is apparent when reviewing recent news reports of numerous them being arrested for their existence in these spaces. The objective of this

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research is to demonstrate the ways in which Black people are policed in public spaces they must navigate through for their existence and are unable to avoid.

Author(s): *Valérie Georges, University of Manitoba*

### Resisting Racism and Colonialism in Africa and the Caribbean: Critical Issues in Race, Gender/Sexuality and Disability in Three Countries

Session Code: CER2

Research Cluster Affiliation: Critical Ethnicity and Anti-Black Racism

This panel highlights the ways in which the legacies of colonialism intersect with gender, sexism and/or disability in African and Caribbean contexts through the case studies of: 1) the political economy of Liberian women's activism through peace-huts. The study used focus group interviews, and is framed in motherwork, a type of maternal activism related to politicized motherhood. This feminist study contributes to Peace and Post-Conflict Studies; 2) China's colonial "development operations." They are orchestrated to maximize profits, secure natural resources and expand business interests while also competing with the Europeans for domination of the continent at the expense of the African citizenry. China's non-interference policy is a violent mechanism which has not only pushed people with disabilities to the margins but also is creating disability on the continent; and 3) The challenges of sex education in Jamaica. Focus groups were conducted with inner-city mothers who reported on conversations about sex with their children and with adolescent boys who shared their sexual literacies and behaviours. Findings showed the ways in which the national identity of 'Jamaicanness,' entrenched a legacy of colonialism and Christianity, contributes to societal tensions impeding the development of a comprehensive sex education program.

Organizer(s): *Annette Henry, University of British Columbia*

Panelists:

- Erica Lawson, Western University
- Bathseba Opini, University of British Columbia
- Annette Henry, University of British Columbia

### Empire and Colonialism I : Origins, Histories and Aftermaths

Session Code: CHS1A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Comparative and Historical Sociology / Sociologie historique et comparée

This session addresses colonial and anti-colonial practices in the context of North America, Africa and Oceania. These case studies, while very diverse, theoretically and geographically, give insightful analyses of the social, political and economic power relations worldwide.

Cette séance s'intéresse aux pratiques coloniales et anti-coloniales en Amérique du Nord, en Afrique et en Océanie. Ces cas d'études aussi divers théoriquement et géographiquement, offrent des analyses détaillées des rapports de pouvoir politiques, économiques et sociaux.

Organizer(s): *Guillaume Durou, University of Alberta*

Presentations:

#### 1. 'Africanizing' the Ghanaian education system: Learning through the prism of Kwame Nkrumah's anti-colonial thought and Paulo Freire's liberation pedagogy

Kwame Nkrumah's anti-colonial theoretical framework and Paulo Freire's liberation pedagogy are used to examine the impact of neocolonial education on Ghanaian students and the implications for Ghana's social, political and economic development. Why this education system has led students to adulterate indigenous

languages and the implications for social cohesion and cultural identity is addressed. Its failure to cultivate an interest in and understanding of the country's history, and in particular its independence movement (1946 -1957), is investigated. Ways and means of reforming an educational culture that remains essentially neocolonial are proposed.

Author(s): *Patrick Radebe, Lakehead University*

## **2. Colonialism and Nationalism: A Comparison of the Effects of British and French Rule**

This paper analyzes (a) the colonial models of the nation-state employed by the British and French, (b) the use of discriminatory colonial policies that favoured certain communities, and (c) the ways that both interacted to shape postcolonial patterns of nationalist contestation. It recognizes that the British colonial model of the nation-state was usually highly pluralist whereas the French model was relatively assimilationist. Through a comparative-historical analysis, the paper offers evidence that the British model commonly promoted long wars over the communal character of the nation-state when combined with discriminatory colonial policies that favoured particular communities. Alternatively, the combination of the French model with discriminatory colonial policies was more likely to promote shorter wars over the control of the state.

Author(s): *Matthew Lange, McGill University*

## **3. Unsettling (the idea that) "we're all métis-se" : métis-se/colonial futurity, political discourse and decolonization**

New-Caledonia became a settler colony under French sovereignty in 1853. Located in Melanesia, New-Caledonia is one of the oldest colonies of the French empire and has been on the United Nation's list of non-self-governing territories for over thirty years. The islands were first used as a penal colony for convicts from France and North Africa. Later, the migration of free settlers and indentured labourers following the development of nickel exploitation and plantations contributed to make New-Caledonia a racially and culturally "diverse" society. Immigration was notably encouraged by the French government to put the kanak Indigenous population in a position of minority. This paper is part of a project on the politics of 'mixed-race' identity in Kanaky-New-Caledonia (KNC). It aims to uncover the coloniality of the statement "on est tous métis-se" ("we're all mixed-race") in a racially and politically polarised space where there is an ongoing struggle for independence led by kanak peoples. This paper presents data gathered during a 6-months stay in KNC before and after the November 2018 referendum for independence. It uses semi-structured interviews with self-identified 'mixed-raced' (métis-se) people from KNC, but also political debates and campaigns as well as art that signal an investment in the idea that, in KNC, "we are all mixed-race". The paper attempts to trace the origin of this idea and the political need for its use at a time of decolonization. Further, it exposes the political discourse of multiracialism as exclusionary and as a mechanism of Indigenous disappearance in the settler colonial context. In challenging and deconstructing the orientations toward a multiracial or métis future, that individuals and institutions imagine, wish or advocate for, I aim to call for a desolidarization from modes of thinking and being that support the French colonial project, even when it masks itself as inclusive.

Author(s): *Anaïs Duong-Pedica, Åbo Akademi University*

## **4. Literacy Among American Indians: Levels and Trends from 1900 to 1930 and Across Birth Cohorts from 1830 to 1920**

We investigate American Indian literacy levels and trends in the United States. This study is important because literacy - along with education and English language ability - are elements of Native incorporation into American society and are related to coercion and the loss of Indian language and culture often associated with boarding/residential schools. Using United States 1900-1930 decennial census data, we document literacy for that period and for birth cohorts from 1800-1920, thus providing a large-scale picture of the history of American Indian literacy. We document the pace and extent of Native birth cohort literacy from very low in the early 1800s to fairly universal for the early 1900s cohorts and demonstrate that increases in American Indian literacy were primarily the result of changes occurring across birth cohorts of individuals. We found little evidence of increases in literacy occurring among adults after the school years and as they matured through the adult life course. We also document important gender differences in Native American literacy, with the proportion literate ranging from 3 to 8 percentage points lower for women. There were also substantial literacy inequalities across geographical regions of the country; the trajectories of literacy attainment varied across regions in interesting ways.

Author(s): *Arland Thornton, University of Michigan*



## Empire and Colonialism II : Origins, Histories and Aftermaths in Canadian Contexts

Session Code: CHS1B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Comparative and Historical Sociology / Sociologie historique et comparée

This session put an emphasis on the analysis of the Canadian colonial and postcolonial contexts, addressing the relationship with the Indigenous and the state, the immigration policies and racism as well as the duality with French Canadians and English Canadians.

Cette séance se concentre sur l'analyse du contexte colonial et postcolonial canadien, en abordant la relation de l'État avec les autochtones, les politiques d'immigration et le racisme ainsi que la dualité avec les Canadiens français et les Canadiens anglais.

Organizer(s): *Guillaume Durou, University of Alberta*

Presentations:

### **1. Rhetoric Versus Reality: The Transfer of Immigration Policies and the British Empire in the 19th and 20th Centuries**

This paper is part of a larger research project that focuses on the impact of colonial knowledges from the metropole to the dominion countries on immigration policy within the British Empire. Throughout the twentieth century, it has been clear that questions about citizenship have been a critical question throughout the dominions within the British Empire, especially when considering imperialist and nationalist sentiments. My research will examine the history of immigration policy and the transfer of restrictive policies in Canada, Australia, and South Africa within the British Empire, a global phenomenon that at its height encompassed countries colonized and ruled by the United Kingdom, resulting in widespread political, cultural, and linguistic similarities due to British migrants and their ideas of race, gender, and class. Starting in the late nineteenth century and into the early twentieth century, imperialist citizenship and nationalist citizenship have been at the forefront of immigration policy within the dominions. Colonial ideas of a white, Anglo-Saxon ruling class in the settler countries permeated despite many subjects in the British Empire being non-white. While Britain maintained on an international stage a level of equality, nationalist ideas in the dominions dominated. As a result, many of the countries within the British Empire began adopting subtle and not so subtle restrictive policies, learning from one another and adapting the policy for themselves. This research will study the transfer of policies between the dominion countries and examine its deep colonial roots. The lingering legacy of British imperialism and decolonization has had enduring effects on immigration policy in Canada, Australia, and South Africa, resulting in repercussions for immigration today.

Author(s): *Ariel Nicolaides, University of British Columbia*

### **2. "100 Years of Progress:" Portage la Prairie Indian Student Residence Glee Club and Modern Canadianness, 1966-1970**

In his annual letter to parents in 1966, Portage Indian Student Residence Administrator J.O. Harris wrote that the school's choir, the Portage Indian Student Residence Glee Club, was planning to perform the following year for Canada's Centennial celebrations. After their successful performance at EXPO '67, over the following three years the group travelled from Portage la Prairie, MB, to represent Canada or "Canada's Indians" at Disneyland (California), HEMISFair (Texas), EXPO 70 (Japan), and at smaller events nationwide. Despite the youth being costumed in "authentic" clothing (feathered headbands and tassled dresses designed by Harris' wife), the choir's raison d'être looked to the future rather than the past, as signalled by the title of their 1967 record: "100 Years of Progress." I argue that during a charged decade of rising Indigenous resistance to Canadian state control, the Glee Club - unofficially - sought to "[transform] Aborigines into Canadians" (Bohaker and Iacovetta 2009). I use contemporary newspaper accounts, internal United Church of Canada documents, Department of Indian Affairs records, and other sources to examine how the Glee Club occupied a tenuous space both modern and antimodern, one that worked to assimilate Indigenous youth into modernizing Canada while also safely locating "Indians" in the past.

Author(s): *Alexandra Giancarlo, Western University*

### **3. Bringing the Early Nineteenth Century back in an historical sociology of races and nations in Canada or on some postcolonial silences**

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This paper asks two main questions about the colonial making of nationalisms in Canada. First, it questions the relative absence of accounts, in the postcolonial literature on Canada, of the history of “les Canadiens” (later known as les Canadien-français) and their struggle for an elective executive assembly during the first half of the 18th century when the British empire was emerging as an imperial power grounded in a regime of capitalist social relations of appropriation. Recasting these struggles is nonetheless essential to understand the political turmoil known as les rébellions des Patriotes which led not only to a political repression, but to the famous categorization of the les Canadiens as a race in Durham’s report. Secondly, it questions the frequent absence of reference either to French Canadian political subjects, and the political dilemmas they were facing during this period, or to the historical and social scientific literature in French on this period in this literature. Finally, it provides some key indications on how an historical sociology of the making of nations and races in Canada needs to reassess the relations between “les sujets canadiens de sa majesté”, British imperialism and the making of political institutions in order to explain this decisive period in the making of Canadian nationalisms.

Author(s): *Frédéric Guillaume Dufour, Université du Québec à Montréal*

### **4. Racism in Canada's Post World War II Immigration Policy: An Archival Study**

Through an analysis of a collection of correspondence among Canadian state authorities with officials of Lebanese, Syrian and Armenian descendant, in the time period of 1947-1952, it was found that in the immediate era of post-World War II, in spite of superficially adopting a liberal ‘non racist’ stand, Canadian officials, especially in terms of immigration policies, continued to be racist. While the events of the Second World-War, had made institutionalization of racial politics utterly unfashionable, the archival analysis shows how Canadian officials were cognizant of it, yet continued to struggle in justifying their exclusion of ‘Asiatic’ policies from a liberal lens. An even more interesting observation, however, is how different ethnic minorities attempted to bargain for inclusiveness without challenging such social Darwinist discourses. While on the surface one might argue that the ethnic minorities’ discourses and struggle for inclusion is a story of struggle to challenge the Canadian racist policies, analysis of this archive shows that their modus operandi never seriously challenged the racial discourse. Instead, their primary struggle was to fit themselves within the Indo-European lineage. The most important takeaway from the research, however, is a humbling reality of how racial discourses continue to pervade seemingly liberal Western politics. While this research is historical, it hints at the tools and mechanisms that continue to selfreproduce through modern constructions such as liberalism, states and political agents. An eerily similar immigration policy is in effect right now in contemporary America, which puts a blanket ban on immigration from Muslim majority countries. Similar to the findings of the archival analysis, the Trump Administration currently justifies the ban in the name of national security. The findings of this analysis are, thus, important, because they reinforce the understanding that racial politics and policies can continue to reproduce within a liberal state.

Author(s): *Leili Yousefi, McMaster University*

## Race, Class and Gender : Looking Back, Thinking Forward

Session Code: CHS2

Research Cluster Affiliation: Comparative and Historical Sociology / Sociologie historique et comparée

This session has a main focus on racism, sexism and gender inequality in the colonial and postcolonial context, in Canada and Turkey as well as in India and in the African continent.

Cette séance portera une attention particulière au racisme, au sexisme et aux inégalités de genre dans le contexte colonial et postcolonial au Canada, en Turquie ainsi qu'en Inde et sur le continent africain.

Organizer(s): *Guillaume Durou, University of Alberta*

Presentations:

### **1. Racism to reunification of separate societies: Reinventing historically structured social relations**

Turkey has been admitting Syrian refugees from different ethnicities since 2011. Reportedly, those ethnic groups are exposed to various discriminatory and racist practices on their daily lives in Turkey. Our research will focus upon the case of Syrian Kurds who have been entering Turkey since the beginning of Syrian crisis. The importance of Syrian Kurds with regard to Turkey's current social and political relations is that they will bring out a new

historical struction by getting together again with Turkey's Kurds in the context of geographically and historically structured social relations that Syrian and Turkey's Kurds acquired in different nations over the years. Therefore, my research is to scrutinize how Syrian Kurds share a common historically structured social relations with Turkey's Kurds as well as to how those peoples consider and experience each others' social relations as a part of this forced migration process. On this basis, this research pursues to find a satisfactory response to the critical question of whether it would be possible to determine a common denominator for Syrian Kurds and Turkey's Kurds in terms of their experiences in being exposed to possible race, class and gender based discrimination on their daily social, cultural, and political lives in Turkey.

Author(s): *Cengiz Yilmaz, Association for Solidarity with Asylum Seekers and Migrants; Merve Ergenç, Association for Solidarity with Asylum Seekers and Migrants*

## **2. Awenen Niin (Who Am I)? Indigenous Peoples, Personal Identification, and Settler Colonialism in Northwestern Ontario**

Indigenous people occupy a contradictory space in regard to their visibility and invisibility to state and colonial structures. Long histories of settler violence enacted through systems of education, health care, policing, and child welfare have ensured that Indigenous people and communities have been over-policed and under-served by the state. As a result, mechanisms like birth certificates and other forms of Personal Identification (PID), which make citizens visible to state structures and services, can often be problematic and fraught with anxiety and distrust. However, not having certain forms of PID, like a birth certificate or Social Insurance Numbers, ensures that access to essential health, social, and financial services and supports is nearly impossible. We explore the historical and contemporary factors that have produced disproportionate challenges for Indigenous peoples seeking to obtain PID. We argue that in northern Ontario the barriers and reasons for lack of PID have expressions that are unique to the region and Indigenous people in particular. Through conversations with community members, we demonstrate how settler colonialism has worked to erase Indigenous Peoples relationship to their territories as well as ensure that an already vulnerable group is less able to obtain necessary services and supports.

Author(s): *Cheyenne DeGagne, Carleton University; Kristin Burnett, Lakehead University; Chris Sanders, Lakehead University; Kelly Skinner, University of Waterloo*

## **3. Failed patriarchy and poverty: Representation of the family life of domestic workers in squatter settlement of Bengal**

The present paper is on the Bengali speaking domestic workers living at the squatter settlement of West Bengal (India). They are locally termed as jhi (maid), Kajermasi (worker aunty), Radhuni (cook), Thihe (contractual). They perform various household tasks like washing of vessels and clothes, sweeping and swabbing floors, cooking and running other errands, etc. Most of the women joined this occupation because of poverty, the early death of the male members of the family, and most importantly, due to the incapability of the husbands to perform their bread winner's role. However, these women have expected the life of an ordinary housewife, maintaining the family and confirming to their traditional gender roles. Nevertheless, these women were forced to run the households single headedly without the support of their husbands. The uncertainties and situational factors-cultural diktats, family, poverty have narrowed down any respectable career option for these women, leaving them nothing but dwindling in the dungeon of nothingness and being helpless victims of superimposed damnation. But these structural arrangements of poverty and failed patriarchal system gave rise to a culture in which these women were relatively more assertive especially about their children's future. Moreover, some of these women have also challenged their traditional gender norms and garnered a more autonomous position within their households. Overall, failed patriarchy and poverty might have crushed their dreams of a comfortable life, but it has empowered them to provide a better future for their children and to vehemently fight the battle of survival.

Author(s): *Sweta Ghosh, University of Calgary*

## **4. Being Female: Reflecting on African Black Feminism and Women's Art Education Perspectives**

As a young Black Ghanaian female student I use African feminist theories (Adichie, 2014; Makumbi, 2017), Jean-Francois Lyotard's (1979) thinking about master narratives, and an autoethnographic approach (Adams and Holman Jones, 2018) to examine and artistically reflect on my experiences as an art educator. Challenging inequities in universities, I explore Black feminist theories (hooks, 1984), women's artworks, and my experiences at an international art education conference. Also, I interrogate the culture of a graphics studio classroom in Africa that was centered around master narratives (Barone and Eisner, 2012) where a materialistic brand of success expected me to fit into a male-dominated and competitive industry. Auto-ethnography "is an approach to doing and representing social research that uses personal ("auto") experience to create a representation ("graphy") of

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cultural (“ethno”) experiences, social expectations, and shared beliefs, values, and practices” (Adams and Holman Jones, 2018, p. 142). Merging the art of ethnographic writing with the creativity of narrative produces a style of writing that evokes the emotional, personal, and multi-layered experiences of the storyteller (author), in order to “create a record for others” (p. 143). When practices are questioned, and aspects of student learning are undermined then one becomes a threat to authority and the educational master narrative. Master narratives are understood not as authored by individual subjects but by a transcendent, infallible meta-subject that gives “voice to a common grounding” (Lyotard, 1979, p. 34). Master narratives presume “to provide explanations that bring final meaning to cultural phenomena and therefore the comforts of certainty, stability and order to a frightening world that seems riddled with ambiguity, instability, and disorder” (Barone and Eisner, 2012, p.124). I question the authority of master narratives and offer Lyotardian style stories (Pope, 2001) and offer artistic reflections. My experiences and learnings are portrayed in the form of questioning events.

Author(s): *Abena Omenaa Boachie, Memorial University*

### Historical Sociology Today: Debates and Contributions

Session Code: CHS3

Research Cluster Affiliation: Comparative and Historical Sociology / Sociologie historique et comparée

This session focuses on various thematic of the Historical sociology today. The first parts will tackle the question of political violence and autocratic regime while the second part will offer theoretical accounts of the World-System analysis as well as organizational ethnographies.

Cette séance se concentre sur plusieurs sujets propres à la sociologie historique contemporaine. Les présentations porteront d'abord sur des études de cas sur la violence et les régimes autocratiques. Une partie plus théorique abordera quant à elle l'analyse des systèmes-monde et l'ethnographie organisationnelle.

Organizer(s): *Guillaume Durou, University of Alberta*

Presentations:

#### **1. For a Rodneyan World Systems Analysis: The Case for a Return to the Dar es Salaam School of Historical Social Science**

Walter Rodney was one of the most important founding fathers of World Systems Analysis, however, his work is largely overlooked by PEWS scholars today. But there is a larger issue at play than discrimination - Rodney's exclusion from the canon is symptomatic of a larger intellectual problem facing PEWS. Rodney's contributions would help PEWS better describe contemporary capitalism and help the subfield engage in contemporary disciplinary debates. With the contemporary resurgence in academic interest in capitalism, empire, and colonialism, particularly in sociology, PEWS should be more popular than ever, but instead, it is waning in popularity especially among early career scholars. There is a lot of creativity in contemporary sociology in grappling with important questions like epistemology, eurocentrism, colonial legacies, making sense of unprecedented current events, all themes that Rodney addresses in his scholarly work. So why is World-systems stagnant in the face of this burgeoning creativity? I argue that we as World Systems Analysts need to return to the Dar es Salaam school to bring a truly global (i.e. non- Eurocentric) understanding of capitalism to the fore of sociology and beyond. In this paper I look to four theoretical themes in Rodney's work - capitalism, imperialism, class struggle, and the political economy of race - to show how a Rodneyan World-Systems Analysis can revive the PEWS project in the context of contemporary debates in the historical social sciences.

Author(s): *Kristin Plys, University of Toronto*

#### **2. Des interactions aux mécanismes : une réflexion sur la mésosociologie et l'ethnographie organisationnelle**

Cette présentation se propose de réfléchir au potentiel de l'ethnographie comme stratégie de recherche mésosociologique. Une approche mésosociologique conçoit l'émergence et la reproduction des institutions et des pratiques sociales comme un résultat interactionnel balisé par des contraintes ainsi que des structures d'opportunités et d'incitatifs, ce qui permet de réfléchir à la fois la stabilité et le changement social, ainsi que les variations entre différents ordres sociaux locaux (Fligstein and McAdam 2011 : 4; Brubaker and Cooper 2000 :

30). Une analyse processuelle du monde social nous invite plus largement à concevoir la création, la reproduction et la contestation d'un ordre social comme relevant d'une série d'activités ordonnées et négociées à travers le temps, ce qui permet de pleinement historiciser et contextualiser les phénomènes que nous souhaitons étudier (Hall 1987 : 15-16 ; Abbott 2016). Bien que les données collectées dans le cadre d'une ethnographie se situent généralement à l'échelle micro, nous soutenons que l'interprétation de ces mêmes données gagne à se situer à une échelle méso, afin d'identifier les mécanismes et les processus qui stabilisent ou qui transforment l'organisation de la vie sociale dans un environnement donné. Nous défendrons cette perspective en nous appuyant sur notre projet doctoral, qui consiste en une ethnographie collaborative et comparative avec deux organisations dédiées à l'accès au logement pour les ménages à faible revenu dans Parc-Extension.

Author(s): *Emanuel Guay, Université du Québec à Montréal*

### **3. The Canadian Art of Repression: A Historical Sociology of Violence, Capital and Labour 19th and early 20th Centuries**

Military repression in Quebec is a phenomenon that received very little attention from historical sociology, particularly in the context of labour and capital. Generally speaking, historiography is more interested in the period following the First World War. However, what can be stated about the 19th and early 20th centuries? Was this period more violent? Did the British Canadian army intervene more often? What is the relationship between colonial Canada and violence? Our recent research is based on a database strikes in the province of Quebec (1825-1910) that allows us to examine not only the continuum of strikes, but also the phases of state violence. Our presentation will first defend the argument of colonial violence as a means of controlling labour conflicts, drawing on the theoretical literature on state formation and violence in historical sociology (Tilly, 1990; Mann, 2012; Maleevifá, 2017). Then, we will focus on the patterns of violence and the patterns of pacification and assess the level of relations with demographic and sociological categories (Franzosi, 1996; Tilly and Shorter, 1975). Finally, this analysis seeks to provide a contribution to the Canadian historical sociology and offer a better understanding of the social and political conditions of state violence in the context of the relationship between capital and labour.

Author(s): *Guillaume Durou, University of Alberta*

### **4. 'Probably tomorrow I'll become a war criminal': Autocratic legalism as symbolic and transnational regime change**

This paper analyzes the Romanian transition to communism in the late 1940s, focusing on how the Communists and their allies turned to legalism in order to delegitimize their rivals and bolster their takeover of the state. After the cultural turn in political sociology, we have seen that state-building has a strongly symbolic and performative element. But generally less attention has been paid to the symbolic aspects of regime change, particularly the extent to which regime change is a transnational phenomenon. This paper conceptualizes legalism as a mechanism through which symbolic regime change is performed even when hard power has been won. Legalism is thus a tool of legitimation for new regimes facing domestic and external legitimacy challenges, a way to navigate the contingency and uncertainty involved in the power struggles of regime transitions, including transitions to authoritarianism.

Author(s): *Ioana Sendroiu, University of Toronto*

[Meet the Author: Frederic-Guillaume Dufour, \*La sociologie du nationalisme: Relations, cognition, comparaisons et processus\*, 2019](#)

Session Code: CHS4

Research Cluster Affiliation: Comparative and Historical Sociology / Sociologie historique et comparée

Drawing its theoretical inspirations from the Weberian tradition, historical sociology and contextualized political analysis, Dufour's book highlights the social relations, modes of cognition, comparative strategies and social processes that are closely related to the analysis of nationalism. One of its features is to show that, while macrosociological approaches have long dominated the sociology of nationalism, it is no longer possible, in this field as in other branches of political sociology, to ignore the mechanisms of mesosociological levels that make it possible to understand nationalist and ethnic practices in their context. The arguments will be debated by different panelists.

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### Panelists:

- Frederic-Guillaume Dufour, Université du Québec à Montréal
- Guillaume Durou, University of Alberta
- Jean-Charles St-Louis, Université de Montréal
- Valérie Vézina, Kwantlen Polytechnic University

### Durkheimian analyses of contemporary social phenomena

Session Code: CND1

Research Cluster Affiliation: Canadian Network of Durkheimian Studies

In recent decades, Durkheimian sociology and social theory has sparked new debates, provoked new controversies, and informed new research pertinent to a wide range of contemporary social phenomena. These developments are fitting, for in pursuing and promoting an array of substantive and comparative studies Durkheim and his allies treated theory-building and research as inseparable.

Organizer(s): *William Ramp, University of Lethbridge; Tara Milbrandt, University of Alberta*

### Presentations:

#### **1. Durkheim's 'Dualism of Human Nature' Today: Mental Health and Social Sacrifice**

The 'Dualism of Human Nature and Its Social Conditions' published in 1914 was the culmination of decades of work on the conscience collective and the individual-society binary. While in previous works on suicide, he had acknowledged the misery and unhappiness that inevitably stems from the ongoing struggle to reconcile individual egoistic desires with social demands for altruism, here Durkheim fully embraces the idea that this misery is not an outcome of abnormal forms of social solidarity but is rather engrained in the dualistic nature of human existence: part individual and part social, part egoistic and part in need of attachment and solidarity. Durkheim declares that the antinomy between these two sides is so radical that it can never be completely resolved. In fact, with the increasing complexity of societies, individuals are required to make greater sacrifices of their personal, egoistic interests in the service of society. Similar doubts about the possibility of happiness and contentment in social life were made by Durkheim's contemporaries Simmel, Freud, and Weber. However, the rise of American sociology buried these concerns with an "oversocialized conception of Man" (to quote Dennis Wrong) in structural functionalistic and social-psychological schools which presented much more harmonious outlooks on the social life of individuals. This paper seeks to revisit Durkheim's 'Dualism' in light of renewed contemporary concerns about rising mental health problems in contexts variously defined as the neoliberal conditions, liquid modernity, consumerist capitalism, etc. and re-evaluate his argument that the tension between the individual and society intensifies rather than dissipate with the increasing sophistication of societies. In particular, I will examine the case of mental health and digital media as a case of the increasing demands of "the social" on individual life and time.

Author(s): *Zohreh BayatRizi, University of Alberta*

#### **2. Theorizing the Second Amendment: What does the Right to Bear Arms Really Mean?**

This paper is directed to an analysis of the widespread commitment of Americans to the right to keep and bear arms (as understood to be guaranteed by the Second Amendment) with a view to recovering its meaning in the everyday life of America and Americans. Analysis, Durkheim tells us (1915), is directed to the study of opinions, and is oriented to the recovery or disclosure of the social order (Weber 1947), or mode of interaction (Simmel 1971), that is implicit to the opinion (that the opinion leaves unspoken). That view of collective life that the opinion covers over is what sociological analysis conceives of as meaning, and thus strives to recover. Ultimately, the analysis endeavours to transcend the impasse that dominates the conventional engagement with the Second Amendment by bringing to view and engaging the most salient of the surfeit of meaning (Weber 1947; Blum 2015) implicit to that amendment.

Author(s): *Saeed Hydaralli, Roger Williams University*

#### **3. What Do We Owe Ourselves?: "God/Society," Public Debt and Totemic Capitalism**



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This paper analyses popular rhetoric about debt by recourse to radical Durkheimian analyses of morality, religion, and the economy. In doing so, it highlights the genealogy of neoliberal morals concerning public and private debt in “totemic capitalism,” in which the valorisation of capital is seen as the primary existential reference point for normative deliberation in a society. Durkheim’s rough equation of “God” with “society,” the social properties of money, and forms of debt-exchange including sacrifice as a ritual of societal reproduction, point to different ways of conceptualising public debt. Public debt is thus reconceived as an exchange with our collectively represented and collectively reflected “self,” one that issues and guarantees debt obligations precisely because of how society transcends any and all particular manifestations of socio-economic agency, whether individual or institutional. This suggests that public debt as an institution is something closer to “education” than to capitalist markets, and one in which we owe ourselves a future, one now troubled by the current form of totemic capitalism.

Author(s): *Ronjon Paul Datta, University of Windsor*

### Durkheim and Social Theory

Session Code: CND2

Research Cluster Affiliation: Canadian Network of Durkheimian Studies; Social Theory

This session consists of papers engaged with theoretical issues, debates and innovations arising from engagements with Durkheim's oeuvre and Durkheimian social science. Durkheim made extensive theoretical interventions ranging from articulating a distinctive ontology for sociology, to developing epistemological protocols for empirical and theoretical research, and reflexively linking the results of sociological research to an axiology. He also offered various conceptions of social change, social structure, regional theories of work, social pathology, power, solidarity, religion, education, individuality, knowledge, and others. These interventions have been the subject of on-going critical investigations, intense debate, and productive appropriations. Papers this year attend in particular to debates about morality and the philosophy of social science.

Organizer(s): *Ronjon Paul Datta, University of Windsor*

Presentations:

#### **1. Durkheim's Objective Ethics : Soteriology and the Failure of the Social Sciences?**

According to Wiktor Stoczkowski, Durkheim's sociology, as all occidental social science, is nothing else than a reproduction of a cosmological explanation of the world (with a fully developed ontology, etiology and soteriology) disguised as a scientific discourse. The demonstrated case for this thesis is well documented but relies on a quite limited consideration of Durkheim's own work and paucity of references to the one hundred year long tradition of criticizing Durkheimian sociology. By engaging with many other Durkheimian pieces we will detail the weaknesses of Stoczkowski's arguments and present an alternative reading of Durkheim's sociology, one predominantly oriented towards a Sociology of Morality and Ethics.

Author(s): *Francois Pizarro Noel, Université du Québec à Montréal*

#### **2. The poverty of our demons: a post-Durkheimian reading of soul-sickness**

In this paper, I will try to combine three different threads of experimental thinking in a Durkheimian vein. These involve (1) thinking about political theology and economic demonization as related projects/projections (Kotsko), (2) examining but suspending Charles Taylor's description of an un-buffered post-Durkheimian dispensation predicated on an evaporation of material and moral necessity, and (3) revisiting (via Taylor and Durkheim, but also directly) William James's defence of experiential transcendence as (in)voluntary and opening on to something like virtue. I will suggest the presence of an ontic ghost in Taylor's response to James and Durkheim; a phantom state of sin enacted as helpless choice and repetitive proximation and experienced as inadequacy without definition or limit.

Author(s): *William Ramp, University of Lethbridge*

#### **3. Animals, Morality, and Society: From Espinas to Durkheim and Back Again.**

Can we understand the social nature of morality better by including animals? Drawing on the work of French philosopher Alfred Espinas (1844-1922), a major resource for Emile Durkheim as he sought to clarify sociology as a distinct science with a distinct object, society, this paper offers an answer to this question. Espinas argues that

animal societies, like human societies, are a natural being and therefore are a moral organism as well as a natural organism, inspiring Durkheim to claim that societies are also natural and moral organisms of a type. For both humans and animals, society involves more than a collection of individuals who come together for the necessities of survival; rather a collective emerges from the bases of sociability. This collective contains a consciousness including moral rules or laws. Theoretical parallels between Espinas' dissertation *des Sociétés Animales*, and Durkheim's works are examined by exploring their conceptions of morality, social solidarity, and the conscience collective in human and animal societies. So, while Durkheim delineated a science of morals, Espinas shines light on an overlooked area of the social sciences: animals. Espinas' work is predominantly used in the natural sciences including biology, ecology and zoology but I argue that it should be taken up by sociologists to examine the bases of moral relations between humans and animals.

Author(s): *Lauren Sharpley, University of Windsor*

#### **4. The making of the Durkheimian sociology of religion: Hubert and Mauss' contributions to 'sociologie religieuse'**

This research aims to investigate Hubert and Mauss' contribution to the development of the *sociologie religieuse* research programme undertaken through the *Année sociologique*. To this end, a set of Hubert and Mauss' studies between 1898 and 1906 on religious phenomena was chosen, taking as a reference the *sociologie religieuse* section of the first series the *Année sociologique*. The main idea is to connect their reviews and articles in order to understand the scope of problems that *sociologie religieuse* covered and what results were obtained therefrom. As it is intended to demonstrate, Hubert and Mauss' approach to the connection of myths and rites has allowed them to disclose how social practices and ideas are produced and reinforced through sacred dramas. Such an analysis may allow one to understand how Hubert and Mauss' approach has shaped Durkheim's late sociology of religion.

Author(s): *Romulo Lelis, University of Sao Paulo*

#### **5. Durkheimian Reflections on Epistemic Truth, Fallibilism and (Un)questionable Factuality**

Although Durkheim's sociology of knowledge is characterized by internal variance and can be found in his works in different forms expressed through a multitude of statements (which some have viewed as competing), it has historically inspired the systematic epistemological underpinning of the discipline but also some of the major ongoing debates with regards to ad hoc the sociological science and the nature of its inquiry. In this paper, I aspire to conceptualize the aspects of Durkheim's theory of truth that touch upon fallibilism and factuality, and on how these constitute interacting poles in the temporally and spatially depended knowledge acquisition and production process. Special attention is devoted to the dynamical properties of truth and the theoretical synthetical possibilities with the theory of truth of Charles S. Peirce, especially on the observability of facts and the possible. Finally, this paper theorizes on a Durkheimian approach of the (social) dynamics of the questionability of knowledge and scientific inquiry.

Author(s): *Christos Orfanidis, University of Toronto*

## **Cognitive Sociology**

Session Code: COG1

Research Cluster Affiliation: Cognitive Sociology

Central questions orient researchers in the cognitive sociology paradigm: What is the relationship between the social and the cognitive? How can sociologists lend insight on debates related to mind, brain, and cognition? Is sociology undergoing a 'cognitive turn'? How should sociologists respond to the apparent threat of "neuroscientific imperialism" (Coulter, 2008)? This panel will address these debates through a critical discussion of methodology and epistemology in the social sciences. Papers will explore the role of mental representations in cultural theory, neuroscientific challenges to ethnography, Boudon's notion of rationality, and emotions as cultural concepts.

Organizer(s): *Ryan McVeigh, Lakehead University*

Presentations:

### **1. The Use of Mental Representations in Cultural Sociology**

Cultural sociologists continue to borrow insights from the cognitive sciences to refine, formalize, and otherwise improve the field. Along these lines, this paper argues that perspectives on mental representations - defined as any content or information-bearing object in the mind that stands for something in the world - offer an important, but at present underdeveloped addition to these efforts. Theoretical accounts within cultural sociology vary based on the reliance on and conceptualization of mental representations. Paying closer attention to these theoretical commitments can add value to the discipline as a whole. Using both classical and contemporary scholarship within cultural sociology, I highlight four ways that attending to mental representations can improve cultural sociology: organizing and evaluating theories of culture based on representational commitments, locating areas of theoretical (i.e. representational) inconsistency, offering clarity and specificity to arguments about culture and cognition, and locating avenues for innovative cultural theorizing.

Author(s): *Gordon Brett, University of Toronto*

### **2. (How) Should Ethnographers Engage with Neuroscience?**

An interest in combining neuroscientific and ethnographic methodologies has emerged within several 'neuro-' interdisciplinary sub-fields, including 'neurosociology'. Sometimes termed 'neuroethnography' one such approach claims to challenge the primacy of culture in ethnographic work and the primacy of biology in neuroscience, arriving at a more complete understanding of social life. This paper evaluates that claim by examining descriptions of 'neuroethnography' revealing a neurocentric perspective of culture that subjugates ethnographic insights to claimed, 'objective' neuroscientific evidence. I argue that this reification of the neurological and the use of experimental research designs diminishes key ethnographic principles and risks bioessentialist interpretations of identity and difference. Furthermore, neuroethnographic discourse often takes neurological data as foundational grounds of knowledge, parting from sociological approaches to situating knowledge in fieldwork. These points will be contextualized within current neurofeminist and sociology of science critiques. The paper concludes by cautioning social scientists who engage with neurological explanations of identity and difference. It proposes an alternative research agenda in which ethnographies of neuroscience (rather than for neuroscience) examine how the neurological is constructed, mobilized, and digested. This approach preserves ethnographic principles and positions ethnographers to shed light on the very issues currently challenging interdisciplinary conversations.

Author(s): *Franklynn Bartol, University of Toronto*

### **3. Raymond Boudon's Cognitive Rationality and the Cognitive Sciences**

Raymond Boudon's typology of rationality introduces the notion of "cognitive rationality" and aims to go beyond some of the more simplistic analyses of rational choice theory (Boudon, 1997). His work participates in larger debates over what rationality is (Bronner & DiIorio, 2018) and over what can be understood by reason. Although not completely opposed to the findings of the neurosciences, Boudon's conception of rationality stands in stark contrast to the naturalistic claims of some cognitive scientists (Boudon 2008, 40-42). If human reason is considered the basis of social action, then human beliefs are not reducible to nature. This paper explores how Boudon's epistemological insights and methodological innovations can provide us with a singular version of a cognitive sociology research program. It will illustrate in particular his distinction between "cognitive-rational" and "cognitive-neurological" approaches to the study of the social world (Boudon 2010, 32).

Author(s): *Christian Robitaille, University of Ottawa*

### **4. Predictive Brain, Emotion Concepts and the Cognitive Dimension of Power Relations through the influence of TV Series**

The critical influence of culture has been more or less minimized in the classical view of emotions within cognitive science (Ekman, 1972). The theory of constructed emotion (Barrett, 2017) fills this gap in arguing that emotions are cultural concepts that allow us to make sense and interpret the world. From this point of view, emotions have no biological basis. They are not reactions to the world but part of simulation processes which function through the predictive brain (Clark, 2013). This epistemological revolution offers us a complete rereading of the cultural impact of emotions for the sociological analysis of power relations. In this paper, I draw on Barrett's theory to discuss how television shows aim to enrich, confirm or maintain emotional concepts through hierarchical social positions. Within these media contents, relations of domination (Collins and Chepp, 2013) circulate and are played and replayed cognitively through the viewer's emotions.

Author(s): *Julien Quesne, Université du Québec à Montréal*

## Omnibus panel

Session Code: OMN1C

Theme: Contemporary Sociology

This panel features a wide range of research in contemporary sociology.

Organizer(s): *Tina Fetner, McMaster University*

Presentations:

### **1. Do you know who your neighbours are? Analyzing police officer use of the National Sex Offender Registry Database in Canada**

Sex offenders invoke mass fear as a result of the perceived risk these offenders pose to the public. As a result, many countries have established sex offender registry databases. Particularly, in Canada, the National Sex Offender Registry (NSOR) was intended to help police officers mitigate and manage the risk that sex offenders pose to the public. Literature on sex offender registration has largely found that this practice has negative consequences for sex offenders such as the risk of vigilante justice, housing and employment restrictions, and increased stigma (for example: McAlinden, 2006). The pitfalls of sex offender registration illuminate how this practice, arguably, violates human rights. However, the literature pertaining to Canada's NSOR is scant and does not address how, and why, police officers -the only individuals permitted access to the database -are utilizing the registry as an investigative tool. Further, research has not explored whether the aims of the NSOR -prevention and protection from sex crimes -are being met. Using semi-structured interviews with police officers employed in Nova Scotia, Canada, the forthcoming study will determine how, and why, police officers are using the NSOR to determine if the database is used as intended. Understanding this information will highlight whether the registry assists officers in preventing sex crimes and protecting the public. The conclusions will provide rationale for the continued use of the NSOR or will pave the opportunity to establish future research directions and policy recommendations.

Author(s): *Emily Taweel, Dalhousie University*

### **2. Developing Situational Awareness of Post-Disaster Human Trafficking with Canadian Emergency Management Professionals**

Post-disaster human trafficking is increasing and it is the emergency manager's role to communicate the 'big picture' effectively, before, during and after a disaster impacts their community. The skills and competency of emergency management professionals can be helpful to organizations and agencies combating human trafficking, but local networks of policing organizations and their allies generally have the most comprehensive awareness pertaining to the human trafficking situation in North America, and this is just awareness about the domestic problem, not the post-disaster occurrences. As an endorser of the Sendai Framework 2015-2030, Canadian emergency managers should feel a responsibility to investigate disaster displacement-related incidents of human trafficking. Human trafficking is complex and compounds the systemic disarray often witnessed post-disaster. It is clear Canada's emergency management professionals will need to build their subject matter expertise to curb this growing trend. Best practices suggest the development of situational awareness initiatives and the need for emergency managers to take a role in a community of practice (CoP). Leverage points can be determined using a mixed methods approach, combining qualitative as well as quantitative methods and analyses of data collected from human trafficking hotlines post-disaster, advancing Public Safety Canada's 4Ps: prevention, protection, prosecution and partnerships.

Author(s): *Michelle Lindy Sullivan, Royal Roads University*

### **3. Bathroom Habits of Canadians During the 2010 Olympic Men's Hockey Final**

The Vancouver 2010 Olympic Men's hockey gold medal game, between Canada and the US, was the highest viewed public broadcast in Canadian history, drawing 16.6 million viewers. Nearly 26.5 million Canadians watched at least part of the game, triggering a resource phenomenon in most major Canadian cities. Sports are frequently used to analyze facets of national identity, imagined community, and social unity and cohesion. These concepts, often difficult to measure, require extensive research to reach tangible results. Energy and water consumption data during the Final presents a unique tool for measuring Canadian hockey participation. During each 17-minute break between periods, bathroom usage skyrocketed, straining municipal water facilities. Moreover, energy

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consumption attributed to electronic viewing devices increased moments before the event took place draining electrical resources. These unobtrusive measures present an inquiry into Canadian attitudes toward hockey as a national sport. This paper explores an odd but notable correlation between resource usage and Canadian hockey culture, in addition, exploring facets of American resentment, sport religiosity, and Emile Durkheim's approach to totemism.

Author(s): *Ibrahim Berrada, Laurentian University*

### 4. Origins and Development of Economic and Sociological Action Models

Human action has been analyzed from different points of view in the history of ideas. In economics and sociology in particular, various attempts at understanding action and its fundamental categories (ends, means, values, reasons, motivations, knowledge, etc.) were undertaken in order to reconstruct and provide an explanation of social phenomena. Yet, a commonality shared by many of these different models can be found in the attempt to systematize or to react to David Hume's conception of human action. Indeed, while most economists have sought, much in line with Hume, to modelize action as the pursuit of given, unanalyzable ends by means that are chosen according to the principle of instrumental rationality, many sociologists have sought to endogenize, or to analyze these "given," "unanalyzable" ends by investigating the social contexts of actors. This communication aims at delineating the historical continuities and divergences of these points of view by following the initial model of human action developed by Hume. First, Hume's general model will be briefly explained. Second, the points of view of economists following Hume in the 18th and 19th centuries utilitarian tradition will be explored. Third, the points of view of early sociologists attempting to explain social action through the understanding of the ends of the actors and their origins will be discussed. Last, it will be argued that these contributions to Hume's model bring the questions of what rationality is and of how it can be studied in the reconstruction of social phenomena of interest. It will be shown that these questions permeate the thought of social epistemologists to this day, both in economics and in sociology.

Author(s): *Christian Robitaille, University of Ottawa*

### 5. More Than a Helping Hand: Mentoring From the Perspective of the Mentor

In this diagnostic ethnography, I gather data from multiple field sites to explore the concept of mentoring, primarily from the perspective of mentors. I examine the benefits of mentoring for mentors, and discuss the effects of an emotional connection between mentor and mentee. Mentoring produces several benefits for mentors, which suggests more reciprocity than popular perceptions of mentoring as a simple one-way arrangement. These relationships also benefit from more friendly and informal relationships between mentors and mentees. The implication of such relationships is that lessons for mentees are carried on as fond memories with someone close. Finally, plugging mentees into different social networks now functions as a crucial element of the mentoring process, adding a layer of social capital into the equation.

Author(s): *Hammad Ahmed Khan, University of Toronto*

## Canadian Contributions to Theoretical Criminology I: Youth Crime and Deviance

Session Code: CRM1A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Criminology and Law

This session brings together contemporary Canadian research findings regarding the risk and protective factors of youth crime and deviance. Gregory Cullen looks at the risk factors for substance use among youth growing up in out-of-home care. Celina Badlu investigates the factors that lead young girls to join and leave gangs. Nadine Leduc and Adrienne Peters examine how bonds to parents can influence youth offending.

Organizer(s): *Timothy Kang, University of Toronto; Daniel Kudla, Memorial University*

Presentations:

### 1. Examining the Risk and Predictive Factors of Substance Use among Youth In-care

The role of the family, parenting behaviours, and parent-child relations continue to be a focal point for explaining deviant behaviour. An area of research within this field that has been garnering increasing attention is the

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relationship between growing up in out-of-home care, health and well-being, and substance use. This study uses a sample of 1170 youth from the Ontario Looking After Children (OnLAC) project data to investigate the effects of placement type, placement disruption, behavioral characteristics, and parent-child relations on marijuana and alcohol use among a sample of youth preparing to emancipate from care. The results of multinomial logistic regression models indicate that unsupervised living placements, instability, low caregiver attachment, and self-control are all important risk factors that influence levels of substance use among this population. The policy implications associated with these findings are relevant to service providers and child welfare professionals as programs aimed towards youth successfully transitioning out of care remains a priority.

Author(s): *Greggory Cullen, University of Guelph*

### **2. Girls in Gangs: The Push and Pull Factors**

Extant research demonstrates that young girls are more susceptible to joining gangs. While young boys have been highlighted as a vulnerable group to join gangs given gendered societal norms, young girls are seen as a higher risk population to being pressured to join gangs. This perspective covers up the fact that there are many young girls who join gangs and the leading factors that guide their decision to do so. Employing a critical framework, this paper explores the varying factors that lead young girls to want to join gangs as well as what leads them to leave gangs. Hirschi's social bond theory and Sutherland's theory of differential association will be used to assist in explaining this social phenomenon. Given the current lack of literature done on girls in gangs, further research is needed in order for society to do more to deter young girls from wanting to join gangs.

Author(s): *Celina Badlu, University of Windsor*

### **3. The Influence of Family Relationships on Official Early Offending: Applying Hirschi's Social Bonding Theory to a Sample of Canadian Youth**

Social control theories have been critical to developing our understanding of youth delinquency and crime. Hirschi's social bonding theory, specifically, proposes that attachment, commitment, involvement, and belief in conventional others, activities, and norms can dissuade young people from engaging in behaviour that contravenes values and laws. Research has demonstrated varying results regarding the importance of each of the four elements of the bond and in which contexts. This study used a sample of 261 youth supervised on probation in Western Canada to examine the impact of the bond between young people and their parents on patterns (e.g., chronic offending) and types (e.g., violent offences, sexual offences) of official youth offending. Regression analyses revealed interesting relationships between the variables tested, elucidating the importance of the family bond. These results have practical implications for integrating familial activities, that are also developmentally- and culturally-informed, into youth intervention programming.

Author(s): *Nadine Leduc, Memorial University; Adrienne Peters, Memorial University*

## Canadian Contributions to Theoretical Criminology II: The Nexus of Crime, the Justice System, and Society

Session Code: CRM1B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Criminology and Law

This session explores contemporary Canadian thought and research on the nexus between crime, the criminal justice system, and society. Paul Jakhu explores the stigma families of prisoners face and how they manage stigmatized identities. Crystal Weston takes an in-depth and critical look at the marketing and legitimization of the infamous "broken windows" policing strategy by an Ontario police department and their shortcomings in serving their communities. Mohammed Abdulai theorizes about structure/agency and social action in the contemporary world by using cybercrime as an empirical case. Holly Campeau explores both the "makers and breakers" of police legitimacy and feeders of legal cynicism and legal estrangement by investigating how police officers and the people they arrest make sense of their shared interactions. Please join us for what will prove to be a fascinating session exemplifying cutting-edge Canadian thought on contemporary issues at the intersection of crime and society.

Organizer(s): *Timothy Kang, University of Toronto; Daniel Kudla, Memorial University*



Presentations:

**1. Culture, Sense-Making and Legality: The Case of Police-Citizen Encounters**

This project broadly examines how police officers and the people they arrest give meaning to their shared interactions. Drawing on 90 interviews with arrestees (within 24 hours of their detention) and 30 frontline police officers of the Calgary Police Service, this research connects sociological theories of culture and meaning with criminological concepts to explore both the “makers and breakers” of police legitimacy and feeders of legal cynicism and legal estrangement. This project offers a rare approach to police scholarship: there is a lack of research in Canada examining this dual perspective of police-citizen encounters, and rarely do we hear directly from those who have been freshly arrested.

Author(s): *Holly Campeau, University of Alberta*

**2. Marked with Stigma: Families Experiences with Incarceration in Canadian Prisons**

This study presents the results of six in-depth qualitative interviews with prisoner's families that explore the challenges they experience with incarceration, the stigma they encounter, and management strategies for handling stigma. Often regarded as “hidden victims of crime” (Bakker et al. 1987) prisoner's families consist of a marginalized group receiving relatively little attention in the research gaze. Despite the lack of presence of prisoner's families, the results from this study suggest the experience of incarceration as a process in which family members undertake a stigmatized identity through the pains involved with the imprisonment of another member. The implications of the results highlight the difficulties prisoner's families face with incarceration.

Author(s): *Paul Jakhu, University of the Fraser Valley*

**3. Repackaging 'Broken Windows' Policing: An Empirical Study of the Hamilton Police Service's ACTION Program**

Despite decades of concern about the efficacy and social impacts of zero tolerance order-maintenance policing (also referred to as ‘Broken Windows’ policing), these tactics continue to be deployed by Canadian police departments. Indeed, police governance rationalized through rhetoric of violent crime and Broken Windows remains intact in Canada, often justified under the banner of ‘proactive’ police work. This qualitative study draws on interview data, participant-observation, and document analysis to study the execution of one such program in Ontario. This research demonstrates how ‘Broken Windows’ strategies are being repurposed and repackaged in elaborate organizational performances of innovation, increasingly linked to claims of ‘evidence-based practice’ through the use of information technology, crime analysis and the use of social media to create a supposed link between the program and community policing. Yet in practice, available evidence suggests the program reflects the same problematic Safe Streets Act enforcement that has raised concern for decades. This work illustrates how the organizational presentation of ACTION's approach to governance obscures its repackaging of broken windows and strategically links such tactics to more palatable governance approaches to acquire legitimacy. This empirical work calls attention to a significant disconnect between the department's marketing of the program and the experiences of community members in the neighbourhoods it targets.

Author(s): *Crystal Weston, University of Guelph*

**4. Theory in Action: Cybercrime Risk within the Structure Agency Discourse - case of Cybercrime influence cycle**

The structure and agency debate has been an enduring theme in the social sciences, especially in Sociology. Inferences from Archer (1996) and Giddens (1984), among other social theorists, suggest that the structure/agency conundrum is about the most important theoretical issue in the social sciences. The crux of this debate “concerns the issue of to what extent we as actors have the ability to shape our destiny as against the extent to which our lives are structured in ways out of our control; the degree to which our fate is determined by external forces.” (McAnulla, 2002, p. 271). This theoretical work reviews the three strands of the structure and agency debate in Sociology as it relates to cybercrime risk and makes a strong case for the middle ground -agency structure -as exemplified in Giddens' structuration. Following this, cybercrime risk is presented/discussed as an empirical case of structuration using insights from Stones' Strong Structurationist research brackets. Next, the work discusses Kraemer-Mbula et al. (2013) conceptualization of the “cybercrime ecosystem” as a case of structuration in action. The work concludes with the perspective that the agency structure perspective, exemplified in structuration theory, and as empirically demonstrated in cybercrime risk, remains a valuable standpoint to understand social action in the contemporary world

Author(s): *Mohammed A. Abdulai, University of Saskatchewan*

## The Release Trap?: How Release Conditions Shape the Lives of Criminal-Justice Involved Individuals

Session Code: CRM2

Research Cluster Affiliation: Criminology and Law

In an effort to minimize the individual and collateral consequences of imprisonment, criminal-justice involved individuals are increasingly being released back into the community with conditions. Schools, homes, workplaces, neighbourhoods and everyday routines are now the target of penal policies designed to extend the carceral reach beyond traditional methods of confinement. Though release on bail, probation and parole are intended, in part, to off-set the “pains of imprisonment,” they can also hide or obscure the ways the criminal justice system continues to control and manage individuals both before and after formal sentencing. This session seeks to bring together scholars exploring the experiences of individuals subjected to release conditions. As the number of criminalized individuals living in the community with conditions increases, it is important to better understand the extent to which release conditions reconfigure their lives and contribute to either social reintegration or dislocation. Examining the role that bail, probation, and parole conditions may play in further marginalizing vulnerable populations and increasing the likelihood of non-compliance contributes to contemporary discussions about how to address the revolving door of the criminal justice system.

Organizer(s): *Rachel Schumann, University of Toronto; Carolyn Yule, University of Guelph*

Presentations:

### 1. Coping with Conditions of Bail: The Role of Strain, Emotion, and the Subjective Adaptations of Accused

Researchers suggest that conditions of bail often pose a significant imposition on accused individuals lives and set them up to fail. This has generated important conversations concerning the unintended consequences of bail, including judicial net widening. Despite these concerns, however, research exploring the experience of bail remains under theorized. The current study uses general strain theory as a framework for better understanding how accused navigate and manage their release conditions. Interviews with 50 accused are used to assess the extent to which conditions of bail, and particularly no-contact orders, are experienced as a form of strain. The subjective adaptations of these accused are explored, including criminal and non-criminal coping, in light of the role of emotion and individual and environmental factors. Preliminary results indicate that accused differ in their subjective appraisal of similar types of strain. Negative emotions, as well as a lack of social supports, however, appear to be important factors that result in corrective action consistent with deviant coping. These findings contribute to our knowledge about how the accused subjective appraisal of their bail conditions may shape (non) compliance. Implications for criminal justice practice and policy will be discussed.

Author(s): *Laura May MacDiarmid, University of Guelph*

### 2. Why Abide?: Weighing the Costs and Benefits of Bail Conditions

Deterrence remains one of the key justifications for criminal justice interventions. At the bail stage, accused are commonly released into the community with conditions while they await the resolution of their case. Legally, these conditions are intended to prevent the accused from absconding, reoffending, and/or interfering with the administration of justice. However, in reality, scholars and legal professionals question the utility of conditions, arguing that certain ones set the accused up to fail. While it is important to research what conditions commonly result in breaches, it is also important to examine what conditions accused are able to abide by and under what circumstances. In order to assess the deterrent effect of conditions, we analyzed 100 interviews with accused individuals about their experiences on bail. Our results show that bail conditions produce three main outcomes - no effect, a deterrent effect, and a transformative effect -characterized by differences in risk-benefit calculations and the presence of formal and informal external controls. Though living with conditions did not appear to inspire long-term compliance amongst most accused, some accused did develop a new appreciation for following the law. The findings contribute to, and extend, current conversations on the efficacy of bail conditions by providing a theoretical starting point for understanding why accused abide by the conditions of their release.

Author(s): *Bianka Dunleavy, University of Guelph*

### 3. Youth bail admissions and outcomes: the influence of geographic location, race and gender

Youth bail and sentencing practices in Ontario are a significant concern for researchers and policy-makers. Previous evidence suggests that administration of justice charges, which include breaching bail conditions, are one of the most common criminal charges laid against youth in Ontario. A major gap in research on youth bail practices has been considering the impact of geographic location on bail-related outcomes, including sentencing. Further, there is limited to no research exploring the role of gender and race in youths' admissions to custody and detention. First, we analyzed over 150,000 youth cases from the Ministry of the Attorney General's Integrated Case Outcome Network (ICON) between 2006-2019. We found important geographic differences in bail decision-making and case outcomes, particularly in the North and Toronto regions of Ontario. Second, we analyzed custody and detention admissions data broken down by race and gender provided by the Ministry of Children, Community, and Social Services between 2006-2016. We found that Black and Indigenous youth are over-represented in most provincial regions, and that admissions rates of girls vary widely across the province. Overall, there appears to be significant variation in youth justice practices across provincial regions, indicating potential problems related to proportionality and availability of supportive resources.

Author(s): *Reza Ahmadi, John Howard Society of Ontario; Safiyah Husein, John Howard Society of Ontario; Meaghan Costa, John Howard Society of Ontario; Jessica Sutherland, York University*

#### **4. Are Correctional Programs in Newfoundland Effectual? Examining the Experiences of Justice-Involved Individuals with Mental Illnesses and Substance Use Disorders**

It has been well established that those with mental illnesses (MIS) and/or substance use disorders (SUDS) are overrepresented among correctional populations in Canada, and many other countries worldwide. Throughout their life-course, these individuals frequently get stuck in the revolving door that is the criminal justice system. Qualitative research on the impact of programming on desistance for justice-involved individuals with mis and/or suds is sparse at best, and there is a demonstrated need for research that focuses on the perspectives of program attendees. The purpose of this research is to examine narratives on the programs and services available for justice-involved individuals who have a MI and/or SUD (self-reported or diagnosed) in Newfoundland. I am conducting semi-structured, narrative style interviews to discover what aspects of custodial and community programs/services were most beneficial, with specific regard to how well programs are able to meet their independent criminogenic needs, and where change may be needed to better assist with the community reintegration and desistance for adult correctional populations in our province.

Author(s): *Laura Squires, Memorial University; Adrienne Peters, Memorial University; Rose Ricciardelli, Memorial University*

#### **5. Retrospect: Supports for Criminal Record Holders, Incarcerated Individuals and Community Reintegration**

Possessing a criminal record is associated with many limitations to engagement in society. Offenders have difficulty establishing basic necessities, housing, and employment, as well as pro-social skill development, and as a result, often are subject to reoffence. Engaging in leisure and recreation has been shown to provide opportunities for offenders to obtain gainful skills that assist in the rehabilitative process of reintegration (Iwasaki et al., 2013; Yuen and Pedlar, 2009). Investigate the current status of services and supports available to incarcerated and individuals with criminal records. Qualitative description study using a semi-structured interview guide to explore the perceptions of frontline workers who work with offenders. Sample of n = 6, participant responses resulted in many common barriers and limitations to serving their clients. Major identified themes highlighted the process and experience of reintegration and responsibilities moving forward. Qualitative data obtained are consistent with major American literature and current Canadian data found defining the common trends experienced by frontline workers servicing offenders. As data demonstrates, shifts in both policy and law, along with shifts in social attitude, are necessary to improve the supports and services, and in turn the rate of recidivism.

Author(s): *Nnamdi Chiekwe, Dalhousie University*

### **Sociological Perspectives on Sex Trafficking and Sex Work**

Session Code: CRM3

Research Cluster Affiliation: Criminology and Law

Human trafficking is a gross violation of human rights involving the threat or use of force, abduction, deception, or other forms of coercion for the purpose of exploitation that has increasingly attracted public attention in recent years. Trafficking for sexual exploitation concerns primarily women. In fact, the share of women among detected victims of this form of trafficking between 2010 and 2012 was 97% (United Nations Office on Drugs & Crime, 2009, 2015). Doubtlessly, sex trafficking is a serious threat to women's equality and the basic right of every woman and girl to live free of violence. It is also a violation of international and Canadian law. Sex work, on the other hand, is a consensual transaction between adults. Although the act of selling or buying sexual services is not a violation of human rights, it has been widely recognized that criminalizing sex work promotes violence and violates the human rights of sex workers.

Organizer(s): *Henry Chow, University of Regina*

Presentations:

**1. The Criminalization of Sex Work: Creating And Exacerbating Disability in Canada**

When Canada implemented the Protection of Communities and Exploited Persons Act (PCEPA), a collection of prostitution related laws criminalizing the purchase of sexual services and third-party advertising, MP Peter Mackay praised the legislation for "protecting vulnerable Canadians" (Mackay 2014, np). I explore the effects of Canada's sex work legislation using a disability lens to argue that the Protection of Communities and Exploited Persons relies on ableist stereotypes and specifically targets sex workers and clients due to perceived disabilities. Incorporating data from my ongoing dissertation research with disabled sex workers, I offer a close reading of three major sections of PCEPA, and illustrate the ways in which this legislation creates conditions for disability and exacerbates existing disabilities.

Author(s): *Lindsay Blewett, York University*

**2. Myths and Facts About Sex Trafficking: Findings From A Survey of University Students in a Western Canadian City**

Public Safety Canada (2019) defines human trafficking as "the recruitment, transportation, harbouring and/or exercising control, direction or influence over the movements of a person in order to exploit that person, typically through sexual exploitation or forced labour. It is often described as a modern form of "slavery." According to Statistics Canada, between 2009 and 2016, there were a total of 1,220 police-reported incidents of human trafficking where it was the most serious violation. Among the 865 victims of human trafficking during that period, an overwhelming majority (95%) of the victims were women (Ibrahim, 2018). Given the importance of this problem, the Government of Canada announced in 2019 an investment of \$57.22 million over five years, starting in 2019-20, and \$10.28 million annually thereafter, in new federal funding to combat human trafficking under a National Strategy to Combat Human Trafficking. This paper explores the understanding of sex trafficking issues in a sample of over 564 university students in a Western Canadian city. Multiple ordinary least-squares regression will be used to identify the major factors contributing to their views and knowledge.

Author(s): *Xiashengyou Wang, University of Regina; Henry Chow, University of Regina*

**3. Lustful Prophets, Colluding Fathers: the Trafficking of Young Brides between Canada and the US for the Purposes of Multiple Covenant Marriage**

This paper focuses on the legal processes that have crystallized a specific form of "erotic propriety" and sexual citizenship in the Law in Canada. I grapple seriously with the question: whose versions of love and marriage gain ascendancy, become licit, and are legally entrenched through recognized and state sanctioned unions, in pluralistic societies such as Canada? In 2011, a British Columbia Supreme Court adjudication examined the practice of Mormon polygamy. The courts needed to ascertain whether Mormon polygamy was inherently harmful and whether it might be protected by the "freedom of religion" clause of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Judge Bauman, presiding on the case, concluded that Fundamentalist Mormon polygamy was always harmful, and upheld its criminalization in the Criminal Code, while re-centring monogamy as the unshakeable pillar of sexual citizenship. My analysis aims to ascertain whether the trope of "bride smuggling" between Canada and the United States of America was adopted by the Canadian state to normatively impose a very specific kind of erotic civility, while at the same time safeguarding both the purse strings of the state and the borders of the nation. In conclusion, my presentation will touch upon Muslim polygamy, as in the last months, the watchful gaze of the state has placed in its scope the Muslim marriage practice of "nikah" (a religious union that allows Muslim men to marry up to four wives). Nikah has captivated the attention of the media and jurisprudence experts. This might be a legal threshold

moment: if the courts were to prosecute Nikah marriages as infringements of Section 293 of the Criminal Code, this will likely trigger a constitutional challenge of the validity of the criminal prohibitions of polygamy, on religious grounds, at the Federal Supreme Court level.

Author(s): *Serena Petrella, Brandon University*

#### **4. Barriers to Access: Understanding the Relationship between Student Sex Workers and Support Services**

This paper contributes to a small body of research that examines student sex work in a Canadian context. It draws on data gathered from semi-structured qualitative interviews with ten student sex workers in Canada to explore students' access to health and counselling services in relation to their experiences within the sex industry. Findings reveal that student sex workers have numerous concerns that dissuade them from accessing existing support services, chief among those being anonymity concerns and a lack of appropriate training among service providers to manage the multiple and complex needs of sex workers. Students reported wanting to keep their work a secret in order to avoid prejudice that could result from having their sex worker identity revealed to, among others, health and counselling staff. Prejudice against sex workers was noted by participants as a manifestation of the social and legal climate in which sex workers operate wherein sex work is stigmatized and conceptualized as an illegitimate form of work. This paper concludes by drawing on student sex workers' experiences to point to how alternative modes of service provision, such as online social services, can offer student sex workers the opportunity to benefit from support services whilst avoiding pervasive societal stigma.

Author(s): *Emily Hammond, University of Toronto*

### **Racial and Class Based Inequality in the Criminal Justice System I: Surveiling Subjects, Producing Citizens - The 'Ins' to 'Outs' of Carceral Systems**

Session Code: CRM4A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Criminology and Law

This sub session focuses on how the interlocking systems of prison, policing, policy, and connected institutions operate to surveil and produce certain subjectivities. Presentations address how core aspects of human identities, such as race, gender, and class position, are generated and negotiated through the structural processes and disciplinary practices which characterize criminal justice systems.

Organizer(s): *Richard Kanary, McMaster University*

Presentations:

#### **1. The Birth of the Subjectification Machine: Kingston Penitentiary at the Turn of the 20th Century**

Canadian prisons are overcrowded and incarceration rates in Canada remain among the highest among Western industrialized countries (Correctional Service Canada 2015a; Latimer 2015; Marron 1996). Concomitant with this problematic carceral congestion has been the disproportionate admission of black, Indigenous, and other racialized Canadians (Mosher 1998, Roberts and Doob 1997), which the Commission on Systemic Racism in the Ontario Justice System (Ontario 1995) has touted as a "relatively recent phenomenon" (104). However, the overrepresentation of racialized populations in the Canadian Justice system is far from new. As this paper conveys, since its inception the Canadian carceral system has served as a social-sorting apparatus that regulates racialized bodies through increasingly sophisticated classification processes (Foucault 1977; Macgregor 2015; Mosher 1998; Wacquant 2002, 2005). Two-thousand Kingston penitentiary prisoner profiles recorded between 1900-1920 were collected from the Kingston Penitentiary inmate history ledger from Library and Archives Canada. Compared against 1901 and 1911 Canadian censuses, racialized persons were incarcerated at rates between three and eight times that of their White counterparts. Using inferential quantitative analyses of these data, this paper further illustrates how racialized, immigrant, and lower-class populations were disproportionately convicted of more serious crimes and received longer sentences. Directions for future research and implications for these data as the seed-bed for the over-representation of racialized populations in the Canadian carceral system are discussed.

Author(s): *Richard Kanary, McMaster University*

**2. Revisiting the chivalry hypothesis: Evidence from high-profile U.S. murder cases**

The chivalry hypothesis claims that women who commit crimes receive more lenient sentences than men. This is usually explained by the fact that judges tend to see women as caregivers and less threatening to the public order compared to men. This study tests this claim by examining the biographies of over 3700 high-profile murderers in the United States in the past 30 years. The dataset contains a variety of biographical and procedural variables that were previously not used in quantitative studies on this topic. The results paint a complicated picture, where a combination of racial/ethnic, regional, and contextual factors affect sentencing outcomes for men and women in the U.S.

Author(s): *Alexandre Miltsov, Nazarbayev University*

**3. Racialized Regimes of Control: Police and Civilian Technologies of Confinement**

In this paper, I explore the intersections of race, policing and technologies of surveillance, as well as civilian technologies employed as a means of “dark sousveillance” (Browne 2015). Borrowing from Steve Mann et al. (2003), who describe sousveillance as a way of using technology to allow ordinary individuals to observe those in power (332), Simone Browne explains that dark sousveillance “speaks to black epistemologies of contending with antiblack surveillance” (21). Outside of the more widely recognized carceral institutions, I argue that both surveillance and dark sousveillance have made the occupation of public space increasingly carceral. I begin by briefly foregrounding the 2013 fatal shooting of Sammy Yatim by the Toronto Police to not only flag the long-standing, race-based and violent culture of policing in Canada, but to signal how the shooting itself was mobilized by the state and its policing apparatus to usher in new technologies of surveillance and, specifically, body-worn cameras (BWCs). As many scholars, studies and reports have already demonstrated (Ariel et al. 2016; Yokum et al. 2017), BWCs have not improved police accountability or transparency. Rather than reiterate these points, I argue, counterintuitively, that the increase of police BWCs has been accelerated by acts of dark sousveillance. In other words, I contend that acts of police violence captured on mobile phones and disseminated through social media platforms, have contributed to the proliferation of police BWCs, despite the perception of the Internet as a democratic space of resistance (Noble 2018). This paper susses out some of the connections and relationships between long histories of racialized policing and surveillance. At the same time, it asks us to query how technologies of dark sousveillance, while indeed instrumental in bringing racialized police violence and injustices to light, contribute to digital and spatial forms of confinement.

Author(s): *Constantine Gidaris, McMaster University*

**4. The impact of shifts in political strategies, policies, and influence on how the criminal justice system processes racialized peoples - 1990-2020**

Sociology as a discipline combines decades of theory and applied research with personal passion surrounding inequality and social justice. It merges the desires to see social change with the pursuit of knowledge and in-depth inquiry into social phenomenon. However, conversations amongst academics often take on an overly theoretical tone, ignoring the real people and challenges involved. These discussions can be mistaken for action and impact. This paper does an extensive content-analysis of policies that have adversely impacted racial minorities within the criminal justice system, as well as changes in policy that have occurred between 1990 and 2020. It seeks to understand the way certain policies pave way for discriminatory practices by police towards racialized people. In addition, this paper looks at changes in policy made in the name of reducing racial disparities, while assessing evidence on whether these changes have in fact reduced racial bias at the level of policing and arrests. Finally, it seeks to delve into the role sociologists have played both in sustaining oppressive policies through knowledge production, and how they have shaped new policies that operate in our current system. Our understanding of how inequality is systematically enforced, and the mechanisms used to reduce it - indeed, if it has been reduced or just better disguised - is paramount in our continued endeavour to reduce the inequality and racism that pervades the criminal-justice system. This analysis is done based exclusively on Canadian literature and policy shifts.

Author(s): *Rebekah McNeilly, McMaster University*

**Racial and Class Based Inequality in the Criminal Justice System II: State-based Disciplinary Practices and the Cultural Genocide of Indigenous Peoples in Canada**

Session Code: CRM4B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Criminology and Law



## 2020 Canadian Sociological Association Conference: Resisting Racism and Colonialism

Long-term poverty, violence, and marginalization disproportionately affect Indigenous peoples in Canada. It is no surprise, then, that Indigenous peoples are also vastly overrepresented in criminal justice systems and correctional institutions. These papers reflect upon how criminal justice systems and their underpinning policies have systematically disadvantaged Indigenous peoples and regulated their bodies, identities, culture, and more through what Patrick Wolfe terms a “logic of elimination”.

Organizer(s): *Richard Kanary, McMaster University*

Presentations:

### **1. Police Discrimination and Missing and Murdered Indigenous Woman in Canada**

Since 1950 over 3000 Indigenous women in Canada have been murdered or have completely disappeared. This problem is so pervasive that the Canadian government has admitted there they do not actually know how many Indigenous woman have gone missing or been murdered. In this paper I answer the following questions: How does the historical marginalization of Indigenous peoples in Canada trickle into contemporary policing? How have police hindered Indigenous peoples attempts to find information on their missing or murdered loved ones? How has systemic discrimination via the criminal justice system exacerbated the trauma of people who have lost a loved one? Using intersectionality as a lens to analyze this issue, this paper will contribute to a small body of literature on missing and murdered Indigenous woman. It will also build on a larger discussion on the continued trauma Indigenous peoples face at the hands of multiple Canadian institutions. As a whole I use approximately 12 in depth semi-structured interviews with the friends and family of Indigenous woman that have lost a family member. Findings suggest that police across are slow to respond to request for help. Or simply refuse to help altogether. Police often cite racialized, gendered and class specific reasons for not helping with these cases like “she probably ran away with her boyfriend” or “she is probably off drinking somewhere.” This paper demonstrates how the marginalization and trauma family’s experiences is exacerbated by law enforcement. As a whole the paper sheds light on the individual oppression individuals experienced, the interpersonal and systemic discrimination they face and the historical and societal discrimination perpetuated by multiple institutions in Canada.

Author(s): *Jerry Flores, University of Toronto; Aarthi Thota, University of Toronto; Wamika Razdan, University of Toronto; Sahiba Vig, University of Toronto*

### **2. Ignoring Intersectional Oppression: The Criminal Justice System's Role in the Revictimization of Indigenous Women**

Scholars and governmental reports have formally recognized the overrepresentation of Indigenous peoples in both federal and provincial prison facilities in what is now Canada for several decades. This overrepresentation stems from colonization and its processes including: displacement, residential schools, racism, systemic discrimination, cultural assimilation, and the erosion of political and cultural systems. In 1996, the federal government amended the Criminal Code judicial sentencing instructions for the prosecution of Indigenous offenders as a policy strategy to curb the overrepresentation of Indigenous peoples in provincial and federal correctional facilities. The provision encourages judges to consider unique alternatives to incarceration when sentencing Indigenous offenders and the Canadian government claimed that this reform would better align the mainstream justice system with principles of traditional Indigenous justice. Using an intersectional framework, this paper reviews the work of scholars who critique this amendment for its failure to consider the potential negative impacts of this reform on Indigenous women. To make this argument, it first explores the literature that examines the unique needs of Indigenous women arising from their intersectional identity. Second, it explores the work of scholars who identify the provision’s creation as a problematic avenue for addressing Indigenous overincarceration. Finally, it reviews how the provision serves to perpetuate social injustices for Indigenous women as victims and perpetrators of crime.

Author(s): *Anna Johnson, University of Guelph*

### **3. Control by Proxy: The Regulation of Indigenous Peoples and Settler Labour via Canadian Anti-Sex Work Laws, 1865-2016**

This study examines Canada’s history of anti-sex legislation from 1865 to 2016 and demonstrates that these laws exist primarily to maintain the ideological boundaries between whiteness and indigeneity. The study forwards a theory that accounts for the ways in which anti-sex work legislation assists in a) the appropriation of land through the removal and/or isolation of indigenous peoples and b) maintaining hegemonic control over settler labour. To this end, three time periods are identified in which violent settlement and the production of white, middle-class

personhood were features of the regularization of capitalist-colonial rule, and where anti-sex work laws played a vital role in the management of instabilities manifested by indigenous activism and labour discontent: the consummation of the Canadian colonial system (1850 - 1900), industrialization (1900 - 1920) and neoliberalism (1970s - current). By examining the current and historical legislative framework regulating sex work, this study as to demonstrate how both the legal framework and its enforcement act as proxies for controlling land and labour.  
Author(s): *Tierney Kobryn-Dietrich, McMaster University*

#### **4. Tools of Colonialism in a Carceral Setting: The Offender Intake Assessment Process, Indigenous Peoples, and Risk**

This presentation explores how Correctional Service Canada's (CSC) definition of risk contributes to the marginalization of Indigenous prisoners during the Offender Intake Assessment (OIA) process administered upon admission to a penitentiary. There are three working definitions of risk employed in the CSC's federal carceral environment including 1) risk to the public in case of escape, 2) risk of altercation inside the institution, and 3) risk to reoffend (Austin, 2006; Motiuk, 1997; Public Safety Canada, 2010; Webster and Doob, 2004). These can be distilled to a broad definition of risk for the institution. The risk assessment tools used in the OIA process were validated based on a subpopulation of white males (Hannah-Moffat, 2019; Martel, Brassard, and Jaccoud, 2011; Webster and Doob, 2004; Wilson and Gutierrez, 2014; Zinger, 2004). Overall tool validity has relied on multiple regression models based on the predictive validity of risk on the outcome of recidivism. The result being that statistical analysis of p values have argued that race or gender differences are insignificant and inconsequential to the administration of actuarial risk assessment tools in the OIA process. However, this presentation contends that strict statistical examinations support the commodification of risk in the Canadian prison economy, which requires a steady flow of Indigenous bodies and that recidivism is only one aspect of risk. As such, it posits that based on the institution's definition of risk, the CSC perpetuates settler colonialism during the administration of the OIA to Indigenous prisoners. For this reason, there is a need to deconstruct current modes of analysis and to reframe the meaning of risk in a carceral environment via the lens of settler colonialism. Hence, this paper proposes reframing the definition of risk to consider the risk for the prisoner to experience unnecessarily stringent security measures to unsettle the dominant narrative.

Author(s): *Alicia Clifford, McMaster University*

#### **5. Conflictual Justice: The Probationary Supervision of Indigenous Offenders in Northeastern Ontario**

Academic scholarship, non-governmental organizations, and governmental commissions alike have called for reform to the Canadian criminal justice system regarding the treatment of Indigenous offenders. However, little scholarship is dedicated to the probationary supervision of Indigenous offenders. To that extent, this paper explores the probationary supervision of Indigenous offenders in Northeastern Ontario through semi-structured interviews with four recently retired probation officers, and one Institutional Elder. Informed by theoretical frameworks of Klockars' models of probationary supervision and post-colonial theory, thematic analyses revealed three interlocking narratives. First, probationary work requires situational awareness to balance competing conceptions of criminal justice that foreground policy, namely a balance between enforcement and rehabilitation. Second, establishing trust with Indigenous offenders remains challenging given the permanence of colonial assimilation, cultural destruction, and social marginalization - situated in racial and cultural prejudices evident to Canada's criminal justice system. Probation officers work with Indigenous offenders manifests in a socio-political environment that attempts to contextualize the unique circumstances of Indigenous offenders; indicative of a turn towards reconciliation by recognizing the state-induced hardships of Indigenous peoples. Lastly, these efforts fall short, as the Canadian states appeal to reconciliation is ambivalent in the sense that it bounds Indigeneity to the settler-states system of rules. Within this process, probation officers in Northeastern Ontario -despite their best intentions -are limited by a lack of governmental services, and external community resources. Therefore, Indigenous offenders cannot receive the resources they need for personal rehabilitation which ultimately contributes to a cycle of criminality, thereby exposing the state's ambivalence. The results of this paper suggest that perhaps an insurmountable cultural incongruity exists within the probationary process, and by extension the criminal justice system, wherein the needs of Indigenous offenders are not met within a colonial system that appears alien and repressive.

Author(s): *William Edward Hollingshead, Western University*

## Crime and Deviance in Sport: Towards a Critical Criminology I

Session Code: CRM5A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Criminology and Law; Sociology of Sport

This session tackles questions of crime, deviance, and punishment as it relates to sport. Through a variety of methodological approaches (e.g. ethnography, content analysis), these papers examine the various ways discourses, legislation, practices, and initiatives in the sporting world legitimate new governance strategies. Specifically, these papers consider the ways sport is mobilized as an instrument of social control, including prevention of youth crime and violent extremism, promotion of individual well-being, and responsabilization of athletes, parents, and organizations.

Organizer(s): *Derek Silva, King's University College at Western University; Liam Kennedy, King's University College; Mark Norman, McMaster University; Deana Simonetto, University of British Columbia*

Presentations:

### 1. "Discipline that hurts" : Punitive logics and governance in sport

In this paper, we undertake a case study of the National Hockey League's (NHL) supplementary discipline regime to reflect on the ways in which discourses about social harm are configured, taken up, and used in the sporting landscape and how they reflect and reify narrow understandings of crime and punishment. We find that the hockey world employs predictable crime and justice metaphors when discussing on-ice violence and suggest this breeds fear and legitimates governance strategies. The NHL supplemental discipline process itself -much like penalty away from the rink -is characterized by multiple, sometimes contradictory, objectives. Notably, the league responsabilizes players, long endorsing or accepting vigilantism, refusing to enact structural changes, and compelling players themselves to create a safe workplace. This regime has contributed to financial struggles, chronic physical and mental health issues, and the early deaths of a host of former players.

Author(s): *Liam Kennedy, King's University College at Western University Canada; Derek Silva, King's University College at Western University Canada*

### 2. Social control in youth hockey: The unintended consequences of Rowan's Law

Concussions have become a growing concern in the sporting, medical and research communities in North America and globally. Malcolm (2019) illustrates how sport-related concussions have become medicalized despite conflicting research and opinions. It is due in part to this medicalization that governing bodies have implemented social controls through legislation to combat the issue of sports-related concussions. This is evident in Canada through the implementation of Rowan's Law. Rowan's Law was created and implemented after the death of 17-year old Rowan Stringer in Ottawa, Ontario in 2013 from second-impact syndrome. Rowan's Law requires sporting governing bodies to follow a set of guidelines which include; 1) all athletes under the age of 26, and all parents of athlete's under the age of 18 must receive concussion awareness resources, 2) all sport organizations must establish a concussion code of conduct, and 3) all sport organizations must establish a return-to and removal-from play protocol. This paper provides a discursive critique of the legislative assembly of Ontario document which outlines the rules and regulations of Rowan's Law. This paper sets out to critically assess Rowan's Law as a form of social control by the Government of Ontario and the unintended consequences of such governance.

Author(s): *Niya St Amant, Wilfrid Laurier University*

### 3. "Being Mean" and " Spazzing Out": Social Calibration and the Collective Management of Deviant Behaviour in Combat Sports

The embodied study of combat sports offers a prime opportunity to analyze deviance and social control as the embodied nature of the practice, and the extreme (violent) behaviours that fighters negotiate, make more visible the socialization processes that actors engage in across other social fields (Wacquant 2014). This article draws on field notes and interview data from an ethnographic study of a Toronto-area mixed martial arts gym to explore what happens when combat sport practitioners engage in deviant behaviour by either exceeding or failing to meet the norms around appropriate levels of violence and intensity at the gym. Using a micro-sociological lens, I analyse gym members' understandings of, and reactions to, these socially unacceptable behaviours, paying particular attention to how behaviours falling above and below the acceptable thresholds of violence are gendered through

gym members' mental and physical dispositions. In turn, I explore how gender shapes approaches to managing intensity breaches through either subtle physical socialization, or more direct vocal interventions. This case study aims to provide broader insight into the processes of social calibration and intensity management through which actors negotiate with each other to moderate their levels of intensity so as to align with prevailing social norms.

Author(s): *Brigid E.K. Burke, University of Toronto*

#### **4. Sport, Youth Crime Prevention, and Carceral Space**

Although sport is increasingly deployed as a crime prevention tool in a variety of contexts around the globe, including custody facilities and community diversionary programs, sociological research on this topic remains limited. This paper, which emerges from the author's research on sport and youth justice in the province of Ontario, explores a number of critical lines of inquiry concerning sport and youth justice. These include tensions between discourses of rehabilitation and punishment, and the simultaneous possibilities for sport programs to provide youth with socially meaningful and pleasurable experiences while also acting as vehicles for surveillance or social control. Theoretically, the paper draws from critical developments in criminology and human geography that, building on theoretical traditions of scholarship on punishment and prisons, recognize the complex ways in which the effects and manifestations of carcerality extend far beyond the prison. As such, this paper considers how sport is deployed and experienced by youth in diverse carceral spaces, with a particular attention to how social meanings of sport shift or remain constant between custody and community settings.

Author(s): *Mark Norman, McMaster University*

#### **5. Sport for exception? Interrogating the effects of sport-for-deradicalization on migrant and refugee rights**

This paper explores the implications of the burgeoning global interest in sport-for-deradicalization for the rights and freedoms of migrants and refugees who are recruited into sport programs within host societies. In 2018, the United Nations (UN) General Assembly adopted a resolution recognizing the role of sport in sustainable development, which includes its perceived ability to prevent violent extremism while promoting individual well-being and development. The UN Office on Drugs and Crime has also recognized sport as an important tool for building individual and community resiliency against violent extremism and radicalization. As such, there has been interest across Western Europe in building migrant and refugee sport programs designed to help newcomers integrate into their new culture, but also to surveil them for 'radicalized tendencies'. These include the Box-Out Gym in Hamburg, where young Muslim men are encouraged to integrate through learning how to box. Utilizing Agamben's *Sovereign Power and Bare Life*, I interrogate how sport attracts 'stateless' individuals into spaces of surveillance where their human rights are called into question. My primary concern lies with examining how, and with what effects, sport is utilized to create states of exception that leave 'risky' sporting subjects vulnerable to state violence.

Author(s): *Adam Ehsan Ali, University of Toronto*

### **Crime and Deviance in Sport: Towards a Critical Criminology II**

Session Code: CRM5B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Criminology and Law; Sociology of Sport

This panel tackles questions of crime, deviance, and punishment as it relates to sport. Broadly, these papers examine the ways athletes inflict and experience violence as well as issues of consent. They consider violence in its various forms: interpersonal violence both on and away from the court, rink, or field, structural violence and the exploitation of athlete labour, and violence against the self. Each project highlights how the ways we think about and respond to these forms of violence pathologize 'offenders' and disregard broader structural problems, including the culture of the sport.

Organizer(s): *Derek Silva, King's University College at Western University; Liam Kennedy, King's University College; Mark Norman, McMaster University; Deana Simonetto, University of British Columbia*

Presentations:

**1. “Dang! That looked painful. Bad break for #Mystics” : Social Reproduction and the Structural Violence of Athletic Injury**

Despite the over-arching penal regimes of sanction against and regulation of violence in late capitalist North America, spectacular sport continues to be a context in which the violent subjection of the body is normalized, legitimized, and even required through its instrumentalization as a function of productivity. In this project I examine how the structural violence of athletic injury serves a necessary social reproductive function for fans. Through a close reading of Twitter replies to salient tweets that announce moments of significant athletic injury across a range of high-performance spectator sport contexts (specifically in NCAA football, the NHL, and the WNBA), I explore the instrumental nature of the relationship between fan and player through the way concern and affect are channeled towards a team's performance imperatives rather than an athlete's well-being. These gendered dynamics index the attenuation of regard between fan and player wrought by capitalist social relations and, increasingly, the digital consumption of sport.

Author(s): *Nathan Kalman-Lamb, Duke University*

**2. More than a “bad apple”: Ongoing cycles of violence in athletes' families**

In 2012, NFL player Jovan Belcher murdered his girlfriend and then drove to his teams facility and ended his own life in front of his coaches. Diagnosed postmortem with chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE), Belchers family launched a lawsuit against the NFL claiming that his violent behaviour was caused by traumatic brain injuries (TBIs) suffered from playing football. The media has reported on (and in some ways created) the connection between athletes suffering repeated concussions in contact sports, the development of CTE, and engaging in violence off the field. Athletes who commit violence off the field or engaged in drug violations are often pathologized as a ‘bad apple’ - the exception to the rule - rather than considering their behaviour as embedded in the broader social context of hegemonic masculinity, sports-related violence and exploitation that athletes experience, especially at the elite level (Coakley 2015; Courteen 2018; Young 2019). This chapter attempts to untangle some of these tensions by illustrating the relationships between sports-related violence, masculinities, and gender-based violence. Drawing on interviews with 52 participants (athletes and their families), we describe three interconnected formations of sports-related violence (Young 2019) that emerged from the families' stories: (1) player violence; (2) partner abuse/domestic violence; (3) violence against the self. We conclude by discussing the serious consequences of sports-related violence families of athletes - consequences that persist long after their sports careers are over.

Author(s): *Deana Simonetto, University of British Columbia; Stacey Hannem, Wilfrid Laurier University; Erica Thomson, University of British Columbia*

**3. “Is CTE a Defense for Murder?” Critical insights into violence, crime, and brain trauma in sports**

This chapter concerns the criminological and socio-legal implications of Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE), a neurodegenerative disease associated with repetitive brain trauma. CTE can only be definitively diagnosed post-mortem, but scientists have linked the disease to symptoms such as cognitive difficulties, memory loss, and mood or behavioural irregularities. After several high-profile athletes were diagnosed with CTE after their deaths, the disease quickly became an urgent and controversial aspect of sport's “concussion crisis.” In this chapter, we examine how CTE has been implicated within criminal cases involving male athletes including football player Aaron Hernandez, retired football player Kellen Winslow Jr., and retired hockey player Mark Pavelich. We outline how the notion that brain damage incurred through sport can be responsible for athletes' violent crimes follows the logics of neurocriminology, a subdiscipline of biocriminology that employs neuroscience and brain imaging to understand criminal behaviour. Yet we reveal the limitations of such neurocriminological logics and demonstrate how arguments both supporting and refuting the viability of the “CTE Defense” rely on problematic causal-linear relationships between CTE and criminal acts. Using the tools of critical criminology, we instead propose ways to contextualize athlete violence (both on and off-the-field) that are more attentive to the social conditions through which athletes inflict and experience harm.

Author(s): *Matt Ventresca, University of Calgary; Kathryn Henne, Australian National University*

**4. The Legality of Violence in Ice Hockey: From Implied Consent to Informed Consent**

Various forms of violence are arguably part of the playing culture of ice hockey. While some actions may appear excessive and beyond the scope of the game, the players generally accept the risks that come with playing a physical game. While violence has traditionally been accepted by players as simply part of the game, these cultural beliefs are increasingly contested from within. For instance, athletes are increasingly bringing their cases to court, and others are calling for better concussion regulation. Part of this increased regulation is a call for informed

consent to the consequences of hockey injuries. In moving towards a critical criminology of sport, we must recognize the importance of consent. From a legal standpoint, there is no assault if the player consented, expressly or implicitly, to the conduct in advance. Implied consent is difficult to define as it refers to a number of unwritten rules in the game. Accordingly, it is crucial to determine the scope of implied consent, and hockey's many unwritten rules, to understand the legality of violence. Drawing on qualitative interviews with hockey players, this study explores the scope of consent to violence in ice hockey, and supports a legal framework that considers both the written rules and the playing culture of the sport.

Author(s): *Martine Dennie, University of Calgary*

#### **5. Excused or Condemned? How NFL Fans Frame and Discuss the Kareem Hunt Altercation on Reddit**

On February 18th, 2018, reports surfaced that Kareem Hunt, then running back for the Kansas City Chiefs, physically assaulted a woman. Hunt denied accounts of the extent of his involvement, but video footage emerging several months later depicted him shoving, knocking down, and attempting to kick the woman. In a qualitative content analysis of comments (n= 2,041) from four online Reddit forums, we examine sports fan responses including their deliberation of the moral and legal culpability of Hunt's actions and the frames used to rationalize their positions. While many condemn Hunt's actions and violence against women more broadly, many sports fans in our study are reluctant to frame Hunt as deserving of punishment, siding with the accused. We discuss the implications of off-field deviance and gendered violence by star athletes in light of sport fandom and identity.

Author(s): *Max Stick, McMaster University; Casey Scheibling, McMaster University; Mark Norman, McMaster University*

### **Parenthood & Parenting Culture I: Representations and Expectations**

Session Code: CSF1A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Critical Sociology of Families, Work, and Care

Over the course of the 20th and 21st centuries, several powerful discourses came together to shape the current landscape of parenting culture in North America. These discourses reveal understandings and ideals of "intensive" parenting as fostered by developmental psychology, child-rearing experts' co-optation of neuroscience, neoliberalism, risk discourse, and consumer culture. In this session, panelists are presenting new work on parenting advice as constructed in magazines, social media, and other parenting texts. Their insights speak to the contemporary face of parenting culture in Canada and changes over time. Focus is given to how risk and health discourses become interweaved with mediated representations of mothering, bullying, hygiene, and infant feeding.

Organizer(s): *Casey Scheibling, McMaster University; Glenda Wall, Wilfrid Laurier University*

Presentations:

#### **1. Mothers, Grandparents, and the Project of Parenting: Media Representations of Intergenerational Relationships**

Magazines are cultural texts that represent a particular social context. Family scholars have created a rich literature analyzing parenting magazine advice; social gerontologists have similarly examined print media representations of older adults. We bring these two literatures together to ask: in the modern era of intensive childrearing, how are parents advised to include and manage grandparents in the daily lives of children? Using a qualitative content analysis, we explore 43 articles about grandparents published between 1994 and 2017 in two mainstream parenting magazines: Canada's today's parent and America's parents magazine. We find: 1) closeness between grandchildren and grandparents is represented as important, with grandchildren (and sometimes parents) portrayed as prime beneficiaries of this close relationship; 2) intergenerational strain is prominent, with discord between parents and grandparents centered on children's safety and risk avoidance; 3) grandmothers are often uncritically revered as heroines or martyrs. We discuss how, in these portrayals of intergenerational relationships, children's needs are centred, mothers' emotion work is prevalent and essential, and grandparents' agency and interests are often rendered peripheral.

Author(s): *Linda Quirke, Wilfrid Laurier University; Dana Sawchuk, Wilfrid Laurier University*



**2. Bully for You: Canadian Parenting Advice about how to Manage Bullying, 1988-2018**

Bullying is socially constructed in mainstream media as a normal part of childhood, yet also a pressing social problem threatening to inflict far-reaching harm on children who experience it. Scholars have pointed to changes over time with respect to children being understood as either resilient and savvy, or passive and vulnerable. As such, we conduct a content analysis of articles published about bullying in *Today's Parent*, Canada's leading parenting advice magazine between 1988 and 2018, to explore how the risk discourse has shifted, and how the cultural understanding of bullying experiences has changed over three decades. Our work analyzes an array of social expectations that underpin advice offered to Canadian parents over three decades. These cultural texts represent the social context of childrearing for parents, as fears for children's safety remain a pressing and prominent social concern. We explore the ways that parents are encouraged to handle their child's bullying (as a victim, perpetrator or bystander), and how children are portrayed as both fragile and resilient. We examine the role of parents, particularly mothers, in keeping children safe, and changes over time in the ways that various stakeholders, such as school personnel, are also enlisted in this task. In line with prior analysis by other scholars, we find that risk discourse is an important feature of childrearing advice. Children are portrayed as both fragile and resilient, with adults tasked with encouraging children to recognize bullying, and empowering children to handle bullying.

Author(s): *Stephanie Howells, University of Guelph; Linda Quirke, Wilfrid Laurier University*

**3. Responsible Mothers and Natural Children: Hygiene and Norms in Canadian Parenting Texts, 1910-1980**

Hand hygiene has become a major preoccupation in public health and health care in the past few decades, in the wake of pandemics such as SARS and H1N1, growing concerns about healthcare acquired infections, and the declining efficacy of antibiotics. One recurring theme, especially in the news media, is that proper hand washing is something children learn from their mothers--or at least they did, in generations past. News stories that include this claim often lament that the negligent hand-washers of today have forgotten those important lessons from childhood, or perhaps never learned them properly, and that Mother may be to blame for this. Within the contemporary health sciences literature, too, there are accounts of the crucial role that early childhood socialization and mothers play in hand hygiene. In such contemporary accounts, mothers are presented as bearing the primary responsibility for teaching hand hygiene; the efficacy of their educational efforts, or even their gendered child-holding practices, are thought to affect their grown childrens handwashing behaviour decades later. Given the current dominance of the message that the primary method of stopping infectious disease transmission is individuals good hand hygiene, and the despairing tone of assessments of efforts to change adult health professionals hand hygiene habits, Mothers responsibility is an awesome one indeed. This paper examines the historical conditions of possibility of early childhood hand hygiene education and maternal responsabilization for childrens handwashing practices, through a thematic analysis of Canadian parenting texts published from the early to late 20th century. It addresses changing depictions of childrens natures, their relation to cleanliness, particularly of the hands, and what parents, especially mothers, should do to achieve and/or accommodate the normal child.

Author(s): *Emma Whelan, Dalhousie University*

**4. Reactions towards Formula Feeding on Social Media: an Analysis based on a Canadian Influencer Facebook Post**

In Quebec (Canada), new mothers have been subjected to multiple injunctions, including those regarding infant feeding. Breastfeeding is considered to be the rational choice for the infant's optimal growth and development. For almost 20 years, exclusive breastfeeding during the first six month and its continuation up to two years with the addition complementary foods as recommended for years by the World Health Organization (WHO, 2003; 2019) become the "gold standard" promoted by the Quebec governmental authorities and health professionals (MSSS, 2001, 2008; INSPQ, 2019). Recently, in addition to public health authorities, international celebrities have also promoted breastfeeding in the media, the Internet and on social media (Duvall, 2014; Giles, 2019; Bayard, 2019). Celebrities, like non-famous people (Locatelli, 2017), share on social media their positive experiences with breastfeeding, and for some of them, their commitment in the "normalization of breastfeeding" social movement (Bayard, 2018) -see hashtags #normalizebreastfeeding, #brelfie and #worldbreastfeedingweek. In June 2019, a Quebec local celebrity, who is also an entrepreneur and an influencer, shared on her Facebook page a blog post ('Feeding your child without guilt') in which she tells her story about her breastfeeding difficulties, her decision to use infant formula and her vision of motherhood. In the course of this narrative, the celebrity mentions the name of the formula feeding brand. In fact, this blog post shared on Facebook is a sponsored publication. In the context

of this particular case, what are the reactions of social media users when celebrities promote formula feeding? What are the themes that emerge from Facebook comments? How do these comments inform us about current discourses around infant feeding (breastfeeding and formula feeding) and mothering in Quebec? Data comprised 641 Facebook comments, collected three weeks after the original publication. In this communication, we will present the results of our thematic analysis.

Author(s): *Chantal Bayard, Institut national de la recherche scientifique; Laurence Charton, Institut national de la recherche scientifique*

## Parenthood & Parenting Culture II: Parenting Experiences

Session Code: CSF1B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Critical Sociology of Families, Work, and Care

Current understandings of “proper” parenthood and children’s needs in Western societies emphasize child-centred parenting that focuses on maximizing the future social and intellectual potential of children. These parenting expectations vary across lines of gender, race, and class and have implications for parents’ identity construction, caregiving practices, and equity within and outside of the family. This session’s presentations focus on contemporary parental experiences across several identities, social locations, and geographical contexts. Using data collected from diverse methods like interviewing, digital ethnography, and autoethnography, panelists elucidate how discourses of neoliberalism, “intensive mothering,” and the responsabilization of health inform the lived experience of parents in Canada and in Europe today.

Organizer(s): *Casey Scheibling, McMaster University; Glenda Wall, Wilfrid Laurier University*

Presentations:

### **1. To be ('lazy') or not to be (a 'good' mother)? Young mothers navigating neoliberalism, post-feminism, and the ideology of intensive mothering**

Through inter-related discourses surrounding age, gender, class, and mothering, young mothers must assume multiple practices and behaviours in order to navigate harmful discourses that position young mothers as irresponsible and immoral. Research indicates that young mothers participate in consumer culture to signify, 'respectability,' push themselves to become better students, and take on new responsibilities while reorganizing their priorities in anticipation of motherhood (Gregson, 2009; Greyson et al., 2019; SmithBattle, 2007; Watson and Vogel, 2017). Drawing on interviews with 11 young mothers, this research examines how young mothers engage in activities and behaviours that they conceptualize as 'good' mothering. Findings reveal that through these practices, also recognized as opportunities of redemption due to narratives framing young motherhood as a mistake, some young mothers are not fully recognized as 'good' mothers but, instead, seen as mothers who are, 'doing a good job' within a public consciousness that imagines young mothers' parenting conditions as tumultuous and illegitimate. These findings illustrate how neoliberal expectations of responsabilization and post-feminist assumptions of equal and available opportunity conflict with hegemonic ideologies of intensive mothering, leaving young mothers pressured to individually navigate these tensions in order to avoid stereotypes that may position them as, 'lazy' for not working or, if employed, 'bad' mothers for their absence and assumed indifference.

Author(s): *Amber-Lee Varadi, York University*

### **2. Doing what 'Works Best': Exploring the Narratives of Mothers who Work as Strippers**

Despite a large body of research exploring the experiences of working mothers today, there is little literature focusing on mothers who take part in stigmatized and unconventional forms of paid labour. Taking up this line of inquiry, my MA thesis project explores both micro and macro-level understandings of the narrated experiences of four women in Canada, who are both mothers and exotic dancers, with the overarching question: 'how do these women navigate and negotiate their socially constructed identities and practices as both mothers and sex workers?'. This thesis is informed by feminist methodologies and a broad array of literatures on social reproduction, social surveillance of mothering practices, the intensification of mothering, women working in the sex industry, and occupational stigma of exotic dancing. My research consisted of four semi-structured phone interviews with women in Canada who have (either currently or in the past) navigated both roles of mothering and stripping simultaneously. Through my interviews, I explored how the women in my study negotiated the work

of social reproduction, the forms of support they had access to, and the barriers they have faced. My findings illuminate that due to limited access to affordable services in Canada, the mothers I interviewed rely on informal assistance from their key supports to provide necessary care work they could not fulfill themselves due to the responsibilities of their own paid work. Mothers also stress the necessity of managing their occupational stigma to comply with dominant ideologies of maternal caregiving by constructing personal communities and adopting techniques of secrecy and trust in order to enhance their ability to combine paid work and unpaid care. Overall, this research offers insight into experiences, supports, and constraints that women face as they navigate the demands of paid labour, domestic work and unpaid caregiving in stigmatized and precarious conditions.

Author(s): *Michelle Lesley Annett, Carleton University*

### **3. Technologically-mediated mothering: Maternal participation in health & parenting groups on Facebook**

In this session, I present the major findings from my doctoral research, which sought to explore maternal participation in online health and parenting groups on Facebook. Drawing on data generated through a multi-sited digital ethnography incorporating 18 months of participant observation, discourse analysis, and interviews with 29 mothers across two sets of divergent groups (focusing on “evidence-based” and “natural” health and parenting), I advance three interconnected arguments. First, I use evidence to argue that mothers participating in specialized Facebook groups -conceived as “echo chambers” - engage in “siloe health learning” that shapes health beliefs, decisions, and even conversations with healthcare providers. Second, I apply theories of boundaries and boundary-work to argue that the tensions between biomedicine and complementary medicine (around power, authority, dominance, and legitimacy) are downloaded to individuals, especially mothers, who coalesce in online spaces to locate and produce certainty around their healthcare decisions. Finally, I show how mothers engage in technologically-mediated emotion management in order to alleviate anxieties associated with neoliberalism and individualist parenting. Ultimately, I conclude that the turn to digital platforms for certainty, reassurance, and good feelings is a logical expression of contemporary maternal responsabilization.

Author(s): *Darryn Anne Wellstead, University of Ottawa*

### **4. Forging Emotional Assemblages: The Case for Solidarity Between Parents**

The ways in which contemporary expectations of intensive parenting are gendered have been the subject of intense sociological critique for several decades (Apple 2006, Hays 1994, Laureau 2003, O'Reilly 2010, Stone 2007). More recent work on the topic situates these individualist incentives toward parenting “best practices” in the context of general public anxiety over uncertain economic and environmental futures (Fraser 2016, Villalobos 2014, Wolf 2010, Wilson and Chivers Yochim 2017). This paper seeks to articulate the transformative potential of genuine encounters between parents in the context of gendered and racialized cultural expectations of parenting performance. Based on analysis of popular representation of predominantly white mothers juggling their competing responsibilities to paid and unpaid work, as well as autoethnographic research on parenting encounters, this paper makes the case that emotional assemblages of solidarity between parents drive the potential for structural change in terms of how care is organized. Thinking with anti-racist and disability justice scholars on care and motherhood, this paper invites thoughts on whether these less-measurable forms of caring with each other as parents will inform new parenting politics in a moment of uncertain environmental future and inadequate support for the most marginal families.

Author(s): *Amanda D. Watson, Simon Fraser University*

### **5. Doing identity within refugee parents coming to Europe**

Refugee parents coming to Europe find themselves in a demanding social situation. They have to care about their children and at the same time need to manage the procedures of asylum-seeking and cultural acclimatization. A potential help for the parents' situation lies in the usage of institutions of early childhood care and education (ECEC) like kindergartens. Here the children can connect with other kids while learning practical skills for their life as well as aspects of the cultural background of the host country. Their parents can use the free time for going to work or visiting language courses. My execution of qualitative interviews with refugee parents in Germany and social workers is leading to the conclusion, that using ECEC for the refugee mothers and fathers is followed by several questions regarding their identity in family-related manners. One the one hand having free time for going to language-courses and work can put the parents in a powerful situation of being the savers of the family's future. However, through ECEC the children often adept to the societal norms very fast. For the parents this leads to doubts as they lose control over the cultural identity of their children and the inner-familial power-network.

Author(s): *Marek Winkel, Leuphana University Lüneburg, Germany*

## The Role of Policy in Family Life

Session Code: CSF3

Research Cluster Affiliation: Critical Sociology of Families, Work, and Care

How does policy intervene in family life? Public policies may be explicitly targeted at families (e.g., parental leave, child care, child benefits), while others may not be labelled as “family policy” but may still have important consequences for families (e.g., poverty reduction, regulation affecting care labour, immigration policies regulating family reconciliation). In addition to public policy, workplace policy may impact family life through attention to the reconciliation of the work-family nexus (e.g., flex-time, telecommuting). This session features papers that engage with the role of public and workplace policies in family life, with particular attention paid to how these policies may foster inequalities within or between families on the basis of gender, race/ethnicity, class, immigrant status, sexuality, family complexity, or other important identities or characteristics.

Organizer(s): *Dana Wray, University of Toronto; Julia Ingenfeld, University of Toronto*

Presentations:

### 1. Physical Health & Fathering: Differences Across Policy Context

Involved fatherhood influences the wellbeing of children, adults, and families. However, little work has addressed barriers to involved parenting by men, nor has it considered how social and political contexts may influence any relationship between paternal characteristics and behaviour. For example, health limitations may negatively impact parenting behaviours and the stress associated with parenting. At the same time, health policies vary substantially across countries and contexts. Using data from the US and Canada, we address this hole in the literature by focusing on how physical health problems impact psychological distress and father involvement and if this relationship varies across the two countries. Data comes from the Fathering Across Contexts Study. Data collection took place in the US in late 2015-early 2016 and in Canada during 2018. The total sample consists of 4,258 biological, adoptive, step, and social fathers (n= 2,205 in the US and 2,053 in Canada). The analyses focused on five measures of instrumental and emotional parenting: warmth, engagement, positive control, harsh discipline, and caregiving. 17.7% of US fathers and 17.2% of Canadian fathers reported a physical health limitation. Psychological distress was measured with 12 internalizing and externalizing symptoms of distress. Controls for health care access, racialized minority status, socioeconomic status, sociodemographics, and family characteristics were included. Group comparison SEM models were run to compare coefficients in the two countries. Results indicated that health limitations were more strongly associated with distress in the US than in Canada and had stronger effects on fathering in the US than in Canada. Distress also was more strongly associated with parenting behaviours in the US than in Canada. Further, the relationship between health limitations and father involvement was more strongly mediated in the US than in Canada. Thus, our results indicate that social policy matters for understanding how health influences family life.

Author(s): *Kevin Shafer, Brigham Young University & McMaster University; Andrew Renick, Brigham Young University*

### 2. Non-standard work and childcare challenges: Qualitative insights

Canada has long been criticized for its lack of affordable, accessible quality childcare policy and services (Mahon, 2011; Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, 2006; UNICEF Office of Research, 2008). The patchwork of social policies and systems that do exist in Canada to support families with work and childcare are complicated by the fact that these systems often operate independently of each other (i.e., workplace, employment, childcare policy) and were established for work/family patterns that are no longer applicable. Contemporary work/family patterns differ from generations past in two fundamental ways: First, most (75%) of mothers with preschool-aged children are in the paid labour force (even though there are regulated childcare spaces for about 25% of pre-school aged children) (Friendly et al, 2018). Second, workers are increasingly employed in precarious, part-time, contract, unpredictable, “non-standard” work. Drawing on a purposeful sample of interviews with 20 Canadian parents of children ages 0-5 employed in non-standard work, we explored the unique challenges of families struggling to both care and provide for their families amidst policies/systems that are at best disjointed and oftentimes irrelevant to their lives. Findings reveal consistent barriers and approaches to managing these

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barriers that instantiate significant strain on contemporary families (particularly mothers) trying to “balance” work and family life.

Author(s): *Brooke Richardson, Brock University; Donna Lero, University of Guelph; Susan Prentice, University of Manitoba*

### 3. Substance Use, Family Lives, and Policy Intersections

This paper explores the experiences of people living with addiction to substances (alcohol and/or drugs) while receiving social assistance in Ontario. In this paper, my interest is in the family experiences of those living with addiction and how they are shaped by intersecting relationships with policies, not just Ontario Works. Specifically, I draw on in-depth interviews with four lone mothers and eighteen mothers and fathers who ‘co-parent’ (n=22) children, including adult children under age 24, and self-define as sober, in recovery, or using substances. I show how these parents live lives simultaneously overseen and conditioned by social assistance policy rules and regulations, shaped by access to mental health and treatment, haunted by past criminalization, and governed by child welfare intervention. The social justice and policy implications stemming from seeing and understanding some parents’ lives as involving the navigation of multiple policies and institutions are considered.

Author(s): *Amber Gazso, York University*

### 4. The Evolution and the Transformation of Quebec's family policy since 1997

In 1997, the government of Lucien Bouchard announced the outline of a new family policy which contained three key programs: the provision of low-cost childcare services in early childhood centers (CPE), the promise to establish a long and generous parental benefit program, the Quebec Parental Insurance Plan (QPIP), and the implementation of a system of targeted allowances for poor families. Despite Quebec’s generous family policies, not all families have received the same amount of government support since the late 1990s; this is due to the fact that Quebec’s family policy as a whole has never been universal. How has Quebec’s family policy changed over the past 20 years? How has the availability and the cost of childcare evolved since the early 2000s? What are some of the inequalities new parents face when they try to take-up parental benefits? Do families receive higher family allowances in 2020 than in the early 2000s? This presentation highlights some of the inequalities created and maintained by Quebec’s family policy, focusing on the cost of childcare, the amount of family allowances and on upcoming changes in QPIP.

Author(s): *Sophie Mathieu, Université de Montréal*

## Continuity and Innovation in Canadian Families Today

Session Code: CSF4

Research Cluster Affiliation: Critical Sociology of Families, Work, and Care

This session features papers that engage with the themes of continuity and innovation and how they characterize family relations today. These papers highlight new empirical research about Canadian families in this contemporary moment. Each of the papers in some way purposefully considers social change, and yet juxtaposes this change with continuity—that which seems to remain constant—in Canadian family relations, be it norms, beliefs, relationships, practices, and ideologies. As papers in this session suggest, these themes of continuity and innovation seem particularly salient for families managing paid and unpaid work, including practices of mothering and fathering and caregiving for dependents, and as these families are further differentiated by composition and housing status, as well as social hierarchies of gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, class, citizenship, and ableism.

Organizer(s): *Amber Gazso, York University; Karen Kobayashi, University of Victoria*

Presentations:

### 1. Housework Type and Gender Gap in Canada: Time Use Approach

We analyse the data from the 1986-2010 Canadian General Social Survey to determine whether housework types matter in how much the resource-based theoretical frameworks can account for in the explanation of the gender gap. Moreover, the present study tests the effects of resource differentials on housework performances among Anglo-, French, Chinese, South Asian, and Filipino Canadians. The results show that although the resource-based

frameworks claim to apply regardless of housework task, they cannot explain the gender gap in more gendered housework tasks, where the time commitment is higher. The frameworks can better apply, however, to less gendered housework tasks such as grocery shopping and services. Housework type categorization, therefore, depends more on the gendered character of a task rather than on time constraint, which the task imposes. The gendered character of a task and the cultural meanings of housework participation are paramount to unveiling mechanisms underlying the division of housework.

Author(s): *Kamila Kolpashnikova, University of Oxford; Man-Yee Kan, University of Oxford*

## **2. Homeless Parents Practicing Social Reproduction: A Case Study of Familialization in Canadian Social Policy**

Despite anti-poverty and affordable housing legislation passed at the provincial and federal levels, the risk of homelessness remains a persistent reality for many low-income families in Ontario. Working-poor parents or those unemployed must continue socially reproducing their children and other adults regardless of their circumstances. Families, particularly low-income families, require a sense of continuity in their everyday lives as it contributes to a family's well-being. Social reproduction, therefore, grants a family a sense of continuity amidst the anxiety of raising children in a seemingly uncertain world. However, low-income parents who cannot access adequate support from the state or the third sector struggle to carry out social reproduction in that they lack the means to do so. How do homeless parents, with histories of episodic or chronic poverty, manage social reproduction while navigating the emergency shelter system? I answer this question by conducting semi-structured interviews with homeless parents residing in an emergency family shelter in the Greater Toronto Area. Using narrative analysis, the interview transcripts were examined from a life course perspective. The research found that the familialization of social reproduction is especially acute for racialized parents since they must comply with the shelter regulations while managing childcare with minimal support.

Author(s): *Jason Webb, Humber College/York University*

## **3. Raising children in a Mixed Family: Navigating Race, Culture, Language, and Identity**

Mixed couples and families are becoming common in Canada, and are often regarded as a symbol of Canadian multiculturalism. This study investigates how mixed couples reflect on their experiences, plans and ideas of raising multiracial children. It draws on semi-structured interviews conducted with 29 mixed couples in greater Vancouver area between 2017-2019. Six of these couples had children, but they all discussed being parents in a mixed family. The three key issues that emerged from this research are: cultivating racial literacy, cultural socialization, and mixed identity. Couples wanted their children to develop a strong sense of identity that recognized their mixed cultural and linguistic heritage. They described strategies to ensure that their children be raised bicultural and bilingual, ranging from giving them names that reflected their ancestry to sending them to their heritage countries to study. Couples debated the significance of racial literacy and how to raise conversations about race and racism with their children; whether this should be introduced by the parents, or to let kids learn from exposure and experience independently. The ideology of multiculturalism played a significant role in shaping parents' understanding of raising a mixed family in Canada.

Author(s): *Tanvi Sirari, University of British Columbia*

## **4. "Sometimes it feels like I have three different moms": A discourse analysis on children's picture books featuring disabled parents**

In the realm of continuity and change in parenting and families, there are many ways in which we have transcended, challenged, and 'changed' our conceptions of families, and other ways in which we continue to value and privilege some families at the marginalization of others. This presentation considers a particular group of families that remain overshadowed in discourses of families and family relations: families with disabled parents. Due to pervasive ableist and disableist attitudes regarding families, disabled people often face excessive barriers to accessing and forming families as they are often faced with misconceptions of being incompetent or neglectful parents (Olsen and Clarke, 2003), are seldom encouraged to have children (Malacrida, 2012), and are also often viewed as selfish when they do go on to have families of their own. Consequently, disabled parents, are subject to excessive amounts of stigma, marginalization, and attributions of pathology (Olsen and Clarke, 2003), and are subsequently often excluded from much thought and discussion of parenthood and families. This absence of disabled parents can also be observed within children's literature - a realm wherein notions of parenting and families are commonly present. Indeed, children's literature featuring disabled parents is overwhelmingly scant. This presentation will discuss the results of a discourse analysis on 18 children's picture books featuring disabled parents. The analysis considers the ways the language and discourses of these texts both explicitly and implicitly



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constitute notions of normalcy and difference as well as the construction of parenting competencies. Moreover, the ways in which disabled parents, children, and families are discursively depicted within these texts will be underscored through an exploration of the ways that particular discourses of disabled parenting are maintained (continuity) in juxtaposition to discourses that transcend conventional notions of disabled parents (change).

Author(s): *Ameera Ali, York University*

### Immigrant Families, Gender, & Carework: Intersectionalities & Local/Transnational Processes I

Session Code: CSF5A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Critical Sociology of Families, Work, and Care

This session brings together theoretical and empirical research papers examining the experiences, agencies, and trials and tribulations of individuals within immigrant families who are engaged in the work of caring/social reproductive work, both locally and/or transnationally. In particular, the papers will address the following questions: What are the social, economic, political, and cultural processes which shape members within individual immigrant families in engaging in care work/social reproduction locally and across national boundaries? How do gender and other intersectionalities complicate care work/social reproduction? We encouraged papers that interrogate intergenerational relationships, care and support of older persons, the work of young carers, and the implications of multigenerational households for adult women.

Organizer(s): *Guida Man, York University; Nancy Mandell, York University*

Presentations:

#### **1. Feeding the Canadian Immigrant Family: An intersectional approach to meal preparation among immigrant families in Ontario**

Drawing on the in-depth qualitative interviews with 23 married immigrant men and women, this article adopts an intersectional life course approach to explore whether immigrant women take on the responsibility of “feeding the family” and examine forces and pressures that encourage them to take on such a role. Despite growing interest in the importance of home-cooked meals for health and well-being, recent public health strategies suggest that people should be more mindful of healthy eating and should cook more often at home. However, tasks involved in “feeding the family” (DeVault 1991) still remain as gendered practices. Although research has long highlighted the significance of gender in domestic labour, particularly meal preparation, it is only recently that studies have revealed that gender alone is insufficient to understand these practices, with emphasis given to the importance of economic resources and income, as well as race/ethnicity in shaping the challenges associated with feeding the family. Moreover, other prior research has highlighted the significance of the life course stage in that it has identified women’s roles as wives and mothers –especially mothers of younger children living in the home –as being particularly salient. By focusing on Canadian immigrants in Ontario, this article seeks to contribute to the field through its focus on the intersection of gender, socioeconomic status (class), and immigrant status during the integration processes. This study discusses important policy and research implications for both immigrant women and immigrant families, specifically for their lifestyle, health, and well-being.

Author(s): *Eugena Kwon, Saint Mary’s University; Tracey Adams, Western University*

#### **2. The experiences of Iranian elderly immigrants as transnational care workers**

This paper analyzes the work of informal multigenerational care within mixed legal status families by looking at the experiences of senior Iranian women, who immigrated to Canada through the “Parent and Grandparent Sponsorship Program.” This study brings into conversation scholarship on non-citizenship with the literature on gender and migration by considering how non-citizenship, a dynamic, relational process (Blomeraad 2018; Landolt and Goldring 2015), interacts with gender and generational power relations to shape the work of care in immigrant families. Through the case of senior Iranian women, the paper specifically asks, what are the negotiations that precarious non-citizen women in mixed status families engage in, with other family members, over the division of informal care work at home? My analysis draws from semi-structured, in-depth interviews with 20 senior Iranian women, who have been sponsored by their children and have lived in Toronto for at least 3 years. I conceptualize the mixed status family as a site consisting of tensions and solidarities through which

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migrants can negotiate rights yet also experience constraints (Luibheid, et al., 2018; Rodriguez, 2016; Schueths 2012). The study shows how members of mixed status families engage in negotiations and develop strategies, sometimes as individuals in conflict with one another and sometimes as a unit, to access citizenship rights including the right to care (Creese et al., 2008; Espiritu, 2003; Goldring and Landolt, 2013; Menjivar, 2003). This study shows how migration policies that tie an immigrant's entry and presence in the country to a sponsoring family member interact with gendered household strategies to shape these immigrant women's experiences. The study contributes to broader discussions around non-citizenship that show how the erosion of citizenship is increasingly extended not only to noncitizens but also to citizens and permanent resident and can have long term effects for broader social inequalities in Canada.

Author(s): *Bahar Hashemi, University of Toronto*

### 3. Grandmothers' Care Work Behind the Scenes

Research shows that mothers' mental health is essential to family wellbeing, especially for immigrants and resettled refugees. This paper presents the case of multigenerational care work among Syrian newcomers in Canada, with a special emphasis on the role of grandmothers. I start my discussion with a general overview of structural and economic aspects related to Arab families that accentuate the importance of women's care work. Based on this background, I further emphasize and bring attention to an understudied population: grandmothers and the emotional impact their care work has on the settlement of refugee and immigrants in Canada. Through personal narratives from recently-conducted interviews with Syrian newcomer mothers and grandmothers in the GTA, I show the behind-the-scenes influence of grandmothers on the emotional wellbeing of daughters and granddaughters. I highlight how intergenerational care work circulates between Syrian family members both locally and transnationally, and I offer some suggestions for what this means for the future of Canadian society.

Author(s): *Rula Kahil, University of Toronto*

### 4. Negotiating Barriers: Resilience among Newcomer Seniors

Upon their initial arrival in Canada, newcomer seniors face difficulties with economic security, accessing information, language, and belonging in Canada. Despite facing these barriers, seniors find ways to prevail. Using an intersectional approach, we examine the strategies used by newcomer seniors to overcome the economic, social, and ideational challenges they face. Newcomer seniors contribute to the well-being of their families through caregiving and financial support, find connections and information independently, learn new skills, and form a sense of belonging with their communities. The strategies of newcomer seniors highlight their unrelenting resilience in their settlement experiences.

Author(s): *Janice Phonepraseuth, York University; Jana Borrás, York University; Nancy Mandell, York University*

## Immigrant Families, Gender, & Carework: Intersectionalities & Local/Transnational Processes II

Session Code: CSF5B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Critical Sociology of Families, Work, and Care

This session brings together theoretical and empirical research papers examining the experiences, agencies, and trials and tribulations of individuals within immigrant families who are engaged in the work of caring/social reproductive work, both locally and/or transnationally. In particular, the papers will address the following questions: What are the social, economic, political, and cultural processes which shape members within individual immigrant families in engaging in care work/social reproduction locally and across national boundaries? How do gender and other intersectionalities complicate care work/social reproduction? We encouraged papers that interrogate intergenerational relationships, care and support of older persons, the work of young carers, and the implications of multigenerational households for adult women.

Organizer(s): *Guida Man, York University; Nancy Mandell, York University*

Presentations:

### 1. Government Workers and Paid-daughters: How Immigrant Homecare Workers Develop Worker Subjectivities in Publicly Funded Care Work

Korean immigrant homecare workers develop dual worker subjectivity - government worker and paid-daughter - to improve their work. On the one hand, these women workers deploy fictive kinship in their relationship with care recipients, repackaging their self-worth with re-invented ethnic womanhood. They do so in order to navigate everyday lives at unprotected work where their employment opportunity is limited within the insular ethnic community. On the other hand, however, they embrace union discourses, making right claims as government workers vis-a-vis the state. These two seemingly contradicting workers subjectivities affect how workers perform the work and how they develop strategies to improve their work. Racialized labor market and the characteristics of the publicly funded long-term care policy in the United States not only channel these women with limited employment opportunities into low-paid care work for co-ethnic elders in Koreatown, but they also shape discursive recourses available to these women workers. In this process of outsourcing care to the immigrant community, the states accountability vanishes, allowing the publicly funded program to operate within an ethnic community. Drawing on in-depth interviews with 28 Korean immigrant IHSS (In-Home Supportive Services) workers who take care of co-ethnic elderlies in Los Angeles Koreatown, this paper explores how women workers in the insular ethnic community navigate the precarious work. In doing so, this paper highlights the disproportionate impacts of the deinstitutionalizing trends in health care on women in immigrant communities.

Author(s): *Yang-Sook Kim, University of Toronto*

## **2. (Re)Considering Conceptualizations of Care Work and Social Reproduction of the Family: Examining the Impact of Social Institutions on International Student Spouses in Canada**

The increasing internationalization of higher education has encouraged graduate students from the Global South to pursue their studies in Global North countries. Many graduate students who study abroad have spouses, children, and/or extended relatives whom they leave behind; however, there is a growing trend for spouses and/or children to accompany international graduate students in the host country. This reality presents new opportunities and challenges for international student spouses - typically women - who are often responsible for the primary care work and social reproduction of the family. This paper draws on empirical and theoretical literature on international student spouses, kin work, government policy and transnational migration to consider how interactions with various institutions in Canada have the potential to facilitate or complicate international student spouses' experiences. More specifically, this study examines how opportunities for employment, access to education and healthcare, and involvement in community-building might influence the ways in which international student female spouses in Canada engage in care work and social reproduction in their host country.

Author(s): *Alexandra Mirowski Rabelo de Souza, York University*

## **3. Return migration and Reintegration Outcomes: The Role of Ghanaian Migrant Families**

Scholars have observed that in the face of wage differentials that favor destination countries, an increasing number of presumably rational Ghanaian migrants in developed countries choose to return to Ghana (Twum-Baah, 2005; World Bank, 2006; IOM, 2009). To explore this phenomenon a systematic literature review methodology is employed in collecting, sampling and analyzing migration literature in general, and Ghanaian migration literature in particular to ascertain the dominant mechanisms that surround the return migration and reintegration of Ghanaian immigrants. The paper argues that although returnees differ considerably in terms of motivations and level of preparedness, factors underlying their return and reintegration are predominantly non-economic. The study finds that the migrant's family (both at origin and destination) is the dominant social-cultural institution that significantly affect the return migration and reintegration outcomes of Ghanaian immigrants. Against this backdrop, the paper recommends the formulation of a comprehensive return migration policy that emphasizes the socio-cultural context of immigrants. The paper advocates for an individual, community and structural-based interventions to facilitate the mobilisation and effective use of returnees' socio-economic capital in Ghana.

Author(s): *Aaron Nartey, Brock University*

## **4. Social Reproduction and Transnational Migration: Navigating Institutional Processes in Childcare by Middle-Class Mainland Chinese Immigrant Families in Canada**

Based on empirical data from a pilot research project, this paper examines middle-class Mainland Chinese immigrant women's experiences of the social reproductive work of childcare in Canada, in the context of neoliberal restructuring and transnationalism. The research reveals that within a Mainland Chinese immigrant household, gender and class practices influence the work of social reproduction, as they do within households of the Canadian-born. At the same time, neoliberal restructuring of childcare services may place a heavier pressure on women in middle-class immigrant families who are racialized and underemployed. While some local strategies of resorting to familial labour may be held in common by Mainland Chinese and Canadian-born families, Chinese immigrant

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households utilize, in addition, a number of particular transnational strategies to accomplish the work of social reproduction, specifically the various schemes of sponsoring visiting grandparents to assist in the social reproductive tasks of the young Mainland Chinese immigrant family.

Author(s): *Guida Man, York University*

### Fatherhood, Masculinity, and Mental Health: Bridging Divides Between Research and Lived Experience

Session Code: CSF6

Research Cluster Affiliation: Critical Sociology of Families, Work, and Care

In our proposed panel, we will bring together two sociologists and two social media influencers to discuss the relationship between fatherhood, masculinity, and mental health. Casey Scheibling and Kevin Shafer will first explain notable findings about how fathers interpret masculinity and how those interpretations affect their parental involvement and health. Mike Reynolds and Nick North will talk about their experiences in negotiating masculinity, embodiment, and psychological and emotional wellness in their lives as parents. Then, we will have a collective conversation seeking to learn more about our own similarities and differences. It is also our hope that audience members will participate in this discussion, as well. We think that such a panel is important for creating and sharing knowledge about the personal and familial well-being of men, and for bridging divides between academic and non-academic writers. Such knowledge can be a starting point for broader social and digital advocacy around men's health, gender equality, and parental involvement.

Organizer(s): *Casey Scheibling, McMaster University; Kevin Shafer, Brigham Young University*

Panelists:

- Casey Scheibling, McMaster University
- Kevin Shafer, Brigham Young University
- Mike Reynolds, @EverydayGirlDad
- Nick North, @epicdanger

### What is Quality Time in Families and How do we Measure It?

Session Code: CSF7

Research Cluster Affiliation: Critical Sociology of Families, Work, and Care

For parents and their children, as well as for spouses, spending time together is central to the relationship and linked to well-being. We often hear about "quality time" with others, but what is meant by this? Recent social and technological changes may affect the amount of contact time between family members, including between spouses, and among parents and children. Moreover, the kind of time parents spend with children and that partners spend with each other may be different than in the past. Screen time (or activities conducted through a portable electronic device such as a laptop computer, tablet, or phone) has increased profoundly, the content of what family members do may be more individualized, and technologies may allow paid work activities to intrude in many ways into family life. Against this backdrop, our panelists will discuss the meaning of family time together today, what it means to be together or "present" and how we can measure this, and the ways that people's statuses such as gender, social class, ethnicity, and age matter for quality time together.

Organizer(s): *Melissa Milkie, University of Toronto*

Panelists:

- Lynda Ashbourne, University of Guelph
- Andrea Doucet, Brock University
- Casey Scheibling, McMaster University
- Jiri Zuzanek, University of Waterloo

## Participatory Research Methodologies in Development: Benefits, Challenges, Lessons and Reflections

Session Code: DEV1

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Development

This session brings together experiences with participatory action research or other innovative participatory methods in the field of development. It analyses the benefits and challenges for both researchers and participants during any stage of the knowledge creation process such as, research design, fieldwork, data analysis, ethical matters, intersubjectivity, and knowledge dissemination. The goal is to reflect critically on the empowering and transformative capacity of participatory methodologies as well as their limitations in order to understand better under what conditions such research approaches deliver best outcome.

Organizer(s): *Md Saidul Islam, Nanyang Technological University Singapore; Jasmin Hristov, University of British Columbia; Hasan Mahmud, Northwestern University in Qatar; Matt Husain, University of British Columbia*

Presentations:

### **1. Re-defining Indigenous Social Services and Development through Community Consultations: Experience of 7 Anishinabek First Nations.**

In December of 2018, an Ontario Supreme Court ruling upheld the legality of the Robinson-Huron Treaty between the Crown and the Anishinabek First Nations of the Northern and Eastern Shores of Lake Huron. Inspired by the possibility that treaty rights may be honoured, providing an unprecedented degree of financial independence, 7 First Nations of the North Shore Tribal Area began a community consultation process that would contribute to the decolonization of social services and community development in the area. 768 people, over half of the population of the 7 First Nations, took part in round-table consultations designed to re-imagine community development and social services. This was followed by two meetings in which indigenous management and leadership groups interpreted these consultations and began to develop a social services and community development model that uses the Anishinabek Medicine Wheel as its central framing element. This presentation describes this consultation and model development process as part of an ongoing decolonial project. The recognition of treaty rights and decolonizing of development models in the area have profound implications to decolonization, since the Robinson-Huron Treaty established the legal basis on which the majority of subsequent treaties between the Crown and First Nations were built in Canada.

Author(s): *Timothy MacNeill, Ontario Tech University*

### **2. Youth Action Research Revolution: Reflections on methodologies from a youth participatory action research project in Tio'tia:ke/Montreal**

This paper will discuss the use of participatory methodologies employed in research which traces the institutional histories of young people in order to understand how we might make shifts in policy and practice to prevent youth homelessness. The research team is made up of six members, the majority of whom have lived experience of homelessness, and who have intersecting experiences of discrimination within the systems we are attempting to study. Our participatory approaches to research have been grounded in a dedication to equity, social justice and action. We emphasize the benefits that this approach holds in making immediate impacts for those involved in the project, as well as offer clear analyses of the barriers we have encountered (and continue to navigate). In particular, we will look at different phases of the project, from relationship building to data collection, to coding and analysis, to see what meaningful participation has looked like at each step, and how we can ensure "participation" is encompassing more than consultation or limited involvement. We argue that, while participatory methodologies may be difficult to employ under rigid bureaucratic and institutional structures, they are possible tools for action and social change.

Author(s): *Jayne Malenfant, McGill University; Naomi Nichols, McGill University; Shayana Narcisse, McGill University; Mickey Watchorn, McGill University; Laurence Adamovitz, McGill University; Maxime Plamondon, McGill University*

### **3. The Bicycle, an Agent for Change**

Bicycles for Development (BFD) is a burgeoning global movement that utilizes the bicycle as a tool to address a range of social issues, including poverty, lack of transportation, gender inequality, environmental and

infrastructure advocacy, health, and education. As such, numerous social actors across the globe (i.e., United Nations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and corporations) acclaim the use -and effectiveness -of the bicycle in poverty alleviation and supporting youth development and education initiatives within marginalized communities. In collaboration with a local NGO in Nicaragua, digital participatory action research (DPAR) methodologies were utilized to illuminate how the bicycle, the participants, and their bodies are a part of an embodied and dynamic practice of gender and development efforts. Underpinned by an analysis comprised of Latours (2005) actor-network theory (ANT) and Pinks (2011) emplacement theory, the participant's narratives, experiences, and photographs trace out the nebulous processes of how: (1) state and non-state actors, (2) intangible political, economic, and cultural processes, and (3) the bicycle impacts gender and development efforts. Author(s): *Emerald Bandoles, York University*

#### **4. Collaborative visual and digital research methods with refugees in Kampala, Uganda: Utilizing photovoice, photocollaging, and digital storytelling**

South-South migration and refugee's experiences of displacement in global South countries, such as in Uganda -a country with more than 1.3 million displaced people -has had limited scholarly investigation compared to refugee's experiences migrating from South to North contexts (Newyn, 2017). Based on a study conducted over a two-month period in Kampala, Uganda focused on the ways in which refugees engage in and understand economic development, social entrepreneurship, and sport, this presentation describes and reflects on the use of a collaborative visual and digital participatory action research approach. The presentation revolves around three key elements of the methodological approach and the challenges involved in participatory research, including: (1) constructing a timeline and locally-relevant strategies to carry out empirical research in partnership with a nongovernmental development organization (NGDO); (2) conducting photovoice (using cell-phone cameras or providing cameras to research participants to take photos of their experience; Wang, 1999), photocollaging, and digital storytelling (a video and/or picture presentation that tells the 'story' of an individual, community and/or group; Hayhurst, 2016) with refugee participants and community members; and (3) collaborating with NGDO staff and program-users. A discussion around the use of digital and visual methods in participatory research is offered, with a specific emphasis on the negotiations involved and the benefits of increasing participant ownership and voices throughout the research process. To conclude, data collected during photovoice and digital storytelling with refugees in Uganda are displayed to expand on the ways such approaches convey research participant experiences and offer innovative forms of knowledge dissemination and translation.

Author(s): *Mitchell McSweeney, York University*

### **Re-conceptualizing Development: Theoretical Debates and Empirical Lenses**

Session Code: DEV2

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Development

Development as a central concept has been shaping the world. Since the WW-II, we have witnessed barrages of ideas and initiatives by the industrialized countries in Europe and North America to develop the newly independent countries in former colonized world. Despite the stated promise in development discourses and practices of promoting economic growth and development by industrializing the poor countries, there are hardly any supporting empirical evidence, if at all. Critics generally focus on the motives as well as the processes of development and conclude either by pointing to possible areas of correction or giving up development altogether. However, the development needs (such as enough food, better education, health and so forth) are real. Therefore, there is a need to focus on how people in developing countries perceive their development needs and what solutions they propose to satisfy those needs. This requires us to bring the people of developing countries and their perspective of development at the center of enquiry. This refocusing in development thinking has become an imperative with the realization of catastrophic consequence of the dominant development approach on climate change. Papers in this session explore the meaning of development as experienced in the developed and developing countries by grassroots actors and conceptual/discursive formulations emanating from regional/local sources of scholarly entities.

Organizer(s): *Md Saidul Islam, Nanyang Technological University Singapore; Jasmin Hristov, University of British Columbia; Hasan Mahmud, Northwestern University in Qatar; Matt Husain, University of British Columbia*



Presentations:

**1. Climate Change Regime as a New Apparatus of Development: Towards a Neoliberal Green Governmentality**

This paper draws on the theoretical framework, "Governmentality" delineated by Michel Foucault to investigate methods of power exertion, and the formation of subject behaviors and identities, within the climate change regime. For close to 30 years, we have been informed that climate change is a serious problem caused by us humans, which, if left unresolved, would threaten many aspects of our lives. We have witnessed over the decades, many different scientific facts on the climate have been produced, many international organizations and actors have stepped forward to help resolve this issue, and many programs have been implemented across multiple levels of the global society. Thus, this illustrates the increasing interest by many to want to "govern" climate change. Using Foucauldian lenses, this paper argues that the climate change regime is a global and neoliberal green governmentality that - through claiming stewardship of the environment, applying scientific and economic rationalities, and distributing "knowledge" - seeks to preserve the existing global social order and economic practices. This argument is backed up by an interpretive discourse analysis on 22 documents, published by the United Nations and its transnational affiliates.

Author(s): *Md Saidul Islam, Nanyang Technological University Singapore*

**2. From Western to Islamic Development Finance: fracturing or co-integration in world polity?**

The post-World War II era saw the rise of Bretton Woods Institutions, World Bank (WB) and International Monetary Fund (IMF), as the globalizers of Western economic norms. Major providers of development finance, WB and IMF played a significant role in the construction of a global polity that rallies or coerces nation states into Western economic policies, organizations, and institutions. However, the rise of Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), an alternative, Islamic faith-based development financial institution, questions whether the IsDB fractures the world polity constructed around the Bretton Woods Institutions. To this end, I draw on IsDB, WB, and IMF credits and loans to nation states over the period 1975 - 2016 to examine whether the states development funding from IsDB are affected by the funding from World Bank and IMF, the states' direct and indirect closeness to WB and IMF through memberships in intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and the states' closeness to USA relative to major Muslim countries (e.g. Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and Iran) in the IGOs network and United Nations voting. I further account for world system and modernization explanations. The findings are complemented by an automated discourses analysis of 10,000 IsDB-related news items. The study has implications for understanding non-Western norm-making in the global development debates.

Author(s): *Abdullah Shahid, Cornell University*

**3. Foreign Aid and Decoupling: A Framework for Analysis**

This paper provides an overview of the institutional literature on decoupling. Based on that literature, it proposes an analytic framework to consider state characteristics which lead to decoupling: commitment, capacity, and context or "the 3Cs". Then, using this framework, it assesses what sorts of foreign aid initiatives we would expect to see to answer the question: "How can aid reduce or increase decoupling gaps?" Finally, it presents several possible combinations of the "3Cs" and examples of how the presence or absence of one or all of these components have increased or reduced decoupling in ongoing or concluded aid interventions.

Author(s): *Liam Swiss, Memorial University; Princess Ilonze, Memorial University*

**4. How Social and Gender Equality Produce Economic Growth: An Analysis of the World's Leontief Input-Output Matrices 2005 and 2015**

This paper is an attempt to explain why both class equality and gender equality promote economic development. Both relationships consist of multiple causal mechanisms, most of which have intellectual merit. We give particular emphasis to a Keynesian mechanism by which reduced inequality increases worker spending. This in turn, increases consumption, raising market demand and promoting development. This position, put forward by Stiglitz, first review the multiple mechanisms by which class and gender equality promote development. The significance of such a relationship is that it obviates a supposed zero-sum conflict between growth and distribution. Creating equality can be a strategy for increasing economic growth. We use input-output matrices as a methodology for measuring this Keynesian effect. We introduce the concept of Leontief multipliers and the particular significance of Type II -Type I wage-based multipliers. We then present results from a large cross-national sample of Leontief input-output matrices. We show that for two separate panels, GINI coefficients and female labor force participation significantly increase the size of Leontief wage-based multipliers.

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Author(s): *Samuel Cohn, Texas A and M University; Bryson Bassett, Texas A and M University; Jose Morales, Texas A and M University; Madison Poe, Texas A and M University; Rachel White, Texas A and M University; Lexie Ford, Texas A and M University*

### **5. Realizing Equity: Principles to inform a Global Health Research Equity Assessment Tool (GHREAT)**

The term “equity” has become a buzzword in the global health field; however, it is often unclear what it means to uphold this idea within a context of asymmetrical power relationships and colonial legacy. In an effort to understand how trans-national partners can better enact and promote equity in their global health research partnerships, a scoping review of existing “principles” intended to guide global health research was conducted. The primary objective of this review was to determine what principles are valued in global health partnerships, to understand how “equity” is utilized within these principles, and to clarify its role as a key value and outcome in global health research. Ten sets of principles were identified in this review. Five were published in peer-reviewed journals while the remaining five were grey sources gathered from institutional websites or recommended by experienced colleagues. Two of these explicitly referenced equity as a principle itself while three referred to equity as an overarching goal in application of the principles. While equity was regularly referenced as a key principle in global health research, we observed wide interpretations of the term, evident in diverse statements about how equity can or should be better practiced and realized. Additionally, an inconsistent use of language was observed among the gathered resources for all principles, suggesting a need for increased discussion on what these principles mean in global contexts. Although principles provided a starting point from which partners may think about equity, very few resources provided insight to guide their implementation. Given this gap, we suggest that a tool is needed to assist global health partners to implement their adopted principles. In response to this need, the development of a self-reflexive, Global Health Research Equity Assessment Tool (GHREAT) is underway to specifically operationalize the concept of “equity” gathered in this review.

Author(s): *Erynn Monette, Western University; David McHugh, Western University; Nicole Jabo, University of Global Health Equity; Phaedra Henley, University of Global Health Equity; Robert Gough, Western University; Elysee Nouvet, Western University*

## Gender and Development: Contextualizing Theory on the Ground

Session Code: DEV3

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Development

The goal of 2030 Sustainable Development (SDG) agenda is to achieve gender equality and empower women in nine specific targets areas including many of the root causes of gender inequality, including women's unequal access to economic resources. Persisting gender inequalities in all corners of the world function as precursors behind the SDG objectives. When girls and women do not have equal access to and control over resources or equal opportunities to participate in decision-making, their families, communities, and countries feel the social and economic costs. Prioritizing the advancement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, we believe gender equality must play a key role in creating lasting solutions to global challenges -whether reducing poverty in developing countries, building economies that work for everyone, preparing for jobs of the future, fighting climate change, or advancing peace and security. Building upon these conceptual threads and frameworks, this session examines work on global social, political, and economic change and its gendered cases, effects, and lessons that contribute to new understandings of gendered roles and relations amidst economic, social, and political change.

Organizer(s): *Md Saidul Islam, Nanyang Technological University Singapore; Jasmin Hristov, University of British Columbia; Hasan Mahmud, Northwestern University in Qatar; Matt Husain, University of British Columbia*

Presentations:

### **1. Women, Arsenic and Technological Innovation: An illustration from rural Bangladesh**

Women in rural areas of Bangladesh are discouraged to collect drinking water from shallow hand pump tube well if it is contaminated by arsenic. In this regard, Sub-surface Arsenic Removal (SAR) technology has been experimentally installed in a village for community scale of use. This paper examines women's experiences with

this technological innovation aiming at mitigating arsenic contamination and how these experiences contribute to the success (or not) of technological innovation. Based on women's experiences, drawing from interviews and observation, several socio-technological factors are found responsible for making this innovation less successful. Findings reveal that women users strongly prefer hands-off solutions like shallow hand pump tube well (a reference technology) with which they have been familiar over several decades. Besides, society considers the collection of drinking water from a community spot as a matter of shame and disgrace, which discourages women to continue with SAR technology. In addition, women do not accomplish shifting from household-scale to community-scale of use due to extended distance, time and physical labor. Furthermore, women's traditional water related practice, for instance, one unique source (shallow hand pump tube well) for providing unlimited amount of water for all purposes (drinking, bathing, cooking, washing etc.) acts as stumbling block to the introduction of SAR technology. The paper concludes by arguing that success of any community-scale technology requires in-depth understanding of what constitutes a 'community' and to what extent a technology is compatible with women's water related practices.

Author(s): *Debasish Kumar Kundu, University of Dhaka*

## **2. Gender Equality among Childbearing Women and Maternal Health Care Utilization in Pakistan**

This study aimed to examine gender equality among childbearing women at household level and its impact on maternal health care utilization in Pakistan. Maternal health care utilization was dependent variable and measured through women antenatal visits during pregnancy. Total 8286 married women reported about their antenatal visits during pregnancy in last 5 years in Demographic and Health Survey of Pakistan 2017-18. Women who had no antenatal visits (n=1259) and had not known about the antenatal visits (n=31) were excluded from the total women. A sample of 6996 women who described about the antenatal visit was selected. Simple descriptive, bivariate associations and multivariate analyses with adjusted odd ratio (AOR) and 95% confidence Interval (CI) were performed by adjusting women's age, education and wealth index. Only 1048 (15%) women had adequate maternal health care utilization in Pakistan. Bivariate analysis showed that women who had higher income status, higher education and had been working at managerial positions had significantly appropriate antenatal health care.

Author(s): *Kashif Siddique, Bahauddin Zakariya University Multan; Ra'ana Malik, Bahauddin Zakariya University Multan; Kamran Ishfaq, Bahauddin Zakariya University Multan; Irum Batool, Bahauddin Zakariya University Multan, Pakistan*

## **3. Transformed landscapes, transformed relations- land rights and gender relations in Zimbabwe**

Cultural geographers and sociologists have theorised the relationship between landscapes and social relations; specifically gender relations. They encourage thinking about land beyond its economic and productive value, suggesting a view of land as a resource around which social and political relationships are built (Mosse, 1997; Peluso, 2009; Boone, 2014). Physical resources are seen as inseparable from social identities, which are often based on personal and collective ties to the land. The Fast Track Land Reform Program (FTLRP) of 2000 of Zimbabwe provided an opportunity to address women's access to land as primary landholders for the first time in Zimbabwe's history. While studies and reviews of the program have reflected an emerging consensus on the economic outcomes of land reform, social relationships, most importantly gendered relationships, have remained at the periphery of both empirical inquiry and theoretical debate. My paper argues that conclusions of most research have been based on narrow conceptualization of land as solely an economic resource. This is despite a history that highlights a longstanding relationship between land and gender relations wherein the rural landscape of Zimbabwe has been a social spatial structure within which relations of power have been mediated, contested and configured. A conceptualization of land as a mediator of social relations allows me to investigate the gender dynamics that are engendered in the resettlement areas with the extension of primary land rights to women in this paper. I use empirical evidence from my study of single women's livelihoods post settlement to show how land is implicated in gendered relations of power. I will highlight the extent to which single women are able to negotiate power dynamics in the resettlement areas as well as to show the tensions that exist in this reorganised landscape. The paper offers theoretical insights into the dynamics between land, gender and power.

Author(s): *Shingirai Mandizadza, University of Alberta*

## **4. Critically Mapping Research Addressing Gender Equity in Tanzania: Approaches, Gaps and Future Directions**

This scoping review aimed to synthesize interdisciplinary literature which approached gender equity in Tanzania across two decades, framed by two research questions: 1) how have issues relating to gender equity and equality

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in Tanzania been approached in peer-reviewed literature to date, and 2) what is known about how gender inequities are experienced, negotiated and understood by Tanzanian women? Guided by a critical paradigmatic perspective and decolonial theory, this review followed a six-stage methodological approach to search and synthesize relevant literature from 1998 to 2018. Sixty-seven articles with a primary focus on gender equity or equality in Tanzania were included and critically analyzed. Issues relating to gender equity and equality in Tanzania were addressed through a focus on: reproductive health, physical or sexual violence, labour or entrepreneurship, agriculture, empowerment, social or political inequities, and climate change. Trends across the inclusion timeframe of 1988-2018 were linked with socially relevant global development goals established during that period, such as the United Nations Millennium Development Goals and Sustainable Development Goals. None of the 67 articles acknowledged or challenged the historical or present-day impacts of colonization in Tanzania. The results highlight the diverse and dynamic ways women experience and navigate gender inequities in Tanzania. However, significant limitations in the literature remain in how Tanzanian women themselves understand these inequities, both conceptually and in the context of their daily lives. Gaps within existing research approaches included creating space for women's voices, the use of culturally appropriate methods and limited critical and decolonial perspectives. Advancements towards gender equity in Tanzania requires a decolonizing and community-based approach. Within gender research, critical and contextual understandings from multiple perspectives on the ground, most importantly Tanzanian women themselves, are required.

Author(s): *Stephanie Huff, Western University*

### Colonial and Racial Encounters in Development Discourse I

Session Code: DEV4A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Development

These sessions explore questions around one or more of the following themes: the intersection of neoliberal development and settler colonialism; the racialized consequences of land-grabbing or foreign investment in tourism; the relationship between colonial histories and ideologies and present-day dominant development models; racist discourses underpinning territorial conflicts with indigenous or Afro-descendent communities; environmental racism in development projects; the racial dimensions of development-induced gender violence; and racial identity as a means of resistance. The ways in which the racist ideologies are embedded in the legitimization of wide range of practices, such as land dispossession, ultra-exploitation in export-processing zones, and gentrification are also examined.

Organizer(s): *Md Saidul Islam, Nanyang Technological University Singapore; Jasmin Hristov, University of British Columbia; Hasan Mahmud, Northwestern University in Qatar; Matt Husain, University of British Columbia*  
Presentations:

#### 1. Belly Politics: Empire, Food and Gender

My bundle buggy is bursting with my trip to the farmer's market. Carrots, potatoes, garlic, onion, apples, pears. No broccoli or kale today - I have come too late. The tables are coloured with purple carrots, gold potatoes, greenhouse tomatoes. There's a sweet scent of herbs and bees wax. I don't wander: I head straight to my favourite spots. The stall with the slightly grumpy farmer who nonetheless has full, lush kale that tries to escape from the bag (that's why I need to get here early - he often sells out). The women who set up outside to sell their apples and pears. In the summer, they'll have strawberries, blueberries and raspberries - one variety of raspberry ripened in September, an incredible treat. At home in my kitchen, I make soup with some sweet potatoes, carrots and one of the apples. Onions sizzle in the pot. Chop. Chop. Chop. A quiet bubbling simmer. For flavour, I add ginger, cumin, paprika and chile powder. Cooking is a chore, a creation, a comfort. I forget most things, including the recipe, make it up as I go along. I'm happy ladling the spicy medley into a big bowl. In this paper, I will examine the social and political significance of food to colonial expansion in the 18th and 19th centuries. The themes are in my now empty soup bowl: what we eat, where it comes from and who cooks it. Enlightenment thought about property and nature informed relations between humans and the non-human world, clearly marking who and what was subordinate. We can see this in Canada, where the development of a "Canadian" cuisine has reflected a specific understanding of who a Canadian is. In the 21st century, however, we're seeing that working with the land (an anti-colonial approach often led - I don't believe coincidentally - by women) creates a just and sustainable food system. We are

all part of the food system in a pretty clear and immediate way. That's what gives food its power to change our world.

Author(s): *Jennifer O'Connor, Queen's University*

## **2. Under the conditions of removal: Green dispossession, white gentrification, and Black elimination**

Mobilizing Ananya Roy's (2017) iteration of racial banishment, this paper seeks to examine various mechanisms of removal that operate within and across Black geographies in Canada. Removal, a form of violence that is chronically operationalized, "not only ruptures connections between people and place but is a process of racial violence that is situated in histories of racial exclusion and colonial domination. This paper pays particular attention to the relationship between green dispossession, white gentrification, and Black elimination as key contemporary sites through which techniques of removal are practiced, enacted and narrated to structure geographic domination. As McKittrick contends, traditional geographies organize the world from a stable White patriarchal Eurocentric heterosexual classed vantage point that assumes that we can view, assess, and ethnically organize the world from positivist and imperialist lens that are deeply negotiated through geographic landscapes upheld by legacies of exploitation, surveillance, and conquest. Accordingly, I will be drawing on Black Studies alongside Critical Race Studies to shed light on racial-colonial-state-instituted structures that function to propel processes of removal, while being cognizant of the particular ways that mechanisms of removal operate differently on Black geographies. Put forth by Roy, I contend that the material and discursive work of (re)presenting 'empty' landscapes through varying processes of removal is not merely a practice of capital accumulation or burial, but also that of racial banishment which brings into focus systems of power relations, resistance(s), and histories.

Author(s): *Beatrice Anane-Bediakoh, York University*

## **3. The Indigenous Invention of Modernity: Transmodernity, Decoloniality, and Development**

This paper uses grounded empirical interpretations of indigenous development and political movements to amend theories of modernity rooted in the work of Habermas, Latour, and Dussel. Dussel's formulation of transmodernity and the relationship between modernity and coloniality is pushed further in this way. Specifically, the analysis suggests that indigenous development movements do not merely interact with and borrow from the best elements of modernity while they fuse it with pre-modern rationalities, as Dussel has argued. In addition to this, I suggest, marginalized indigenous communities have created and continue to re-create modernity -both materially and culturally. Thus, to use Habermasian terms, if the project of modernity is to be completed, it will be completed by decoliniality. Insights from multiple case studies of indigenous movements in the Americas will be used to make this point. These case studies are based on fieldwork with indigenous movements and communities in Guatemala, Honduras, Ecuador, and Canada.

Author(s): *Timothy MacNeill, Ontario Tech University*

## **4. Land reforms and the unfinished business of decolonization in Pakistan**

Movements for land reform in the white-settler states of southern Africa have challenged dominant development discourses by framing land reforms as a decolonial measure: undoing the colonial/neo-colonial property relations that produced and reproduce national subordination (Moyo and Yeros, 2005; 2011) and also undoing the colonial epistemologies of markets and commodities that obviate pre-colonial values of landholding (Tafira and Ndlovu-Gatsheni, 2017). I expand on the necessity and limits of land reform as decolonization by examining struggles over land in Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province from 1849 to 2013. Drawing on archives and ethnographic fieldwork, I argue that land reforms are necessary to decolonize development: Colonial land settlement established large landlords with private property rights to create a native comprador class "from above," which continues to promote Pakistan's international dependence while blocking meaningful development. However, I warn against valorizing "pre-colonial" epistemologies of land in certain contexts, which can reproduce capitalist exploitation "from below": Peasant land occupation movements in the 1970s effected *de facto* land reforms corresponding to certain normative Pakhtun conceptions of divided land rights vested in male-led households, intensifying patriarchal domination and class differentiation. Land reform is necessary for decolonizing development, but pre-colonial values must be handled with care.

Author(s): *Noaman G. Ali, Lahore University of Management Sciences*

## Colonial and Racial Encounters in Development Discourse II

Session Code: DEV4B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Development

These sessions explore questions around one or more of the following themes: the intersection of neoliberal development and settler colonialism; the racialized consequences of land-grabbing or foreign investment in tourism; the relationship between colonial histories and ideologies and present-day dominant development models; racist discourses underpinning territorial conflicts with indigenous or Afro-descendent communities; environmental racism in development projects; the racial dimensions of development-induced gender violence; and racial identity as a means of resistance. The ways in which the racist ideologies are embedded in the legitimation of wide range of practices, such as land dispossession, ultra-exploitation in export-processing zones, and gentrification are also examined.

Organizer(s): *Md Saidul Islam, Nanyang Technological University Singapore; Jasmin Hristov, University of British Columbia; Hasan Mahmud, Northwestern University in Qatar; Matt Husain, University of British Columbia*

Presentations:

### 1. Colonialism has no end

Colonization, in its classical sense, “involved the control and exploitation of the majority of a nation by a minority of outsiders” (Blauner 1969, p. 395). Frantz Fanon, whose work is deeply rooted in the effects of colonization on Black people and how they are unrecognized as associating with humanity, suggests that all colonized people face an inferiority complex due to colonization. The social process purposely commits the colonized cultural originality to the grave (Fanon, 1952). Conversely, Eva Mackey describes in her book, *The House of Difference: Cultural Politics and National Identity in Canada*, “from the early days of Canadian historical writing, historians liked to portray the colonizer of Canada as more generous than those of the USA” (Mackey, 2002, p. 25). Recognizing that the classical sense of colonization is a social process where few scholars argue that Canadians live in a post-colonial moment and is, essentially, recognized as a parting from the classical sense of colonialism. This paper argues that colonialism is in fact not divorced from our contemporary moment, but in fact, resonated in other forms. In our contemporary moment in Canada, we are witnessing internal colonization where Indigenous and African descent people are continuing to face the extreme measures of the historical sense of colonization, whereby they face a continuance of social oppression, racism and marginalization. Internal colonialism is a form of colonization that explains the “domestic” or “internal forms of colonialism operant within nation-states” (Gutiérrez, 2004, p. 282). The author utilizes the work of Ramon Gutierrez and Frantz Fanon to discuss how the lived experience of Afro-Caribbean Black Canadians, particularly, are subjected to internal colonization which negatively impacts their social outcomes.

Author(s): *Warren Clarke, Carleton University*

### 2. Frontiers and Land Conflicts: The Racist Violence of Neoliberal Development

This paper focuses on the racist and neo-colonial overtones of neoliberal development projects in Mexico and Honduras. We argue that discourses underpinned by ideologies of racism and modernity are employed to legitimate large-scale land acquisition that causes the dispossession of small-scale agricultural producers and communities with collective land-titles from their land. By drawing examples from the agribusiness, mining, and tourism sectors, the paper traces discourses that justify both, the dispossession itself as well as the violence inflicted upon the rural poor who organize to resist the destruction of their livelihoods and environment. At the same time, ethnic/racial identity has, in some cases, become a pillar for the formation of social movements. Based on data collected through interviews and focus-groups, academic and non-academic literature, we trace key patterns that emerged in the ways racial/ethnic identity and racist and neocolonial ideologies are intertwined with modes of dispossession and resistance.

Author(s): *Jasmin Hristov, University of British Columbia; Jamie Arnett, University of British Columbia*

### 3. Development, Dispossession and Violence: Adivasi women in India

The paper is part of a larger project undertaken to explore the relationship between land dispossession and violence against indigenous women in India. The region of the study is the Central Indian state of Chhattisgarh



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which has one of the highest reserves of mineral-rich lands and forests and also inhabits one of the largest populations of the Adivasis, the indigenous people of the country. In this paper, I explore the intersection and continuities between colonial histories of land acquisition and the present-day dominant development model in a prominent economic zone in the country. I argue that three of the dominant settler-colonial processes of -discourse on progress, racialized laws on land acquisition and violence against women are key to contemporary neoliberal accumulatory processes. Using a Marxist feminist framework, I challenge the larger discourse of the 'Public-private' dichotomy that gains prominence when discussing issues of accumulation of capital and instead direct attention towards the dialectical relationship of capital with patriarchal structures. This relationship not only uses violence against women as a tool to further the neoliberal agenda but in fact, reproduces such violence. Using key Census data, laws and policies on land ownership and acquisition and case studies of incarceration of Adivasi activist women to demonstrate the conditions of dispossession. The presentation will be centred on the following themes: a) A historical perspective -From Colonialism to Neoliberalism b) The Public-Private Nexus of Land Dispossession c) Violence Against Adivasi Women d) Reflections on Transnational solidarity on Illegal Occupation of Land

Author(s): *Asmita Bhutani Vij, University of Toronto*

### **4. Reinventing Development and international aid in the Twenty First Century**

The accelerating globalization in an increasingly interconnected world and the complexity of the challenges confronting our planet require rethinking development theories in such way they are able to capture the fundamental trends, dynamics and meanings of the twenty first century. The international development agenda is more and more complex, owing to the multiplex development challenges and priorities, the rise of the BRICS in international area, the failure of the western-based and unilinear development theories, the blurring of the lines between the global North and the global South, the persistent arrogance of political elites and their role in the reproduction of structural imbalances, constraints and hardships, just to name but a few. Notwithstanding the harsh critics against the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organizations, these organizations keep on underpinning their interventions towards the developing countries on classic development theories. The crisis of development is a striking illustration of the double failures of the international financial institutions and development agencies: their share of responsibility regarding the mounting poverty and inequality affecting millions of people around the world as well as their internal contradictions accentuated by huge bureaucracy, shrinking financial resources, budget cuts, and governance related problems. This paper aims at provide an in-depth understanding of the impasses of development thinking and practices and the crisis of international aid. It also endeavors to reflect on new insights to respond to the crisis of development thinking and practice and international aid drawing on empirical evidences as well as less publicized development scholars notably from the global South.

Author(s): *Ibrahima Amadou Dia, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)*

## Global Sociology

Session Code: OMN1B

Theme: Development and Globalization

This panel explores theoretical and empirical puzzles in global sociology.

Organizer(s): *Tina Fetner, McMaster University*

Presentations:

### **1. Colonialism, Inequality and Re-Conceptualising Development of the Third World Through a Sociological Lens**

This paper sketches a re-conceptualisation of development on the basis of socio-economic classification applied to several countries around the world by sociologists. They represent a subset of developing countries whose economic growth is much higher than other developing countries; and where the social consequences of colonization, inequality and industrialization, such as urbanization are reorganizing society. The colonial

experience had an influence on the new leaders attitudes to the outside world many of whom agreed that political independence was meaningless without economic independence and its attendant development. The British indirect rule and the French assimilation had engendered ethnic divisions and strife that erupted in post-independence inequalities and attendant civil wars that had kept Africa underdeveloped. This paper emphasizes that the new development strategy and its framework of negotiations should aim at overcoming underdevelopment only as a result of bold, revolutionary measures at the national level, complemented by concerted action directed towards economic cooperation between the third world countries themselves which will in the long term be the strategy for auto-centered, self-reliant development that can be adopted as its priority policy. Approaches of Dependency and human development theories explained this paper on the basis of economic autonomy as the starting point and a way of breaking the cycle of under-development that participation in the world economy was thought to induce. The paper concludes by arguing that the strategy for re-conceptualizing development presupposes certain conditions for its success which among several others are national self-reliance; sustainable production of domestic food supplies, endogenous capacities of developing, acquiring and adapting technology, incorporation of new and different cultural roots in the concept of development by drawing upon alternative modes of civilisation; eradication of illiteracy and racism, de-militarisation as a development object; and participation by third world in the management of all global issues which includes climate change and the common heritage of making development possible. The outcome of current decisions on future human well-being will only be visible on a systemic level in the interrelated socio-ecological economic systems.

Author(s): *Uju Maureen Nnabuenyi, Nasarawa State University, Keffi, Nigeria*

## **2. Hideousness and Hindutva: An Ideology Enterprised on Exclusion and Hate**

Over the last few decades, particularly since India's neoliberal turn in the 90's, we have witnessed a marked uptick in Hindu fundamentalist control of civil society organizations, and everyday culture. This has led to the public articulation of a virulent, exclusionary, nakedly brutal and masculinist ideology of Hindutva (or Hindu nationalism.) Like other right-wing populist groups, the task of Hindu nationalist groups has also been to weaponise the history of India, iterating violent fantasies of a 'lost' glorious past, to the point that the popular imaginaries of being 'Hindu' and 'Indian' seem interchangeable. This rewriting of the past is predicated on casting out and dominating marginalised peoples (along the lines of caste, gender, sexuality, class etc.) - leading to routine public spectacles of violence such as mob lynchings, razing down of mosques, criminalising dissent. In this paper, I will examine the recent spate of mob lynchings enacted on poor, Muslim cattle traders to argue that that Hindu nationalism earns its purchase precisely because it articulates a gendered and casteist violent fantasy of the ideal "Hindu Nation".

Author(s): *Hena Mehta, York University*

## **3. Authoritarianism, Environmental Governance, and The Sundarbans in Bangladesh**

This paper analyzes an environmental movement, which has been mobilizing against the actions of the Bangladeshi government since 2011 to protect a precious natural resource of the country -the Sundarbans, world's largest mangrove forest and both a UNESCO World Heritage site and a Ramsar site. Popular mobilizations at both local- and national-scale emerged soon after the government signed a memorandum of understanding with NTPC, an Indian state-owned power company in 2010 to build a large coal-fired power plant at a site adjacent to the ecologically critical area of the Sundarbans, a 10-kilometre radius around the forest where such industrial infrastructures are prohibited. UNESCO expressed grave concern and urged the Bangladeshi government to halt the project until it conducted a strategic environmental impact assessment study. Various transnational advocacy groups have expressed solidarity with the movement. Many independent experts criticized the government's actions in selecting the site, displacing local people, conducting the EIA study, obtaining the environmental clearance certificate, and justifying the benefits of the project. None of these oppositional voices was successful, so far, to persuade both the Bangladeshi and Indian governments in their favour. Using empirical data from in-depth interviews with activists and experts involved with the 'Save the Sundarbans Movement,' this paper focuses on the outcomes of the movement. In so doing, it draws on social movement scholarship and adopts a structural approach to identify the roots of the movement's apparent failure. It argues that growing authoritarianism in the Bangladeshi political culture in recent years has reduced the opportunity of social movements and civil society actors to influence environmental governance in such a way as to make a delicate balance between economic development and environmental protection in an era of global climate crisis, which has made Bangladesh one of the most vulnerable countries.

Author(s): *M. Omar Faruque, Queen's University*

## Intersectional Disability Studies in Higher Education: Building Bridges

Session Code: DIS1A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Disability

Taking an intersectional disability studies in education approach, this session delves into the ways higher education and academia both produce and reproduce dis/ableism, which excludes disabled students and faculty from these spaces. In particular, papers in this session explore questions of students' access to higher education and mechanisms that marginalize disabled faculty; the lack of space for intersectional disability studies perspectives and knowledge in academic programs in higher education; the psychiatrization of higher education; and the forms of control exercised over those who do not conform with normative ways of being and acting. This session also explores transformative possibilities of education that disrupt hegemonic psychological, sanist, racist, medical, and deficit models of disability, and re-imagine higher education. These papers take critical, creative and intersectional approaches including dialogues with other theoretical perspectives such as critical race, decolonial, crip and feminist theory, as well as creative research methods such as digital stories and LEGO® SERIOUS PLAY® as generative ways for participants to share their experiences.

Organizer(s): *Patty Douglas, Brandon University; Alan Santinele Martino, McMaster University*

Presentations:

### 1. Anti-Black Ableism on University Campuses

There have recently been a number of cases of explicit anti-Black racism on university campuses, including the actions that took place at Congress 2019, and the detainment of Jamal Koulmiye-Boyce at the University of Ottawa in June 2019. My presentation will explore the ways in which these moments of anti-Black racism are extensions of anti-Black ableism or perhaps anti-Black sanism (see Meerai, Abdillahi, and Poole 2016), as Black people are continually denied entry to spaces of higher education. By looking specifically to the University of Ottawa's policies - the policies of my own university - I will argue that settler colonialism, and particularly the idea of university campuses as university property, create contradictions around accessibility, particularly for Black students, staff, and faculty. These contradictions are exacerbated by an unwillingness on the university's part to recognize Black scholarship and to support courses run by Black scholars about Black theories and epistemologies. The lack of university courses and university tenure-track faculty at the University of Ottawa is representative of a larger issue of white supremacist ableism or the assumption of Black intellectual inferiority. Throughout this presentation, I will point to the important work connecting Black studies and disability studies (for some examples see Bailey and Mobley 2019; Mollow 2017; Ferri 2010; Lukin 2013; Bell 2010; Bell 2011; Pickens 2017; Pickens 2019) as well as the growing field of DisCrit which examines the intersection of Disability Studies, Critical Race Studies, and Education to demonstrate that while universities may not support their Black communities, these communities are busy producing important scholarly work.

Author(s): *Meg Peters, University of Ottawa*

### 2. Re-storying Disabled Women's Time and Space(s) in Academia

What happens when lived experiences of disabled women come up against neoliberal and colonial social institutions such as academia? Traditionally, as Tanya Titchkosky makes explicit, systems of higher education have not expected disabled academics' presence, whether it is in terms of the built environment, teaching methods, or access to scholarship. My paper enters the interstices, self-reflexively contributing to/from/within those marginal(ized) spaces as a disabled graduate student. Drawing on feminist disability studies and arts-based methods, I engage with the emerging concept of 'slow scholarship' to imagine and re-imagine disabled academics' relationships to and with/in an institution deeply permeated by market-driven forces and neoliberal colonial influences of time: the speeding up of time, not having enough time, scarcity of time, and increased demands for productivity. I want to spend some *time* writing about, thinking about, and talking about the embodied experience "of this workplace and worktime" (Mountz 1245). Specifically, I focus on the potential for stories by disabled, Indigenous, and other precariously positioned women - in texts, blogs, conversations, art, and my digital story - to *crip*, re-story and *slow* scholarship in academic spaces. These multidimensional storytelling approaches not only reveal structures which marginalize and limit membership in academe, but they also shift attention towards re-

imagining our physical and cultural spaces to include and anticipate disability, to build bridges across difference, and to re-story different ways of being in academia.

Author(s): *Kelly McGillivray, Western University*

### **3. Mental health curricula and identity: Do labels disempower youth?**

This paper critiques the recent upswing of mental health and anti-stigma education in Ontario as these relate to youth identity, rebelliousness, and disempowerment. Using labeling theory and disability studies scholarship, this work critiques mental health labels as social constructions which disembody behavioural and emotional 'rule-breaking' from their capitalist-inspired social and relational contexts. By responsabilizing behavioural and emotional states, these labels obscure the social relations through which rules for behaviour and emotions are defined. Rather than being seen as legitimate forms of protest against systemic contexts, outlier emotions and behaviours are subsumed within psychiatric diagnostic criteria. Mental health education therefore operates as a form of social control, since failure to conform to shared societal expectations about behaviours or emotions leads to the application of 'othering' labels which discredit their bearers and derail their claims to social dissent. Through mental health curricula and anti-stigma campaigns, young people come to accept the facticity of 'mental illnesses,' narrowing the possibility of viewing human suffering and difference in contextualized and relationally-informed ways. The paper concludes by recontextualizing behavioural and emotional 'rule-breaking,' and exploring the emancipatory possibilities that might emerge from youth discontent and 'misbehaviour.'

Author(s): *Sharry Taylor, OISE, University of Toronto*

### **4. International Students' Experiences of Distress: Visualizing Madness**

This presentation draws from data generated alongside international students in the UK who have or are experiencing distress. The research draws together work that is critical of both the global spread of psychiatrization and the internationalization of (western) higher education. These two global assemblages intersect and manifest in the everyday lives of international students who experience distress. Often reduced to statistics or clichéd representations of distress (such as images of individuals with their hands on their head) this project, using LEGO® SERIOUS PLAY®, asks participants to create a visual representation of their experiences, providing an image of the impact of these global assemblages on the everyday student. LEGO® SERIOUS PLAY® is "...a facilitated methodology, using brick building and metaphoric storytelling..." (Peabody, 2015) to convey ideas and thoughts about experiences in an alternative and creative way that moves beyond oral or written descriptions, and asks participants to build their understandings. Through this methodology and the accompanying wider analysis of trends in global psychiatrization and higher education, this project seeks to bridge the colonial and eugenics efforts that underpin the expansion of higher education with the increased number of distressed international students. Understanding the impact of these global efforts on international students (and having non-clichéd representations of these impacts) may generate some momentum to respond to distressed international students in ways outside of western psychiatric practice. Initiating a discussion of the broader impacts on this population may lead to better services and supports that take into account the intersectional and global nature of distress.

Author(s): *Fady Shanouda, University of London*

## **Intersectional Disability Studies in Early Childhood and Public Education: Building Bridges**

Session Code: DIS1B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Disability

This session on disability studies, early childhood and public education opens up some of the complex interconnections between ableism, colonialism, capitalism and other systems of power and the ways in which they produce and reproduce exclusion in childcare and public school contexts. In particular, papers in this session critically explore questions of consent and power in research with disabled children; the ironic reproduction of exclusion through current inclusive early childhood policy contexts; the reach of behaviourism in disabled children's lives and how such everyday practices are implicated in market logics and white supremacy; and the unique contribution of Canadian scholarship toward building an intersectional and decolonial disability studies in education approach. More broadly, this session explores the transformative possibilities for research, policy

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studies, educational practice and scholarship of an intersectional disability studies in education approach, offering innovations in methodology as well as new theoretical resources.

Organizer(s): *Patty Douglas, Brandon University; Alan Santinele Martino, McMaster University*

Presentations:

### **1. Consent as a Relational Engagement with Children with Intellectual Disabilities-Ethical Conundrums and Possibilities**

This paper offers a critical reflection of my experiences as researcher with the aim of foregrounding the persistent ethical conundrums within the process of engaging children with intellectual disabilities in the research process. This paper is composed of two parts. First, I outline an approach to consent that is relational rather than transactional in its orientation. Rather than treating consent as a formality of signing permission forms, I consider what happens when researchers are embedded within and committed to sustaining relationships with disabled peoples and children? I explore the possibilities of the enactment of consent as an ongoing negotiation between researcher and research participants. Second, I consider Snelgrove's (2005, p.314) provocation related to the importance of finding ways to "challenge accepted truths and engage with children 'with-out' trying to assimilate or acculturate the other." Snelgrove (2005) states rather unequivocally that: "In order to, include those that are most marginalized as effective participants in research we have to be prepared to be innovative in our methods" (Snelgrove, 2005 p. 319). I contend that a component part of pursuing and enacting innovative research methods, is to both resist and transform unbalanced relations of power within research through reconsidering what counts as consent.

Author(s): *Maria Karmiris, Ryerson University*

### **2. Do early childhood inclusion strategies lead to inclusive experiences?**

Canada does not have a national universal childcare strategy; however, there is a Multilateral Agreement for Early Learning and Childcare Framework, between the federal government and all provinces and territories in Canada. The multilateral agreement sets out principles for a high quality, accessible and inclusive system of early childhood learning and care services. The chapter will examine what is meant by "inclusive" in this context and then use examples from two provinces and one territory (Manitoba, British Columbia, and the Northwest Territories). These examples illustrate how even in the context of social policy that calls for inclusive early learning and childcare, there are complexities in how children and families experience these services in their everyday lives. Ultimately, we argue that inclusion requires clear policy frameworks that provide the conditions for inclusion, and that inclusion itself happens at the local level. We will draw on disabled children's childhood studies to articulate a valuing of disabled identities and families, particularly those who live in conditions that increase the likelihood of impairment and illness. This paper will draw from an empirical longitudinal study of family experiences with institutions in the early years. The Inclusive Early Childhood Service System (IECSS) project has been collecting information from families since 2014, following them annually and mapping their interactions with services. Our research indicates that childcare some families are unable to participate in childcare because of the number of hours they are spending in health, early intervention, or other community services. These cases illustrate how an inclusion strategy that solely focuses on childcare will not be inclusive of all children. Finally, some families do not need childcare, because of the family work situation. In which case, a childcare only inclusion strategy does not include their children.

Author(s): *Kathryn Underwood, Ryerson University*

### **3. 'Goodness as Property': A Critical Thematic Synthesis of the "Good Behavior Game" 1969-2019**

The Good Behavior Game is a classroom management strategy based on operant conditioning - behaviorism - introduced in 1968 by Harriet Barrish, Muriel Saunders and Montrose Wolf in the Journal of Applied Behavioral Analysis (Barrish, Saunders, and Wolf, 1969). In the "game," students are divided into groups, taught a series of rules, and then given marks for infractions a member of the team commits. The teams that do not surpass the stated threshold are rewarded at the completion of the game. Since the first publication on the GBG in 1968, a multitude of studies have replicated or applied the GBG to new contexts, and the GBG is now considered one of the most empirically validated classroom management strategies. The GBG has been called a "universal behavioral vaccine" (Embry, 2002) and had been used to "solve" social ills ranging from children who will not eat vegetables to drug addiction and suicidal ideation. In their seminal essay on the ideology of whiteness, Zeus Leonardo and Alicia Broderick contend with the function Whiteness in curriculum and contribute a theorization of the ways "smartness" and "goodness" work peripherally and in collaboration with Whiteness to reinscribe a normative

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center (Broderick and Leonardo, 2016; Leonardo and Broderick, 2011). Broderick and Leonardo (2011) engage with the “dialectical alibi” of smartness and its implied inverse-intellectual deficiency in order to deconstruct attempts to reclaim capacity, intelligence and competence as liberal, educational goods. The study is a systematic review of 85 GBG studies. The purpose of this study is to demonstrate how the sheer volume of recent replication studies or publications related to the GBG (ten just in 2019) represents a sustained (and perpetually expanding) market investment in the complementary ideologies of goodness and smartness, and their constitutive relationship to Whiteness.

Author(s): *Robin Roscigno, Rutgers University*

### 4. Intersectional Disability Studies: The Promise for Public Schools

Although disability studies' research in early childhood and post-secondary education within Canada exists (see, for example, the work of Titchkosky, Underwood and Dolmage), relatively little has been written about disability studies in education in Canada in relation to public schools. Much research remains under the rubric of inclusive or special education, both of which continue to be haunted by deficit understandings of embodied difference and legacies of exclusion and segregation (for exceptions, see Gillian Parekh, Gary Bunch and Patty Douglas). This paper offers an overview of DSE in Canada in relation to educational research on public schooling and teacher education. Based on a state-of-the-art literature review, the paper asserts the Canadian scene offers unique insights. Specifically, work being done by Canadian scholars at the intersection of disability studies in education, Indigenous studies, sexuality and gender studies, Black studies and social justice education offers new disability pedagogies, innovations in methodology and theoretical resources that advance the field more broadly. This work matters: conversations at the intersections of difference in education are essential to manifest a more ethical way of teaching, learning and being/becoming together in schools in a post-Trump time where embodied difference is targeted for containment and removal, and oppressed people increasingly bear the brunt of larger social and economic forces such as climate crisis.

Author(s): *Patty Douglas, Brandon University*

## Producing (Inter)Dependence: Relations, Wellness, Health & Technologies

Session Code: DIS2

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Disability

This session features empirical, analytic, or theoretical papers that explore how health and technology leads to the production of (inter)dependence. Specifically, how has the use of technologies in the pursuit of health enabled/fostered/coerced (inter)dependence? And how has this (inter)dependence, frequently among multiple players/actors, come to be organized where some of the relations are obfuscated (rendered invisible, disposable, or incidental) while others are prioritized and revered? How have we come not only to rely on but expect and demand the ability to access these technologies (and by proxy this (inter)dependence to extend or improve human life while at the same time curtailing the lives of others/Others (Farmer, 2003; Clarke et al., 2009)? And, what liberatory potential emerges from technologies that foster interdependence through access intimacy, particularly among disability communities (Mingus, 2017)? Emerging technologies often promise to secure our independence but this session seeks to problematize and critique that position by showing how through the use of technologies we often become more (inter)dependent; relying on each other more than ever in complex and consequential ways.

Organizer(s): *Matthew Strang, York University; Danielle Landry, York University*

Presentations:

### 1. Moving from irresponsible to responsible implementation: A critical analysis of monitoring technologies in institutional care

Amid growing awareness of errors and harms in institutional care settings (e.g. hospitals, nursing homes), artificial intelligence and other types of monitoring technologies are increasingly advocated for improving the safety and quality of care. The discourse around the use of these technologies has been dominated by enthusiasm about their “transformative potential” to improve health care quality, safety, and effectiveness of care. Yet, there have also



been concerns regarding “irresponsible innovation,” including that “failed” technologies may further threaten the sustainability of the health care system. Given the potential impact of such technologies on patients, providers, and systems, there is a pressing need to reflect on the values that underpin interest in implementing monitoring technologies, and how these values can be (re)aligned with the public good. Our purpose here is to contribute to broader efforts across science and technology studies to question the dominant assumptions that underpin development and implementation of monitoring technologies, focusing on their ethical, social, and policy implications. Our review suggests there is limited and inconsistent empirical evidence regarding promised improvements, and evidence that they may introduce new types of risks that may undermine otherwise good intentions with the use of these technologies.

Author(s): *Alisa Grigorovich, Toronto Rehab Institute - UHN; Pia Kontos, Toronto Rehab Institute - UHN*

## **2. A Broken Politics for a Disabled World**

As has been noted by countless disability scholars, dominant notions of cure and repair almost always seem to imply a return to some original state of normal, where “normal” (or non-disability) is always read as the best and the only way to be. As Eli Clare tells it, “the ideology of cure would have us believe that whole and broken are opposites and that the latter has no value” (2017, 159). Clare’s productive collapse of whole and broken frames the work of repair not as a simple return to what once was. Instead, repair is that which fosters “dynamic interdependencies,” a movement towards something altogether different and new (2017, 15). This positioning of repair as transformative -as opposed to restorative - requires us to attend not only to the object or person marked as broken but to the environs and relationships surrounding them. In this talk, we explore and engage with the generative possibilities of crip knowledge/practices of care, repair, retrofitting, and maintenance to consider how these might better enable us to grapple with the broken social conditions under which we unevenly live, and move towards more accessible futures in which disabled people thrive. We ask: How and in what ways have crip theories of brokenness informed and been informed by disability justice, activism, and culture? We suggest that in our sociopolitical calls to fix the broken, we continue to displace the very complex social relations of our broken disabled world in favour of cure and overcoming. This sidelines the disruptive -and therefore transformative - promise of disability. We seek to engage, in other words, maintenance and repair practices in ways that resist siloing broken as a tragedy in need of a novel fix, rather approaching disability and the broken through accountable relations of care, kinship, and access.

Author(s): *Kelly Fritsch, Carleton University; Anne McGuire, University of Toronto*

## **3. “I’m angry because I hate them, but I need them:” A critical approach to interdependence, chronic pain, and opioid use**

This paper takes a critical perspective on the discursive strategies used by people with chronic pain, as well as the organizations promoting their interests, and their endorsement of patients’ access to opioids through arguments that opioid use will allow them to achieve independence. In contrast to discourses that uphold independence as the ideal for people living with incurable pain, I propose that the use of opioids for pain management is an important example of not only human-to-human interdependence, but also human-to-non-human interdependence. I seek to position opioids as medical technologies produced, distributed, and used through a complex of relations including those organizing the pharmaceutical industry, health care professionals including physicians and pharmacists, and their respective regulatory colleges. As opposed to strategically deploying “independence” as the ultimate goal for people with chronic pain, I argue that a critical understanding of the interdependence shaping opioid use will allow for political organizing that intervenes into these relations in order to effect real change. In doing so, I draw on qualitative interviews with people living with chronic pain, as well as physicians who prescribe opioids and pharmacists who dispense them, in order to trace the interdependent relations shaping their everyday lives and work.

Author(s): *Leigha Comer, York University*

## **4. Nothing about ‘us’ without whom? Acknowledging interdependence in direct-funded attendant services**

Since the 1990s, direct funding models have provided public funding to disabled people to employ personal attendants directly. Direct funding models are known to increase service user choice and control in support services, supporting greater autonomy in everyday life. As direct employers of their personal attendants, however, service users are tasked to maximize scarce resources to see their care needs met. Where the cost of services correlates directly to the rate at which personal attendants are paid for their work, the interests of service-user-employers are in direct conflict with the interests of their personal-assistant-employees. This tension at the heart

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of direct funding models imperils the wellbeing of disabled service users and their personal attendants, while downloading systemic responsibility for efficient resource management onto service users and personal attendants alike. In centring the needs and preferences of disabled people, direct funding models inadvertently marginalize the needs and preferences of attendants and may further be seen to erode existing systemic protections for attendants. Furthermore, constructions of attendants' labour as justifiably low-waged, unskilled physical work devalues, delegitimizes and erases the complexities of care work. Recognizing the intersectional, often marginalized identities of service users and personal assistants, this paper traces the problematic origin of direct funding models in single-issue disability rights organizing that emphasized independence, through conceptualizations of interdependence in feminist and disability studies theoretical work and contemporary writing about disability justice and collective approaches to care. Through qualitative data from a study of direct-funded attendant services in Ontario, this paper will highlight the interdependent nature of care work. This paper will argue that the intimacy and mutuality evident in care work, as well as potential for exploitation and abuse, are powerfully instructive and must inform ongoing evolution of support service delivery options that protect the wellbeing of disabled people and their personal attendants.

Author(s): *Erika Katzman, King's University College at Western University*

### Sociological Perspectives on Disability I

Session Code: DIS4A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Disability

This session aims to contribute to current sociological analysis of disability both theoretically and methodologically. Papers explore disability as a "shifting and dynamic concept," rather than "a merely determined empirical fact" (Shuttleworth & Meekosha 2012:351). The papers in this session touch on a range of intersecting topics. More specifically, this set of papers examine the preferences of a group of adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders regarding their housing arrangements; quantitative data regarding disability and sexual dating violence; the relevance of the concept of compulsory able-mindedness for disability theorizing; and ways to provoke change in elementary education through dialogues between postcolonial and disability studies perspectives.

Organizer(s): *Alan Santinele Martino, McMaster University; Sarah Margaret Campbell, Concordia University*

Presentations:

#### **1. Minds Matter: The Significance of Compulsory Able-Mindedness for Intersectional Social Theory**

Why are categories of mentally disabled people represented as less attractive? Why do therapies for distressed workers try to adapt workers to their workspace, rather than reformulate a more productive work environment? Why are Indigenous people around the globe disproportionately labeled as mentally ill? Connecting these questions raises issues within social theory rendered invisible by compulsory able-mindedness. I argue for the hitherto untapped theoretical usefulness of the concept of compulsory able-mindedness for understanding various problems in human affairs, including beauty standards based on mental (dis)ability, therapy for distressed workers, and the omission of mental disability from prevailing theories of intersectionality in gender studies and critical race studies. All these fields require holistic understandings of lived experiences of mental (dis)ability and neurodiversity, as integral parts of anti-ableist theorizing and resistance to racialization and settler colonialism. Drawing upon systems theory, Indigenous critiques of Enlightenment mind-body dualism, Robert McRuer's writings on compulsory able-bodiedness, anticolonial feminist theory, and a case study of Christiania, Denmark, I show that compulsory able-mindedness is an unspoken centrality within, and beyond, the sociology of disability.

Author(s): *Stuart Warren, Carleton University*

#### **2. Enacting a Contrapuntally Engaged Methodology with and through Disability Studies**

The purpose of this paper is to explore the methodological possibilities embedded in the intersections of postcolonial and disability studies as a way of provoking change within an elementary education system that remains steeped in western centric conceptions of normalcy. Through a focus on the work of postcolonial scholars such as Chowdhry (2007) and Said (1991, 2003), this paper considers both the strengths and limitations of a contrapuntally engaged methodology that disrupts a complicity in the ableism, classism, racism, sexism and

homophobia that remains prevalent within education. Chowdhry notes: "Said's plea for a contrapuntal reading" is a plea for 'worlding' the texts, institutions and practices, for historicizing them, for interrogating their sociality and materiality, for paying attention to the hierarchies and the power-knowledge nexus embedded in them and for recuperating 'a non-coercive and non-dominating knowledge'" (2007, p.105). Similarly, contrapuntal reading can be seen as, a way to temper inclinations to "privilege any particular narrative but reveal intermeshed, overlapping and mutually embedded histories" (Chowdhry, 2007, p. 105). The aim here is to consider the fruitfulness of a contrapuntally engaged learning process with and through disability, in our public schools, in a manner that resists and refuses the current hegemony of normalcy.

Author(s): *Maria Karmiris, Ryerson University*

### **3. Meeting the Autism Housing Challenge in Nova Scotia**

In this paper, we present early findings from a SSHRC Partnership Engage-funded study that aims to understand the housing desires of adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in Nova Scotia. In our province, the public conversation about supported housing for people with disabilities is constrained by the administrative facts of waiting lists, bricks and mortar housing stock, and discrete ranges of housing "needs" with very little attention to what an ideal, sufficient system of supported housing might look like. There is also little room for people with Autism to imagine how they would prefer to live, in a holistic sense, where home is more than a physical place. Karen Foster, a sociologist, partnered with Brian Foster, Director of Operations at Autism Nova Scotia, to develop a multi-format survey in collaboration with self-advocates (people with ASD attached to Autism Nova Scotia programs). The survey, which launches in late February/early March, will invite adults with ASD or their proxies to describe their current living arrangements, desires and expectations for housing and home in the future, as well as the lifestyles, social relationships and community involvement they have and would like to have. Our project seeks to advance a rights-based, person-centred approach to understanding the Autism housing challenge in Nova Scotia, and to elucidate what is necessary for realizing the rights-based, person-centered housing system that Nova Scotians Autism and wider developmental disability community have been asking for for, in line with international disability rights movements.

Author(s): *Karen Foster, Dalhousie University; Brian M. Foster, Autism Nova Scotia*

### **4. Disability and Dating: Considering the Significance of Multiple Predictors of Dating Violence**

Dating violence is recognized as a public health issue that has significant consequences for victims, families, and communities. It can take the form of physical, sexual, and psychological abuse, ranging from verbal abuse to repeated physical and sexual assault. In 2014, more than one quarter (27%) of all Canadian victims of violent crime were victims of dating violence, with dating violence being the most common form of police-reported violent crime. Despite there being a substantial body of literature on disability status as a risk factor for victimization, dating violence is an under-researched topic among this population in the Canadian context. According to the 2014 Canadian General Social Survey, individuals with a disability were two times more likely than those without a disability to have been a victim of violent crime. Further, 23% of women with a disability, and 22% of men with a disability experienced emotional, financial, physical, or sexual abuse committed by a current or former partner in the past five years. Using data from the 2014 Canadian General Social Survey, the purpose of this paper is to analyze the extent to which disability status is a predictor of psychological and/or physical and sexual dating violence. Through the use of multiple regression models, disability status is considered in conjunction with known risk-factors for dating violence (childhood physical and sexual victimization, and socioeconomic status) as well as other control variables (sex, age, visible minority status, and Aboriginal status). Findings from these analyses are reported on, along with limitations of the study, and directions for future research.

Author(s): *Katie Coleman, Queen's University; Heather Plyley, Queen's University*

## **Sociological Perspectives on Disability II**

Session Code: DIS4B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Disability

This session aims to contribute to current sociological analysis of disability both theoretically and methodologically. Papers in this session explore disability as a "shifting and dynamic concept," rather than "a merely determined empirical fact" (Shuttleworth & Meekosha 2012:351). The papers in this session touch on a

range of intersecting topics. More specifically, this set of papers examine understandings and examples of disability rights movements efforts both in Canada and across the globe; how medicalized understandings of disability can be challenged; barriers experienced by refugee mothers of children with disabilities when it comes to accessing social services; and quantitative data regarding the incidence of disability among Indigenous peoples.

Organizer(s): *Alan Santinele Martino, McMaster University; Sarah Margaret Campbell, Concordia University*

Presentations:

**1. Indigenous people with disabilities in Canada: First Nations people living off reserve, Metis and Inuit aged 15 years and older**

Research on disability among Indigenous peoples is imperative given the “double vulnerability” of a population impacted by colonization including legislation and social policies that have had long term impacts on both their health and well-being. Previous research has established that rates of disability are higher among Indigenous peoples than among non-Indigenous people (Ng, 1996), although limited research exists taking a distinction-based approach. This paper provides timely information on disability among First Nations peoples living off reserve, Métis and Inuit. It makes use of the Disability Screening Questionnaire (DSQ) that was newly added to the 2017 Aboriginal Peoples Survey. In line with the DSQ, disability is defined using the social model of disability, which takes into account not just a person’s impairments, but also the added impact of environmental barriers to create disability. This study finds high rates of disability among First Nations peoples living off reserve and Métis, while Inuit rates reflect, in part, a younger age structure. Pain and mental-health are the most common disability types among all three groups, as are mild disabilities. Information is provided by sex and age where pertinent and regional differences are discussed.

Author(s): *Tara Hahmann, Statistics Canada*

**2. Social Policy and Disability-related Stressors Among Syrian Refugee Mothers in Ontario**

In 2018, the Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario, led by Premier Doug Ford, won the provincial election and soon after, made changes to Ontario’s disability care services. For example, funding for Special Services at Home - a program that funds respite care for children with developmental disabilities - was frozen (Howorun 2019). The waitlist for autism therapy was also frozen by the government (CityNews 2019). Budget cuts to disability support services has meant that more children are being funneled into conventional schools with limited capacity for their specific needs on a full-time basis (Blinch 2018). This has created a climate of uncertainty for many Ontarian families, including Syrian newcomers. As refugees and racialized minorities, Syrian refugee mothers encounter numerous stressors related to adjusting to a new culture/environment and learning a new language (Maghbouleh 2019). Those caring for children with disabilities experience even more parental stress due to intersectional challenges: minimal informal networks of support and social capital, low incomes, exclusion of differently-abled children in school, and lack of access to social services due to language/information barriers and cuts by the government. This paper, based on two waves of semi-structured interviews and surveys conducted in Arabic/English with 49 Syrian newcomer households in Peel and Toronto regions, identifies specific stressors and barriers to social services experienced by refugee mothers raising children with developmental disabilities in Ontario.

Author(s): *Fatima Al Saadie, University of Toronto*

**3. Interaction Orders and Disorder: How Parents Mobilize the Interaction Order of the Family to Resist Medicalization of Children in the Clinic**

This paper looks at how parents of children diagnosed with autism resist the medicalization of their children’s behavior. Drawing on ethnographic and video data collected over four years of fieldwork at a clinic for developmental disorders, the paper distinguishes two interaction orders -the interaction order of the clinic and interaction order of the family -and argues that behavior interpreted as disordered in the clinic may be seen as ordinary in the home. These differences reflect and renew different orders of accountability in the clinic and home, and parents mobilize familial knowledge of the child to counter the medicalization of specific behavior patterns, even where they otherwise accept an autism diagnosis. In showing how medicalization and dis/ability are achieved and resisted in the mundane details of social interaction, the paper contributes to studies of identity, neurodiversity, and diagnosis. Further, the myriad ways parents and clinicians contest which regions of a child’s behavior get medicalized -i.e. which behavioral patterns are labeled disordered -presents a challenge to binary

conceptions of medicalization, recommending instead a more nuanced model of medicalization as a multi-dimensional continuum: more or less, rather than either-or.

Author(s): *Jason Turowetz, University of Siegen*

**4. Disability as an impediment in social adjustment: A study of disabled person of district Multan, Pakistan**

Disability is a stigma in Pakistan, and cultural norms are a hindrance to the integration of the disabled into the community. The study is designed to explore the impediments faced by disabled persons in their social adjustment within the society and also find out the factors responsible for maladjustment of persons with disability. The study also explores the attitudes of family members and neighbors towards people with disability. A total number of 241 disable persons were interviewed with the help of convenient sampling technique in District Multan. The data was analyzed by using statistical package for social sciences. The results showed that the person with disability faced a lot of impediments i.e. jobs hunting, promotion at work place, less health facilities, insecurity, partially implementation of 03% disabled quota and lack of political and administrative control to implement the disable quota. The poverty and low income factor was found to responsible for maladjustment of disabled persons in the society. The family members have positive attitude while neighbors have negative attitude towards persons with disabilities. About 97(40.2%) respondents believed that the government and non government organizations are not efficiently working for the empowerment of persons with disabilities and they had failed to provide dignified social status to the disabled persons in the community.

Author(s): *Kamran Ishfaq, Bahauddin Zakariya University Multan, Pakistan; Nand Lal, Social Welfare Officer at Social Welfare and Bait-ul-Mal, Multan, Pakistan*

**5. Collective Actions for Enforcement of Disability Rights Act in Nigeria: Practices and Lessons from Canada and America**

Disability rights are to motivate access to employment opportunities, housing rights, equal educational opportunities, equity in transportation, healthcare services and political rights for the disabled. Law to enforce this right was signed into law by the Nigerian government in January 2019. Hence, this study examines this law and the collective-actions taken by disable-people and non-disable sympathizers in achieving this feat. Also, the study looked at the constraints associated with the non-implementation of law among others. The sample of this study was 215 members of Disabled People Associations, Nigeria and relevant agencies. Results show that access to this disability rights law has been difficult in enforcement due to the bureaucratic of the Nigerian government system. It also showed that few people living with disabilities (PLWD) have access to these rights (15.5%). The collective actions taken to press home for the enforcement of the law include among other peaceful demonstrations by disabled and non-governmental organizations. Constraints associated with non-enforcement of the law include the absence of a political will. Evidence from Canada and the US revealed the strength of the political will to drive these rights. Hence, this paper recommends that PLWD association and NGOs fast track enforcement of contents that addressed the protection of disable persons

Author(s): *Sunday Idowu Ogunjimi, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria; Temidayo Gabriel Apata, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria*

**Mapping Blackness, Disability and Madness: Colonialities and Critical Relations**

Session Code: DIS5

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Disability

This session features abstracts from established and emerging scholars for works that explore questions of Blackness, Disability and Madness using interpretive sociological perspectives and intersectional approaches. Following Chris Bell, this session seeks to “interrogate the meanings and uses of ‘blackness’ and ‘disability’” (2011, p. 3) that circulate within the academy, scholarly discourse and everyday life. Works are encouraged that map the colonialities and constellations of critical relations (Pickens, 2019) that collect Black, Disabled and Mad lives and livabilities. This is a cross-listed interdisciplinary session with the Canadian Disability Studies Association.

Organizer(s): *Katie Aubrecht, St. Francis Xavier University*

Presentations:

**1. From the Enlightenment to Black Lives Matter: The Black Body in the Psychiatric Imagination**

Psychiatry has failed to examine its role in producing and sustaining harmful myths about Black people since the colonial era. Psychiatry provided the “scientific” rationale for slavery because it developed during colonialism when anxieties and fears about African people were being generated. Today, the tendency to over-diagnose Black people with schizophrenia and other psychotic illnesses and underdiagnose them with depression and other affective disorders can be attributed to the persistence of racist ideologies within the culture of psychiatry. Using seminal works by anti-colonial scholars such as Fanon, Memmi, and Foucault, and more recent work by Metzl, this paper interrogates how representations of race, gender, class, and “madness” inform the application of psychiatric diagnoses to Black people, how these representations contribute to the stigmatization and pathologization of the Black body as aggressive, violent, and dangerous, and how the criminalization of Black people within psychiatric institutions manifests. The paper concludes with a discussion on how the Black Lives Matter Movement - which emerged to target the lack of indictments for the murderers of Black men - has since contributed to a larger conversation on the criminalization of mentally ill Black people inside and outside the mental health system.

Author(s): *Ingrid Waldron, Dalhousie University*

**2. The Biopolitics of Pelvic Pain: Drafting Black and White Bodyminds**

In this paper, I respond to a call made by Sami Schalk (2017) to engage with critical disability studies as a methodology and attend to the mutable use of (dis)ability as a technology in arranging Black life. Specifically, I trace the logics that inform the ways in which madness and (dis)ability are differentially applied, resourced, and transferred across racialized sites of bodily pain. In the 19th century, racist notions of pain perception were used to differentiate white and Black women and played a key role in the conceptualization of hysteria as the product of white nervous sensibility and civilization (Briggs, 2001). Discourses of white fragility worked in concert with claims that Black women could not feel pain, and were mobilized to justify heinous forms of gynecological experimentation (Snorton, 2017). Rachel Dudley (2012) has articulated the ‘medical plantation as a cultural location of disability’ which reflects the simultaneous application of disability and hyper-ability in the making of race, gender, and nation-state. I center my analysis at the intersection of neurology, gynecology, and psychiatry in order to examine how madness and disability continue to move through racialized logics of pain perception. I identify the rationalities that underpin the association of chronic vulvar pain with whiteness and chronic pelvic pain with Blackness. Informed by scholars such as Dorothy Roberts, Khiara Bridges, and Christine Labuski, I challenge racialized diagnostics based on claims of biological, neurological, and sociogenic determinants to argue we must, instead, understand race-based pain in relation to biopolitics, population, and surveillance.

Author(s): *Renee Dumaesque, York University*

**3. Historical Trauma and the Black Female Body**

There is a paucity of research available that examines historical trauma and its impact on women of African ancestry who are living in Nova Scotia. The purpose of this paper is to contribute to that lacuna. This paper takes a closer examination of women of African ancestry, living in Nova Scotia, who are surviving racism and the impact this has had on their health and well-being. The participants for this research were a subset of 20 women of African ancestry living in Nova Scotia, who had participated in qualitative interviews in the five-year Canadian Racism Violence and Health Project. This Project was a five-year action research study funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research: Institute of Gender and Health. Transcripts of women’s lived experience of racism was analyzed using Grounded Theory as a method of analysis, with Critical Race Theory and Black Feminist Thought as the research lens. Critical Race Theory requires that racism is central to any research, and Black Feminist thought gives voice to the Black Women. Reflecting on the core themes of surviving, silence, becoming aware and restructuring self and the community this paper explores the relationship of the story of Saartjie Baartman to that of the women in this study.

Author(s): *Barbara Hamilton-Hinch, Dalhousie University*

**4. Exploring Intensive Mothering: How Black Mothers Navigate Hegemonic Ideologies of Motherhood**

Guided by a Black Feminist sociological theory (Hill-Collins, 2000), this paper analyzes the contested definitions and contradictions that shape the meaning of Black mothering. I trace the absence of Black women’s voices in current literature within a sociology of the family to map how the sociological construct of “intensive mothering” (Hays, 1996) can be interpreted as an expression of hegemonic ideologies of motherhood. As part of this work I examine how attention to “a dialectic of oppression and activism” (Hill-Collins refers to as 2000, p. 3) permits



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attention to the erasure of race and class from sociological critiques of the 'normal family'. I consider the role that this erasure plays in the continued marginalization, exploitation and oppression of Black families and silencing of Black mothers. My discussion of the results from a review of literature that centres Black women's definitions of family life highlights the challenges and possibilities of resistance within sociological scholarship.

Author(s): *Tara Reddick, St. Francis Xavier University*

### Finance, Risk, and Society

Session Code: ECS1

Research Cluster Affiliation: Economic Sociology

This session focuses on recent developments in the sociology of risk, both theoretical and empirical, with a particular emphasis on the intersections between risk and finance. The papers speak to issues of risk in the context of the economy (payday lending, rental housing, insurance), the environment (agriculture and biotechnology), and in social and personal life.

Organizer(s): *Kim Pernel, University of Toronto; Angelina Grigoryeva, University of Toronto*

Presentations:

#### **1. Risk, Religion, and Rationality: The Past and the Future of Automobile Insurance in Iran**

Insurance, in the Weberian sense, involves rational, bureaucratic social action, most importantly in the form of actuarial calculations with the expectation of making profits in a regular market. In that sense, insurance is a future-oriented business. But, even in this industry, the past often weighs on the present and on the future. As Viviana Zelizer has shown, the business of insurance goes beyond rational actuarial calculations, and encompasses cultural beliefs that help or hinder the popularity and profitability of the industry. I examine this theory in the context of the automobile insurance industry in Iran. This case study reveals complexities that stem partly from cultural beliefs and partly from official religious rules. Islamic rules regarding compensation for the loss of life and limb are rooted in the time-space of the Arabian Peninsula in the 7th century AD. Specifically, in accordance with the customs of that time-space, the price of life is tied to the price of livestock (most commonly, camels). This creates headaches in places like Iran where camels are more rare and where significant declines in their population have driven up the price and posed serious problems for insurance providers. In addition, Islamic rules regarding retribution are individualistic: the person who has caused harm reimburses the victim. Insurance, on the other hand, is premised on the socialization of risk. This has created significant mental and moral obstacles for many victims: they do not consider insurance money to be legitimate and refuse to accept compensation. This paper examines how the insurance industry, as a rational, bureaucratized and future-oriented form of social action, has dealt with these moral, religious, and cultural obstacles. It is part of a broader investigation into modern state building in Iran, focusing on the perennial and vexed relationship between Islam and Modern Rule.

Author(s): *Zohreh Bayat Rizi, University of Alberta*

#### **2. The Inherent Affordability Narrative in New Rental Housing Policy: Financialization through Symbolic Conflation**

Since the early 2010s, Canadian cities have implemented policies to encourage the building of new rental housing as a way to address a growing affordable housing crisis. At the same time, financial interests, including real estate investment trusts (REITs), private equity firms and pension funds, have become increasingly involved in Canada's rental housing market. These "financialized landlords" have been shown to produce negative outcomes for renters through evictions, raising rents, under-maintenance of buildings and tenant intimidation. Considering the negative impacts of this dynamic, how does the financialization of rental housing gain legitimacy amongst policy-makers and the public? To address this question, this paper uses a frame analysis of 503 articles from 10 major Canadian news outlets between 2009 and 2019. Through my analysis, I find a predominant narrative of "inherent affordability" around new-build multi-family rental housing, which suggests that building a large supply of rentals will help to solve the housing crisis. I argue that this inherent affordability narrative relies on a process of symbolic conflation between rentals and affordability. Focusing on the business sections of newspapers, however, I identify a separate "good for business" narrative, where the building of rentals through private financial investment is

framed as benefitting from the conditions of the housing crisis, including unaffordable high rents and the lack of tenant rights. By comparing the two narratives, I illustrate how the framing of the causes and consequences of the housing crisis through cultural narratives helps to facilitate the financialization of rental housing in Canada.

Author(s): *Zachary Hyde, University of British Columbia*

### **3. Network Expansion, Risk-class, and Differential Externalities**

This paper analyzes the differential benefits from the countervailing tendency of “risk growth” alongside “value growth” associated with network expansion. Rather than the risks and benefits from network growth being shared across the network as some holistic, systemic approaches imply, as the network expands, value is able to be appropriated by network providers and first movers and powerful agents within the network, while the costs of systemic risk are disproportionately externalized onto others, with weaker power positions in the network and onto society as a whole, including those who are not a part of the network. In this way, positive network externalities tend to accrue to those who are in the network, while receiving negative network externalities is not contingent on participation or benefit from the network. As such, network growth generates both a risk inequality process, in which different risk-classes emerge, as well as generating a potential Collective Action Problem in which the interest of each individual is to join successful networks as early as possible, while collectively the cumulative externalized risks of network growth will often outweigh the private benefits. The chapter then proceeds to suggest that the point at which social costs exceed private benefits have likely been reached with many of the largest digital networks. In this way, Metcalfes law of quadratic expansion of benefit of network size is better at capturing the increase in the network controllers pecuniary benefits than in the users benefit, while potentially rendering opaque how network growth is often driven by the dynamics of competitive “early adopter” gains and externalization of risks, rather than overall gains from network expansion.

Author(s): *Dean Curran, University of Calgary*

### **4. Science, Food, and Disasters: The Future of Food under the Bio-Tech Regime**

The study aims at uncovering a critical nexus between the ‘establishment of science’ food regimes, and social and ecological disasters, focusing on the bio-tech regime of the global agro-food system that gave rise to the development of genetically modified organisms (GMOs). While disasters are largely treated as natural hazards caused by the “forces of nature” I argue that anthropogenic scientific establishment also causes a bulk of disasters today that negatively affect both social and ecological landscapes. Examining the emergence of agro-biotechnology that allows the targeted manipulation of genes in living organisms as well as patenting of seeds, the paper highlights the current structure of the global food production system dominated largely by the transnational corporations (TNCs), and analyses the implications of the massive adoption of agro-biotechnology in social and environmental landscapes posing a potential disaster for the future of food. The paper also discusses how science and various actors along the food production chain can effect a change in the food governance to avert the disaster and drive the future of food towards sustainability.

Author(s): *Md Saidul Islam, Nanyang Technological University Singapore*

### **5. Fringe banking and inequality: the case of Toronto**

The payday loan industry has proliferated in the past decade as more and more people have become unbanked or their needs fell outside of the traditional banks’ services. Payday lenders offer expensive, high-risk, short-term loans to those who are in financial distress. The spread of such lenders is a symptom of the deep financialization of society and, ultimately, shows that this process has negatively impacted low socioeconomic strata. This paper broadens the understanding of the causes and consequences of the rise of this industry by looking at the case of Toronto. First, I look at the characteristics of the neighborhoods in which this type of aggressive lenders is thriving. While the extant theory suggests that the payday loan market is partitioned from the more traditional banking, I argue that the fringe banking has encroached banks’ territory due to increasing social and economic inequality. Second, I discuss the need for an updated resource partitioning theory that takes into account that financial niche markets’ operations are intertwined with social segregation.

Author(s): *Mircea Gherghina, University of Toronto*

## Social Studies of Quantification, Valuation and Accounting

Session Code: ECS2

Research Cluster Affiliation: Economic Sociology

Social studies of quantification, valuation, and accounting have formed the basis of an emerging literature that challenges the intrinsic qualities of materials that govern social and economic life. This session highlights economic studies of numeration, valuation, quantification, assetization, assessment, and accounting.

Organizer(s): *Kyle Willmott, University of Alberta; Debra Mackinnon, University of Calgary*

Presentations:

### 1. Quotas, Quantifacts and the Racial Enumeration of Indian Immigration in Canada, 1945-1960

Between 1945 and 1960, the Government of Canada considered and implemented a series of changes to citizenship and immigration laws that had excluded Indian populations from the juridical and territorial space of the Canadian nation. In the state correspondence that surrounds these possible changes, the past, present, and future of Canada's Indian population(s) were imagined and refigured through different numerical representations, including population quintiles, mortality statistics, divorce rates, and immigration quotas. This paper makes use of archival research to analyze the racial forms of valuation that structured how prospective Indian migrants were counted and quantified as they were considered for Canadian residence and citizenship. Drawing on critical theories of racial governance, this paper explains how these practices of enumeration acquired their form, meaning, and effects against historical changes to the British Empire, liberal epistemologies of race and racism, as well as shifting linkages between migration and nationalism.

Author(s): *Bonar Buffam, University of British Columbia*

### 2. How couples deal with taxation: jointly or separately?

This paper seeks to extend the research on how couples manage money to how they manage tax obligations. Tax systems have underlying assumptions about the way couples share financial resources but the actual behaviour of couples may not fit with such assumptions, much like financial flows acquire symbolic meaning through intra-couple dynamics. Using survey data, this paper assesses how couples share tax filing responsibilities, tax returns, tax balances due in conjunction with the way they manage money in general, the length of their conjugal relationship, their marital status and the way income is split within them. Special attention is also given to joint tax benefits that might be claimed by one or both members of a couple. Results show that couples generally manage tax the same way that they manage their finances in general. Couples that pool their income tend to share the responsibility of tax filing and consider tax returns and tax balances as joint income sources and joint expenditures. Married couples, those that have been together for a long time and those that have more unequal distributions of income also showed more solidarity in preparing tax returns and dealing with the associated refunds and balances. As for joint tax benefits, they did not seem to be used to foster solidarity within couples. Their use was mostly driven by joint tax liability reduction, following suggestions from tax software or tax preparation professionals.

Author(s): *Antoine Genest-Grégoire, Carleton University; H          , Institut national de la recherche scientifique; Suzie St-Cerny, Universit   de Sherbrooke; Luc Godbout, Universit   de Sherbrooke*

### 3. "A Valuable Investment" : Business Improvement Areas, securitization, and urban valuation

From a dereliction and revitalization model, BIAs have become a standard for city building -an additional expected layer of corporatized and marketized governance. Focused on economic development, as economic, political and social actors, they are concerned with the creation and management of value. Though steeped in an ethos of private market solutionism, BIAs are not the solution. Instead as market devices (Callon et al., 2007), BIAs are tasked with making mandates and governance more "doable". In the business of valuation and doable problems -things that can be measured, benchmarked and achieved -BIAs pool investments, share resources, adopt technologies and align constituencies towards their common goals and stories. In this paper drawing on ethnographic and secondary data I explore cases of these mundane market devices -both BIAs themselves and the technologies they adopt -to theorize 1) the "arrival at" entrepreneurial urbanism 2.0, and 2) intersections of urban assetization, valuation and securitization.

Author(s): *Debra Mackinnon, University of Calgary*

#### **4. Numbers, Taxes, and Colonial Mythmaking**

For many Indigenous peoples in settler states, such as Canada and the United States tax and taxation are central sites of political and legal mythmaking. The stories that are told about Indigenous peoples by self-styled taxpayers often involve complaints about tax money, waste, and welfare. This paper maintains that the taxpayer here, is much more than a material concern over spending of public monies, but should be examined as a subject of colonial numeracy. By first tracing how taxation, the state, and Indigenous people and Nations have interacted, the paper theorizes how tax has helped to constitute settler colonial legal and political entitlement over Indigenous sovereignty. The fiscal concerns that mark the taxpayer as a political subjectivity arise from managed political processes, organizations, but also the ideological residue of property. This paper highlights how 'taxpayers' and 'taxpayer concerns' were generated by the First Nations Financial Transparency Act and the specific sets of numbers that the Act made 'public'. Building on Indigenous scholarship of whiteness, the paper argues for viewing the taxpayer not as a simple political and legal positioning, but a powerful subjecthood that objectifies political concerns, fiscalizes Indigenous nations, and racializes fiscal concerns.

Author(s): *Kyle Willmott, University of Alberta*

#### **5. Canada's First 'Welfare Card': Exploring the consequences of a mandated transition to payment card technology**

In 2012, Toronto became the first city in Canada to stop issuing cheques to social assistance recipients. Although the majority of recipients were already accessing their benefits through direct bank deposit, approximately one third of recipients did not have a bank account and had been receiving their payments via cheque. To replace cheques, Toronto's City Council implemented benefits cards to distribute payments to recipients without bank accounts. Using this moment of mandated transition, I draw on qualitative interviews with 47 card-users to explore how people responded to the replacement of cheques with a new, online payment technology. Specifically, I explore respondents' engagement with and beliefs about virtual money, compared to cash. I found that a significant number of respondents did not trust virtual money because of the technological and financial systems it was connected to. For many respondents, cash provided certainty whereas virtual money introduced uncertainty. Focusing on respondents' sense of financial security, I explore how reliance on virtual money is tied to social class and economic marginalization.

Author(s): *Kelsi Barkway, University of Alberta*

### **New Theory in Economic Sociology and Political Economy**

Session Code: ECS3

Research Cluster Affiliation: Economic Sociology

This session focuses on new theoretical developments in economic sociology and political economy. Possible themes for presentations include: the crisis and resilience of capitalism; contemporary finance, risk, and crisis; recent shifts in economic inequalities and class relations; aspects of potential and actual moral economies; the emerging digital economy, and the dynamics of global capitalism.

Organizer(s): *Dean Curran, University of Calgary*

Presentations:

#### **1. Religious Contestations and Markets: Paths to Islamization of Finance in Four Countries**

Existing theories view globalization of markets and policies as an outcome of modernization, exploitative global capital (world system), normative pressures (world society), and local institutional conditions (state-society relations). But, the role of global and local religious contestations in the construction and institutionalization of markets is less understood. I illustrate such process by drawing on Islamic finance, an economic ideology based on Islam - a religion of one-fourth population of the world. Using four national case studies (Malaysia, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey), I show that the political polarization between Muslim countries and the West gave rise to Islamic finance as an assertion of the global Islamic unity. However, the religious contestations among various branches of the state and the state-religion relations determined the ways in which Islamic finance was implemented in each nation. Hence, institutionalization of markets is also explained by a joint recursive process

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between global power struggles (i.e., a world system explanation based on religion), and the local religious contestations among power elites (i.e., state-society relations based on religion).

Author(s): *Abdullah Shahid, Cornell University*

### **2. Towards a Morphogenetic - (French) Regulation approach to political economy**

Drawing on a leading heterodox school in political economy, this panel engages with French Regulation's (FR) analysis of political economy beyond the classical treatment of production and reproduction in analysing capitalism. Instead, this engagement aims to provide ontological depth of a FR analysis of capitalism through the temporal interplay between context (structure) and conduct (agency) of institutional configurations. This is done through a new interpretation of Margaret Archer's Morphogenetic approach within FR which helps us to analytically interpret how structures, cultures and agency emerge and intertwine against the background of reflexive actors in moments of crises. Enabling the construction of a new analytical toolkit which helps us to go beyond the nexus of endometabolism-hybridization as offered by the classical FR canon. This paper will elucidate key concepts in classical FR and overlay them with the ontological vision of the Morphogenetic Approach especially focusing on the key element of time to chart how different roles of ideas not only explain the systemic transformation between context and conduct, but also exhibits how the persistence of systemic properties shape and condition the reflexivity of actors through moments of crises.

Author(s): *Brandon Sommer, International Institute of Social Studies - Erasmus University*

### **3. Hardt & Negri's Empire at 20: The Multitude, Racism and Zombie Capitalism**

Twenty years ago, Michael Hardt and Antonio Negri's massively influential book *Empire* set a new agenda for neo-Marxist social theory. It remained a critical-theoretical touchstone for a brief time, but seemed unable to adequately answer critics, or respond to events (e.g., 9-11, the Global Financial Crisis, and the rise of populism). Still, I contend that there is a lot to their ontology that remains worth considering. Consonant with the CSAs themes for this year, this paper critically but productively re-engages with this contemporary classic to reflect on the dominance of new accumulation tactics in contemporary zombie capitalism (coordinated by the political economy of debt), facilitated by "empire" as an "abstract machine," and the displacement of the antiessentialist cosmopolitan promise of the "multitude" by racist populism. In offering these reflections I will argue for Hardt and Negri's Foucault-Marx synthesis and contrast it with that offered by Thomas Lemke's in his oft cited 2002 piece "Foucault, Governmentality and Critique."

Author(s): *Ronjon Paul Datta, University of Windsor*

### **4. Audience Fragmentation and the Contradictions of Capitalism**

Processes of media concentration and diversification continue to evolve within the broad context of capitalist accumulation. Once, relatively small-scale independent media outlets competed in a manner at least partially conducive to a free marketplace of ideas. Today a handful of large corporations/conglomerates dominate news production. To remain profitable under current economic and social/cultural conditions, the latter increasingly rely on the surveillance of grassroots activity online and the cultivation of niche markets largely oriented to political sensibilities. This trend is particularly visible in the United States, where it appears to exacerbate cultural/political divides amongst the general public, while simultaneously fueling popular dissatisfaction with the political status quo. In important respects the commercial practices in question represent the outgrowth of earlier media-based strategies of social control premised on the commodification and rechanneling of oppositional, sectarian and/or progressive popular sentiments. However, they arguably also embody a 'contradiction of capitalism' one that may ultimately pose serious challenges to prevailing arrangements of political and economic power.

Author(s): *Stephen Marmura, St. Francis Xavier University*

### **5. The Outside of Capitalism: Extraction as a Politico-Economic Concept**

This paper offers a critical analysis of the concept of 'extractive capital' as developed by Mazzadra and Neilson in their recent book *The Politics of Operations* (Duke 2019). Extractive capital (not to be confused with extractive industries) does not directly organize the labor process or means of production, as industrial capitalism does. Instead, it relies on more sophisticated 'operations' and 'logistics' to extract value from sources that are not of its own making. Financialization and rent are examples of extraction in this sense, but the same extractive relation of capital and value can be found in the new frontiers of data mining, the sharing economy, bio capital and the privatization of public utilities and resources. Capital does not create these scenes of production and it cannot penetrate them on its own. It relies on logistics and 'operations' from supply chain management to statecraft and

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various forms of social sorting to connect global capital to the great variety of social and natural worlds from which it mines value. The focus on extraction opens up new ways of understanding the tension between the globalizing tendencies of capitalism and the variegated and localized social and natural conditions that it does not create, but increasingly relies upon to feed its engine of continuous accumulation.

Author(s): *Stephen Crocker, Memorial University*

### Education, Skills and the Labour Market: Insights from the Canadian Research Data Centre Network I

Session Code: EDU1A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Education

This session features quantitative and mixed-method papers that draw upon Statistics Canada's survey and/or administrative data sources via the Canadian Research Data Centre Network (CRDCN) such as but not limited to the Education and Labour Market Longitudinal Platform, Youth in Transition Survey, National Graduates Survey, Postsecondary Student Information System, Longitudinal and International Study of Adults, Programme for International Assessment of Adult Competencies, Canada Student Loan Program, the Labour Force Survey, and the General Social Survey.

Organizer(s): *David Zarifa, Nipissing University; Grant Gibson, Canadian Research Data Centre Network*

Presentations:

#### **1. Pathways to Post-Secondary Education: Delaying Enrollment and the Socioeconomic Gap**

Canadian post-secondary education (PSE) institutions have experienced an increase in student enrollments from diverse backgrounds. As most Canadian studies concern students' success rates in PSE, less have focused on the transition into PSE. Understanding how students experience this transition is important to explain processes that reinforce stratification in higher education. Drawing on data from the Youth in Transition Survey (Cohort A), this study uses event history analysis to examine the association between the timing of post-secondary enrollment and students' sociodemographic, academic, and life course characteristics. Results demonstrate socioeconomically and academically advantaged students are more likely to enroll quickly than less advantaged students, and getting married or having children prior to completing high school delays the likelihood of enrolling. Because delaying entry into PSE is associated with a lower likelihood of degree completion, the concentration of delay among socioeconomically and academically disadvantaged students highlights how delay contributes to and reinforces stratification in higher education.

Author(s): *Stephen Sartor, Western University*

#### **2. Does Location Matter?: Northern and Rural Differences in Youth's Reading Math and Science Skills in Ontario**

A new body of sociological research finds that northern and rural youth face proximity and socio-demographic barriers in accessing higher levels of postsecondary education and lucrative fields of study such as the STEMs (Hango et al., 2019; Zarifa et al., 2018). However, prevailing research has yet to systematically measure the skills proficiencies of youth in these regions nor have we understood the factors which might account for regional differences. As such, our study draws upon multiple cycles of Statistics Canada's Youth in Transition Survey, Cohort A linked to the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) scores to investigate how location of residence impacts skills proficiencies at age 15, the extent to which skills gaps vary across math, science and reading proficiencies, and which factors explain regional and skill type variations. Among the factors investigated, we include family background factors and parent involvement in schooling to estimate their effect on students' achievement. In terms of the importance of location, we present three key findings. First, we uncover an urban advantage (northern and southern) in reading proficiencies. Second, our findings reveal that southern, urban youth outperform youth from all other locations in their mathematics skills. Finally, in terms of science, southern youth experience significant advantages over all other youth. However, much of the skills differences are attributable to parenting styles, parental socio-economic status, student academics, and school differences in SES. Our findings further reveal that the relative impact of each of these factors in explaining location differences varies across skill types.

Author(s): *Cathlene Hillier, Nipissing University; David Zarifa, Nipissing University; Darcy Hango, Statistics Canada*



### **3. High School Track Placement and Mobility: Are Students Stuck in Their Initial Tracks?**

The practice of ability grouping or tracking of students in high school has a long history in Canada. As proponents of tracking will argue, organizing students into more homogenous classrooms, where abilities are uniform, benefits both teachers and students. In a tracked system, teachers can better select an appropriate pace to cover material and students can better select courses that match their abilities and interests. Conversely, opponents argue that tracking forces students to make decisions about post-secondary too early, as early as grade eight, and that this practice reinforces existing inequalities. Research on tracking has found that students of racialized and lower-income backgrounds are more likely to be placed in courses that limit post-secondary opportunity. Studies in this area have also found that a student's initial track placement strongly determines future track placement - in other words, where you start is mostly likely where you will end up. Most of the Canadian research on this topic has only looked at the issue from the school board level and has mostly relied on the use cross-sectional data. I make use of a unique and underutilized Canadian longitudinal dataset to examine the determinants of track placement and track mobility in three provinces -Ontario, Alberta, and British Columbia. Using Statistics Canada's Youth in Transition Survey, I examine to what extent demographic background factors influence initial track placement and mobility between tracks in these provinces. My results indicate that demographic factors, such as socioeconomic status, continue to be strong predictors of track placement; however, the strength of the association between demographic factors and initial track placement differ regionally. There also exist regional differences in student mobility between tracks, with students in Alberta and British Columbia more likely to demonstrate upward mobility.

Author(s): *Firrisaa Jamal Abdulkarim, York University*

### **4. Does reading proficiency at age 15 affect employment earnings in young adulthood?**

Previous research has suggested that skills acquired at a young age, such as reading or math skills, may have an impact on the early labour market outcomes of individuals. In this study, tax data linked to Statistics Canada's Youth in Transition Survey (YITS) and the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) were used to examine the association between background factors at age 15 (including reading proficiency) and employment earnings in young adulthood for a cohort of respondents who were aged 15 in 2000. Descriptive analyses showed that young women and men with higher reading proficiency at age 15 earned more than their counterparts with lower reading proficiency. In the first year after leaving school, the gap was about 53% for women and 29% for men, while several years later the earnings gap for women decreased to about 20%, while it increased to about 70% for men. These results, however, do not take into account other potential factors that may also affect earnings. Sequential OLS models that account for various individual and background factors, such as parental education and income, and overall marks at age 15, as well as highest level of education and field of study, found that for men and women the association between reading proficiency at age 15 and employment earnings after leaving school was removed, even in the first year after leaving school. These regression results show that for women reading proficiency acted on career employment earnings primarily through education suggesting that women with stronger reading proficiency are more likely to acquire higher educational credentials, which likely has an impact on earnings. For men, other background characteristics, such as parental income and marks at age 15, had more of an impact on employment earnings than reading skills.

Author(s): *Laura Gibson, Statistics Canada; Carlos Rodriguez, Finance Canada; Sarah Jane Ferguson, Statistics Canada; John Zhao, Statistics Canada; Darcy Hango, Statistics Canada*

## **Education, Skills and the Labour Market: Insights from the Canadian Research Data Centre Network II**

Session Code: EDU1B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Education

This session features quantitative and mixed-method papers that draw upon Statistics Canada's survey and/or administrative data sources via the Canadian Research Data Centre Network (CRDCN) such as but not limited to the Education and Labour Market Longitudinal Platform, Youth in Transition Survey, National Graduates Survey, Postsecondary Student Information System, Longitudinal and International Study of Adults, Programme for International Assessment of Adult Competencies, Canada Student Loan Program, the Labour Force Survey, and the General Social Survey.

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Organizer(s): *David Zarifa, Nipissing University; Grant Gibson, Canadian Research Data Centre Network*

Presentations:

## **1. Postgraduate Credentials: Wage Premiums and the Gender Wage Gap**

The last few decades have witnessed a considerable growth in postgraduate education. An important factor contributing to this growth has been the belief that postgraduate education is the “new bachelor’s degree,” helping recent graduates distinguish themselves and yielding better employment outcomes than those with a bachelor’s degree. This growth in postgraduate education has also been gendered, with women making considerable gains in higher education. What remains unclear is whether postgraduate education improves employment and earnings beyond a bachelor’s degree, if there are gender differences in returns to higher education, and whether the gender wage gap ameliorates at the highest levels of education. It is also unclear how these processes have changed over time. We answer these questions using data from the 1981 to 2016 Canadian Census, as well as six cohorts of data from the 1986 to 2010 National Graduate Survey. We find large wage premiums for holding a postgraduate degree, especially at initial labour market entry; however, within cohorts this wage premium declines with duration in the labour market. Returns to postgraduate education for young and middle-aged adults has decreased over time, especially for men. Women earn less than men across all levels of education but there appears to be an attenuation of the gender wage gap at the doctorate level in recent years. Differences in hours worked, occupation, and field of study explain the greatest portion of women’s lower earnings across all levels of education. Gender differences in returns to marriage and parenthood have decreased over time and are weaker at the highest levels of education.

Author(s): *Anthony Jehn, Western University; Sean Waite, Western University*

## **2. Fields Aplenty? The Landscape of PhD Careers in Canada**

An increasing number of PhDs are pursuing employment opportunities outside of academia, introducing a need to examine what factors aid or hinder this transition. However, much of the existing research has focused on the non-academic career transitions of hard science PhDs. Using Statistics Canada’s 2013 National Graduates Survey (NGS), this study examined the job quality and experiences associated with PhDs from numerous disciplines in three main employment sectors. The results showed that PhDs were most strongly represented in the private and academic sectors. Social science and law graduates were most likely to be employed within the public sector. In comparison, those from the physical and life sciences as well as hard sciences were most likely to be employed in the private sector. Relating to job quality, those employed in the public sector were most likely to be employed part time. Furthermore, PhDs employed in non-academic sectors were more likely to be overqualified. This finding suggests that PhDs may be less certain of how to market their skills to a non-academic audience, or it may point to a lack of non-academic opportunities for PhDs.

Author(s): *Brittany Etmanski, University of Waterloo*

## **3. Degrees of Uncertainty: An Analysis of Postsecondary Co-op Education Programs in Canada**

Young adults in Canada are among the most highly educated people in the world, but a postsecondary credential no longer guarantees stable or well-paying employment. The impact of emerging information technologies and the greater emphasis on producing workers to meet the demands of the knowledge economy has influenced changes in human resource needs and business activities. Canadian employers require more highly skilled employees, but does postsecondary education develop such skills? This paper examines co-operative education’s (co-op) contribution to a learner’s acquisition of the knowledge and skills necessary to be productive 21st century citizens. I build on the small body of literature that examines co-op in Canada by providing an up-to-date profile of co-op program availability, participation rates, and recent co-op graduates’ labour market performance - measured by earnings, full-time employment, and job-education match - and how these trends change over time using Statistics Canada’s 2018 National Graduates Survey. In examining the school-to-work transitions of recent graduates, this research demonstrates how co-op may level the playing field for students traditionally disadvantaged in the labour market (e.g., females, ethnic/racial minorities, and low SES students) relative to their classmates from more privileged backgrounds. Furthermore, this research provides new insights for policymakers, postsecondary institutions, and students regarding the effectiveness of co-op, with a focus on the financial prosperity, employment security, and social well-being of young Canadians and society.

Author(s): *Rachel Hannah Meiorin, University of Toronto*

## Agency among Children and Youth in Educational and Extra-curricular Activities: A Microsociology Perspective

Session Code: EDU2

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Education

Children and youth are no longer “seen and not heard” but rather their voices permeate the home and greater social sphere. Within education, sociologists have found that children have the ability to structure everything from their own participation during summer months (Chin & Phillips, 2004), to securing their own kinds of advantages and opportunities inside classrooms (Calarco, 2011, 2014, 2018). Sociologists have begun to note the interesting connections between child agency and microsociology. In tandem, these scholars encourage research with, rather than, about children and youth. We feature empirical, theoretical, and methodological papers that consider the autonomy of children and youth in endeavors related to their own development. Particularly, how do children and youth use their “capital” to secure advantages for themselves or navigate the various contexts of their own learning and extracurricular activities. This session should leave participants with a greater understanding of how children and youth are negotiating their own educational and extracurricular experiences in the 21st century.

Organizer(s): *Cathlene Hillier, Nipissing University; Jessica Rizk, University of Waterloo*

Presentations:

### 1. Peanut Police: Children's Autonomy and Food Allergies

How are children and family life with food allergies and portrayed in mainstream media parenting advice? We explore the ways that food allergies affect family life and children's lives, including children's participation in schooling, as well as eating at school, structured extra-curricular activities and informal social activities, such as parties and sleepovers. Our work examines the ways that children are socially constructed as both delicate and resilient, and how this has changed over time. While food is generally presented as benign in the 1990s (aside from warnings that children may choke if they eat too quickly), food is more often presented as hazardous and deadly in more recent years. We analyze advice and assertions that various social actors, including parents, schools, doctors and even children themselves (e.g. classmates) should be responsible for managing children's food allergies and keeping children safe at home, in public spaces and at school. We explore the ways that children's autonomy is taken up in light of advice regarding food allergies, and social outcomes for children. While food allergies are generally discussed as entailing negative outcomes for children, children are also represented as empowered by having a greater understanding of their bodies, or self-confidence from knowing how to administer an epi-pen. Magazine discussions of whether specific allergens/foods should be banned in institutions like schools, and the degree to which children and their families are ultimately responsible for navigating through social institutions and public spaces, show how understandings of children's autonomy and agency have changed since the 1990s. Overall, our analysis finds that food allergies are discussed as dire threats to children's well-being, but a careful reading of parenting advice suggests a complex depiction of children as both vulnerable and having agency to manage navigate their own health and well-being in schools and public spaces.

Author(s): *Linda Quirke, Wilfrid Laurier University; Vanessa Munoz, Colorado College*

### 2. Causes of child labour and its impact on children's Education in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Child labor is a widespread and growing phenomenon in today's world. Though child labor exists in all parts of the world, the extent of the problem is very high in developing countries. Ethiopia is one of the countries where child labor exists in an extensive scale. The main objective of the study was to investigate the causes of child labor and its impact on children's education in Addis Ababa. I used qualitative research approach in order to generate relevant data as exhaustively as possible on the issue under study. I gathered information pertinent to the study through semi-structured interviews, focus group discussion, and observation. The finding of study indicated that poverty family breakdown and peer influence are identified as the major factors that push children to enter in the weaving sector. The study also found out that child labor has negative impact on the children's health, physical wellbeing, psycho-social development and education. The study recommends that the prime cause that forces children to work in their early age is the wide spread poverty of families. Thus, there is a need to educate parents, employers, community on the methods they need to solve their socio-economic problems.

Author(s): *Garedew Yilma Desta, Ethiopian Society of Sociologists, Social Workers and Anthropologists (ESSWA)*

**3. “Mideo” games and learning apps: Children's agency in technology use at home and school**

While there has been research to suggest differences in terms of how families may utilize technology for educational purposes in the home, much of this research has focused on rules families have regarding screen time or concerns parents have regarding the dangers of online encounters (e.g., predators, cyber bullying). Along with this, research has pointed to a generation of children who are digital natives -a cohort of children who are using digital technology in ways that extend beyond the comfort level of adults. Children are able to pick up digital skills at a rapid rate with little intervention from parents and teachers. In this, students become co-learners in their acquisition of skills, as they increasingly learn from each other, and self-teach. However, with this focus on the aptitude of children picking up digital skills at rapid rates, there is little research that considers the role children play in dictating their own use of technology, and perhaps guiding family and educational practices. The study intends to address that gap with an exploratory analysis of qualitative data from two studies: 1) photo-interviews with children (ages 5-8) examining literacy practices in the home; and 2) focus groups with children (ages 10-14) examining robotics implementation in schools. To examine the role of child agency in using technology, we ask: How do children use technology to secure or navigate their own educational opportunities? In answering this question, we intend to shed light on the potential for using digital technology as a positive tool in providing anywhere anytime learning opportunities for students that they might not have had in the print-era.

Author(s): *Cathlene Hillier, Nipissing University; Jessica Rizk, Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario*

**4. Options for youth: highlighting constrained agency in educational decision making.**

This presentation has two goals: 1) to move beyond discussions of “social capital” to recognize that youth have a variety of options. It is not just that some youth have more capital (social, human or financial) than others, but rather that different youth (often those in the same family) have and perceive they have different options for various transitions to adulthood, including educational decisions; and 2) to present results from a survey of youth that combines time ordered quantitative data with a wealth of verbatim responses to a host of open ended questions and in-depth interviews. The data are from a longitudinal study of rural and urban youth in two parts of Canada who were surveyed at ages 17 (N= 1,200), 19 (N= 1,043), 22 (N=985) and 28 (N=736). This data set also includes: surveys from parents when the youth were 17; structured interviews with 483 youth at age 22, and qualitative data from verbatim responses to the many open ended questions. Focusing primarily on educational decisions and outcomes, the paper examines how female and male youth in rural and urban locales see their schools, their teachers, their classmates -and themselves in school. Preliminary results show that traditional measures of “social capital” do not explain either the youth’s perception of their place within schools, nor many aspects of their school performance. What is interesting is how certain youth “over” achieve and others “under” achieve, based on what one would predict, knowing their social position and access to so-called “capital” Looking at the explanations the youth themselves give for why they make the choices they did (and how they see them as real choices) highlights the important role of agency in their negotiation of the many transitions they experience as they participate in and move beyond compulsory schooling.

Author(s): *E Dianne Looker, Acadia and Mount Saint Vincent Universities*

## Sociology of Education in K-12

Session Code: EDU3

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Education

Research focusing on race, ethnicity, and immigration within K-12 education.

Organizer(s): *Jessica Rizk, University of Waterloo; Scott Davies, University of Toronto*

Presentations:

**1. Caste in Class Today: Participatory Research as Knowledge Mobilization Addressing the Social Reproduction of Casteism in Schools**

Based on a funded participatory research initiative with the Center for Research and Development Solidarity (CRDS), a popular small/landless peasant and forest dweller organization in the east coast state of Odisha, India, this paper elaborates on the social reproduction of caste-based discrimination and knowledge mobilization for

collective action in the school system. Specifically, practices related to: water provision; the mid day meal (MDM) schemes; rewards/recognition; silencing; curriculum; student relations; facilities and general supports; special events/ceremonies and gender-caste discrimination were scrutinized in a participatory survey process engaging 400 students (grades 6-10) and parents from 25 villages, who simultaneously produced knowledge and mobilized school constituencies across 16 state schools. Collective survey development, participation and sharing provided participants with a social structural sense of caste, while impressing upon the need for collective (as opposed to isolated/individual) responses with local anti-caste movements and non-governmental organizations as part of counter-hegemonic efforts to disrupt these practices which are contrary to Constitutional and protective provisions for Scheduled Castes.

Author(s): *Dip Kapoor, University of Alberta*

## **2. Social capital, school discipline and refugee and immigrant youth's perspectives**

Punitive school discipline interventions have been criticized because they result in the overrepresentation of historically disadvantaged communities (Fowler, 2011; Gregory et al., 2010; Nishioka, 2013), can worsen antisocial behaviours (Fenning et al., 2004; Mayer, 2001), move students away from valuable formal education time (Gregory et al., 2010), and can contribute to the "school to prison pipeline" (Fowler, 2011). A range of alternative school-wide programs (Day-Vines and Terriquez, 2008; Gerlinger and Wo, 2016; Luiselli, Putman, Handler, and Feinberg, 2005; Zehr, 2002) and individual interventions (Breunlin et al., 2002; Goodman-Scott, 2014; Greene, 2011; Lapan, 2012; Nasir et al., 2011; Ryan and Zoldy, 2011) have been found to be promising in the literature. Yet, few focus on refugee and immigrant youth's perspectives of prevention and intervention. This presentation will present the ideas of immigrant and refugee youth regarding misconduct and school discipline. Drawing from a qualitative study conducted in Ontario in 2019 and 2020 with English-speaking and French-speaking youth in three urban centers, this paper will center what immigrant and refugee youth believe should be prioritized to better support students and improve school discipline practices. One theme that emerges from the data pertains to the importance of bridging and bonding social capital to prevent misconduct and better anticipate and respond to students' diverse needs.

Author(s): *Johanne Jean-Pierre, Ryerson University*

## **3. Community Cultural Wealth: Somali-Canadian Youth & Navigating Barriers in Edmonton's Public School Board**

Based on in-depth interviews with 13 young Somali-Canadians, I explore the experiences of these youth within the public school system in Edmonton, Canada. Previous research has identified the school as a main site of negative experiences for Somali-Canadian youth, impacting educational attainment. Within this project, I explore the various ways that students navigated and resisted the barriers they encountered along their educational pathways. Rooted in a critical race theory that challenges the multicultural understandings of Canadian schools, I use community cultural wealth to identify and recognize the capital students' their families, and their communities have and use. As conversations regarding anti-Black racism in Canadian schools gain more traction and there is an effort to confront its presence, it remains imperative to understand the implications of institutionalized racism for students actively grappling with its ramifications. My study contributes to ongoing conversations regarding anti-Black racism in Canada and the concerns of Somali communities in Edmonton, in an effort to improve experiences in the public school system, by attending to the specific experiences of 13 young Somali-Canadians living and learning in Edmonton.

Author(s): *Mitra Mokhtari, University of Toronto*

## **4. Optimizing supports and services for public schools' students from communities that are marginalized**

There is a general consensus that a student's ability to attain full potential in school is directly related to the synergistic effect of good health and well-being and that some students/families may need related supports and services to assist. Yet, students and/or their families do not always access the services/supports needed. As others have found (Miller, 2007), the matrix of informal/formal services and supports in Nova Scotia consists of a multitude of siloed or interdependent elements making it very challenging to navigate, and complicated to understand. The local 211 (a free public, confidential information and referral phone service) fields many inquiries of families with school children who are lost navigating the existing disconnected system when searching for assistance. Yet, not known are the experiences of families of students who access/or not access services/supports. This research will build understanding to help the development of a larger mission to optimize the access and use of integrated supports and service. This pilot project will explore existing supports and services for families that are living in communities that are marginalized. Our team's overall research goal is to build new

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knowledge around the need, provision, accessibility, and use of supports and services for families from marginalized communities along with ways to improve. We will work with the individual schools in two communities to identify ways to build visibility and accessibility of services/supports.

Author(s): *Barbara Hamilton-Hinch, Dalhousie University; Jean Hughes, Dalhousie University*

### Changes in Canadian Higher Education Institutions

Session Code: EDU4

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Education

Over the past two decades Canadian post-secondary institutions have witnessed a dramatic increase in student enrolments from diverse backgrounds. Colleges and University administrators across the country have also made considerable efforts to create policies and programming to accommodate a widening array of student needs. This session aims to bring together empirical research examining demographic shifts in higher education and the policies and programs that support/hinder those changes.

Organizer(s): *Nicole Malette, University of British Columbia; Neil Guppy, University of British Columbia*

Presentations:

#### **1. Overwhelming stress among post-secondary students - What or when is the breaking point?**

There has been a notable increase in mental health illnesses and high levels of stress among university students. Universities are often faced with a challenging situation in which they are aware that students are struggling but are unaware of what causes students to struggle and how best to help students. Using data from a survey administered to students at a small university in Nova Scotia, this research explores stress levels among students, discusses reasons for the stress, and offers suggestions for reducing stress. We used a mixed-methods approach that includes quantitative data from 536 participants as well as interview data from five participants. Our participants include international students, indigenous students, and students with mental and physical disabilities. Our findings show that university students feel overwhelmed and have high levels of stress. The stress comes from a myriad of sources, including their academic activities as well as lack of sleep, lack of extracurricular activities, personal problems, and the overall structure of the university setting. We recommend structural and policy changes at the university level as well as personal coping mechanisms for students.

Author(s): *Rebecca Casey, Acadia University; Lacey Acker, Acadia University; Jilisa Tempio, Acadia University*

#### **2. First Generation Student Needs Assessment and Service Use**

A student who is the first in their family to attend college or university are often referred to as "First Generation" students (FGSs). These students face many barriers, as they typically come from low-income households and/or racially marginalized groups. Higher education systems can be challenging to navigate and First Generation students are often less prepared to successfully do so. Due to a lack of exposure and familiarity with the inner workings of post-secondary education, FGSs can struggle to master self-efficacy (Metcalf and Wiener, 2018), experience feelings of isolation and non-belonging (Lehmann, 2007), and have lower rates of academic engagement (Soria and Stebleton, 2012). While some qualitative Canadian research on First Gen students is present, this study sought to statistically analyze not only the experiences of FGSs, but evaluate the effectiveness of institutional supports that are meant to assist them. Using an online survey, students were asked about their on-campus experience, as well as their experiences accessing social and academic student support services. Through the collection of this data, the project seeks to better understand the social and academic needs of FGSs and how they compare to students who have a familial history of attending post-secondary education.

Author(s): *Tianna Follwell, University of Toronto; Karen Robson, McMaster University*

#### **3. Unpacking the Questions Pertaining to Education in the Statistics Canada Aboriginal Peoples Survey**

This paper provides background context regarding data collection efforts administered by the Canadian Federal Government regarding Indigenous Peoples in Canada. This is done in order to emphasize the sociological importance of critically engaging with the questions pertaining to education and the experiences of Indigenous learners which are included in the Statistics Canada Aboriginal Peoples Survey (APS). The paper will then



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summarize key findings related to best practices regarding non-Indigenous researchers working with Indigenous communities and scholars, as iterated by Indigenous scholars and communities themselves. Then, the paper will communicate original empirical research regarding an exploration of the extent to which the development of the APS education questions has followed aforementioned best practices. Then, possible preliminary revisions that incorporate and are reflective of the tenets in the Holistic Lifelong Learning Frameworks created by and for Indigenous Peoples in Canada will be presented.

Author(s): *Brittany Gottvald, McMaster University*

### **4. Lost Voices: Critiques of Contemporary Canadian University Sociology Syllabi**

We acknowledge the underrepresentation of marginalized groups, such as racialized and indigenous peoples, in Canadian post-secondary education. Our paper will investigate the gap in university-level sociology courses with respect to racialized pedagogy, and de-colonial and subjugated knowledge. The purpose of our study is to critique and analyze the current state of knowledge production in the discipline of sociology, as well as to give voice to subjugated knowledge. We believe that current educational curricula reproduce hierarchies of knowledge that privilege whiteness as the dominant epistemology. We infer that central Canadian universities fare worse than western Canadian universities in terms of representing racialized and indigenous knowledge. We will conduct this study using a sample of the five most highly-populated universities in Ontario and Manitoba, comparing them to universities in British Columbia, Alberta, and Saskatchewan. We will conduct this study in a two-phase plan. First, we will examine and analyze the course descriptions of these universities, highlighting keywords such as "race", "indigenous", "marginalized", and "race inequality". Next, we will look at course syllabi and course readings to explore the prevalence of racialized and indigenized literature by authors who share the lived experiences of these groups. We will use content analysis to uncover themes in an interpretive framework. We aim to draw attention to the unequal reproduction of knowledge and the ways in which the institution of education perpetuates symbolic violence.

Author(s): *Sumi Sasudevan, Western University; Sihwa Kim, Western University; Bertina Lou, Western University*

## Sociology of Higher Education I: Institutional Arrangements and Pedagogy

Session Code: EDU5A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Education

The last few decades have seen an increase in higher education (HE) enrolments as more students seek out credentials necessary for employment. The increasing participation in and importance of HE has led to an increase in scholarship on the role of HE, experiences in, and the outcomes of HE. In this session we are featuring empirical and theoretical contributions to the field of Sociology of Higher Education.

Organizer(s): *Cliff Davidson, Western University; Wolfgang Lehmann, Western University*

Presentations:

### **1. Experiential Education in Ontario Higher Education: 'New' Pedagogy and New Institutionalism**

Experiential education in Ontario higher education is becoming increasingly formalized. Broadly, it is intended to provide engaged learning experiences to bridge the divide between theory and practice, and prepare learners for work and life after graduation. However, much of the research on experiential education remains siloed in disciplinary pockets, and lacks substantive theoretical contribution. This research investigated experiential education at a research-intensive Ontario university, as it responded to pressures from its organizational environment to foster this particular pedagogical approach. The overall research design and analytic frame were influenced by new institutionalism and utilized interviews and textual content analysis. Faculty members discussed myriad challenges which impact their willingness to implement experiential learning, suggesting implications for institutional responses and the agency of technical actors. The overall contributions from research participants at the University suggest that the new experiential education programming represents a ceremonial response to organizational pressures and has not meaningfully penetrated the technical core of the institution. This research leaves room for further scholarly attention which could embrace a multi-cited work, and extend

theoretical contributions by considering elements of isomorphism, power, and shifting institutional logics in Ontario higher education.

Author(s): *Emerson LaCroix, University of Guelph*

**2. “Let us teach them how to (better) cope”: A critical policy analysis of the problem of deteriorating mental health among postsecondary students in Canada**

Over the past two decades rates of mental health illness among postsecondary students (PSS) have increased dramatically in Canada. As institutions struggle to address the problem, several approaches have been proposed, including raising awareness about, and destigmatizing, mental health, developing novel self-help approaches, and expanding campus mental health infrastructure. In this paper we examine the problem applying a Marxian informed, critical discourse analysis approach to a selection of policy documents and academic educational literature. We find that well-documented socioeconomic drivers of poor mental health, e.g., high tuition and student debt, are rarely presented as causes of the problem and never as sites for intervention, i.e., expert analyses appear reluctant to discuss, let alone problematize, the socioeconomic drivers of the mental health crisis among PSS, essentially normalizing the dramatic increases in tuition and student debt of the past decades, and focusing almost entirely on individualistic solutions, albeit implemented on a large-scale. We conclude by elaborating on the implications of our findings for policy, practice, and equity.

Author(s): *Kim Campbell, York University; Claudia Chaufan, York University*

**3. Higher Education Institutions and Violent Extremism: The Case for being Proactive**

Higher education institutions (HEIs) have been identified as places where young adults are at higher risk of becoming engaged in violent extremism. Awareness of this situation has begun to raise questions about how prepared Canadian HEIs are to manage incidents and movements associated with violent extremism on their campuses. This paper lays the foundation for starting to better understand the implications of this situation for HEIs, as they strive to balance new security concerns with academic freedoms. The paper begins by examining theoretical and actual links between HEIs and violent extremism in Canada. This situation is compared with the U.K. context, where policies have been implemented that place a legal duty on educators to prevent extremism. A review of the legislative framework for Ontario HEIs, and their status as “sensitive institutions,” is then undertaken to set the context for arguing why HEIs may want to take a more active role in preventing and countering violent extremism on campuses. This paper is part of a broader suite of research that examines how to govern violent extremism at HEIs, while maintaining academic freedoms, with the aim of setting the best practices for doing so.

Author(s): *Katie Ford, University of Waterloo*

**4. Fostering internationalization locally: Examining the implementation of integrated curriculum design in two public health courses**

This paper examines students’ and instructors’ experiences with integrated curriculum design (ICD) to promote internationalization and enhance critical thinking. The paper is based on the analysis of the experiences of instructors and students with the formal alignment of a third-year undergraduate course offered at the School of Public Health and Health Systems at the University of Waterloo with a graduate course offered in the Masters’ of Public Health program at Nazarbayev University, Kazakhstan. The goal of the project was to cultivate local and international collaborations with fellow students and community partners, engage in peer-to-peer learning, and develop student-driven community engagement activities. Analyzing each course instructor’s project diaries and the critical and reflective assignments submitted by 21 Canadian and 26 Kazakh students enrolled in their respective course, this paper examines (a) the challenges associated with fostering internationalization following the implementation of an international ICD; and (b) how this process impacted students’ learning experiences. In conclusion, we provide some recommendations for instructors interested in developing a form of international collaboration in their courses.

Author(s): *Tierney Boyce, University of Waterloo; Elena Neiterman, University of Waterloo; Raushan Alibekova, Nazarbayev University; Karla Boluk, University of Waterloo*

**5. Service Learning in Oaxaca, Mexico by Trades and Tech Students; Solar Panel Installation in Low Income Homes**

Since 2012, a School of Trades and Technology in British Columbia has organized yearly International Practicums for their Electrical Foundation students in Oaxaca, Mexico. Each trip, Canadian students and instructors have travelled to small rural villages that lie outside the electricity grid in Oaxaca, in order to install solar panels in 8 to 10 low-income homes. I use a qualitative exploratory approach: data was collected through interviews with

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instructors, BC students, and community members in Mexico. This paper explores the impact of this experiential learning on students who participated in these practicums as well as on beneficiaries. The latter reported a considerable improvement in their standard of living by simply having access to light. For students, this service learning experience in a vocational school in higher education both developed skills and provided potentially life-changing experiences. On top of fine-tuning their electrical skills, this service work had transformational effects in Trades and Tech students, in development of life-skills, civic engagement, personal growth, cross-cultural awareness and understanding of differences, as well as feelings of gratitude for the experience.

Author(s): *Monica Judith Sanchez-Flores, Thompson Rivers University*

### Sociology of Higher Education II: Internationalization of Higher Education

Session Code: EDU5B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Education

The last few decades have seen an increase in higher education (HE) enrolments as more students seek out credentials necessary for employment. The increasing participation in and importance of HE has led to an increase in scholarship on the role of HE, experiences in, and the outcomes of HE. In this session we are featuring empirical and theoretical contributions to the field of Sociology of Higher Education.

Organizer(s): *Cliff Davidson, Western University; Wolfgang Lehmann, Western University*

Presentations:

#### **1. A longitudinal approach to inequalities in access to higher education in Brazil**

The development of a higher education system in Brazil may be considered late even for Latin American standards. In spite of this delay, it is possible to observe a solid expansion of the number of spots in public and private universities over the last two decades. From 1995 to 2015, the number of enrollments in undergraduate courses increased from 1.7 to 8.0 million, and the net enrollment rate jumped from 6.8% to 21.3% among the population aged 18-24. Nevertheless, the process of increasing educational supply was not necessarily followed by the reduction of disparities in students' access. This doctoral dissertation research aims to understand recent patterns of social stratification in access to higher education in Brazil, from 2009 on, through a longitudinal approach whose starting point is a cohort of young high school graduates. Therefore, we expect to describe different educational trajectories among youngsters, and fit longitudinal models in order to investigate demographic and socioeconomic factors associated with the access to postsecondary education. Our preliminary results show that 52% of youngsters manage to enroll in an undergrad program up to five years after high school graduation. Moreover, these findings are highly uneven according to social categories such as age, race, socioeconomic status and regional boundaries, and shape students' trajectories since the very first experience with the selective process for admission.

Author(s): *Adriano Souza Senkevics, University of Sao Paulo*

#### **2. Navigation The Internationalization In Higher Education: Teaching Practices And Learning Experiences**

We live in a global society where the so-called knowledge economy has become a significant force that drives the societal changes. However, our understanding of how knowledge is produced and consumed is limited within the discourse on knowledge economy society. More importantly, while much attention has been paid to techniques and outcomes of higher education, the epistemological and axiological questions about education, knowledge, culture, and ethic are largely overlooked. Through a study of international students who seek transferring from private colleges to public universities in Canada, this paper investigates issues such as: what does it mean to be educated in Canada for international students? How do international students juggle language learning, academic performance, and daily life settlement? Why do some international students survive whereas others fail in adaptation to Canadian higher education systems? Drawing on Bourdieu, Foucault, Dewey, Schutz, Marcuse, etc, we explore different ways in which international students deal with gaps between their anticipated and experienced Canadian higher education, and how they navigate different educational institutions and pedagogical

cultures. We propose that transition prep programs should be developed to help international students settling rather than trapping in the internationalization of education.

Author(s): *Jing Zhao, University of British Columbia; Ying Ma, University of British Columbia*

### **3. The World Beyond the “Brochure” International students and Multicultural Branding of Canadian Universities**

The purpose of this research is to expose the shortcomings of multiculturalism as a branding tool for the purpose of international student recruitment. In this research, I use semi-structured interviews to centre the voices of international students. I examine if these student perceptions of Canada and Acadia as multicultural spaces match their lived experiences. My findings suggest that international students at Acadia University lack adequate support and struggle with feelings of non-belonging. General student services routinely neglect international students. Moreover, despite consistent tuition increases, adequate resources have not been allocated to international student services. In conclusion, multiculturalism is a misleading branding tool that does not reflect the reality of student life at Acadia.

Author(s): *Nendelmwa Gofwan, Acadia University*

### **4. Beneficial for who? A Conceptual Framing of Class Inequality within International Education**

Research in the social sciences has consistently demonstrated that completing an international education has several benefits to students' educational enrichment and career prospects. Students who study abroad are shown to acquire skills and knowledge, such as having language speaking abilities, being adaptable to unfamiliar environments, and being resourceful. International education also enhances students' employability in the labour market, as having international credentials signifies particular abilities to employers. However, little is discussed on who participates and benefits from international programs. The present article explores this gap by drawing on existing literature on the internationalization of universities and international student mobility trends while applying a life-course perspective to link the two together within the Canadian context. A conceptual framework using pathway models is created to discuss how international students cumulate (dis)advantages during their studies abroad. Here it is argued that students who take part in international programs are often from higher social class backgrounds and experience a cumulative advantage as they gain international education credentials. This article also underscores the exacerbated class inequalities that emerge through the expansion of international education.

Author(s): *Katelyn Mitri, Western University*

## **Sociology of Higher Education III: Inequality in Higher Education**

Session Code: EDU5C

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Education

The last few decades have seen an increase in higher education (HE) enrolments as more students seek out credentials necessary for employment. The increasing participation in and importance of HE has led to an increase in scholarship on the role of HE, experiences in, and the outcomes of HE. In this session we are featuring empirical and theoretical contributions to the field of Sociology of Higher Education.

Organizer(s): *Cliff Davidson, Western University; Wolfgang Lehmann, Western University*

Presentations:

#### **1. “She just told me, that's why”. Survival habitus, institutional habitus and hidden stratification in the postsecondary choice process of at-risk students.**

Why are school interventions on behalf of students not always successful? Sociological research has argued for the positive role of institutional agents in developing positive educational outcomes for low-income students, at-risk of not advancing to post-secondary. However, little research has examined the potential for negative outcomes of school interventions. This study uses longitudinal qualitative interview data with at-risk students and school personnel in a school in a low-income neighbourhood to study postsecondary decision-making in the final year of high school. Student habitus is contrasted with institutional habitus to understand potential conflicts and how

they might contribute to misaligned decision-making over the course of a year. I find a distinct 'survival habitus' amongst the students which contrasts with a guidance ethos resembling a 'perfectionist model' that encourages students with fringe grades to pursue university over college. This conflict can lead students with clear plans for postsecondary to defer automatically to institutional agents and change their plans which conflicts with their habitus. These findings challenge social reproduction theories that argue that low-income students are 'cooled off' by biased gatekeepers who deflate their ambitions for postsecondary.

Author(s): *Rod Missaghian, University of Waterloo*

## **2. Dismantling Post-Racialism in Singapore: Youth Transitions from Education to Work.**

This paper explores the racialized systems of stratification experienced by students as they transition from higher education to work in the city state of Singapore. Singapore's population is racially diverse (74% Chinese, 13% Malay, 9% Indian and the remainder mixed or other race). Despite prevailing discourses of meritocracy, post-racialism and multiculturalism, Malays in Singapore systemically occupy lower socio economic positions. Based on focus groups conducted with Malay youth transitioning from education and work we highlight their experiences of racial stratification and racial microaggressions. During schooling, young people are surrounded by public and educational discourses which downplay the significance of race in determining future success. Yet, many face structures of racial stratification in their early experiences of internships and paid work. We explore how Malay youth are excluded from work opportunity networks which depend on class connections and racial privilege. Finally, we explore ways in which Malay students challenge the mechanisms of race-making which they face.

Author(s): *Kiran Mirchandani, University of Toronto; Tracey Skelton, National University of Singapore*

## **3. School-to-Work Transitions: Employment Security and Education-Job Match of Canadian Graduates**

Funding for public post-secondary education in Canada is increasingly tied to how college and universities successfully transition their students into the labour market. With Ontario and Alberta set to implement such outcome-based funding models, little research has explored graduate outcomes in terms of the proposed performance-based funding indicators. Understanding how past graduates fair in terms of such performance indicators is important for recognizing the potential implications of outcome-based funding models. Drawing on data from the 2013 National Graduate follow-up Survey (n=9,727), this study investigates past graduates' labour market outcomes in terms of two performance-based funding indicators: finding standard work related to one's education and graduate income. Results show at every level of educational attainment, roughly 20% of graduates are predicted to find non-standard work. College graduates are more likely than Bachelor's and Master's/Doctorate graduates to find standard work that is related to their education, but Bachelor's and Master's/Doctorate graduates on average earn more than college graduates. These results indicate that higher levels of educational attainment are not enough to safe-guard a graduate from non-standard work. Funding post-secondary education in terms of the two performance-based indicators investigated here demonstrates the vocationalization of higher education and raises questions about how such indicators will consider or adjust for factors external to education that influence a graduate's labour market transition.

Author(s): *Stephen Sartor, Western University*

## **4. Between Mobility and Stability: Educational and Occupational Pathways of Academically Successful Working-Class Students**

This contribution is based on a qualitative, longitudinal study of Canadian working-class students who were the first in their family to attend university. Participants were first interviewed after arriving at university to begin their studies in the fall of 2005. They were then re-interviewed twice during their four-year undergraduate program: in the second year of studies, and in their fourth (and for most final) year of study. A follow-up interview in 2014 also assessed their transition into post-graduate education and employment. The presentation will highlight tensions between change and stability, or habitus transformation and habitus maintenance evident in the data. While a small number of participants achieved significant educational and occupational mobility, a larger group remained relatively class bound. To some degree, this is evident in their occupational choices, or the lifestyles they chose. I will "map" a number of distinct pathways that represent mobility/habitus transformation and stability/habitus maintenance. I will pay particular attention to the circumstances that enabled or created barriers to mobility, but also argue that higher education should not be seen exclusively in terms of mobility for working-class students. Mobility is important in as much as it is central to a just and meritocratic society. Yet, stability in the experiences of the participants in this study should not be understood as failure, but also as an

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active decision that allowed participants modest mobility while also maintaining a connection with their working-class lives.

Author(s): *Wolfgang Lehmann, Western University*

### Segregation & Exclusion in Canadian Schools

Session Code: EDU6

Theme: Education

How are Canadian students segregated, excluded, or discriminated against in their schools? This session will focus on trends in socioeconomic segregation over time and across provinces; the exclusion of immigrant and linguistically-diverse youth; and the unintended consequences of policies that may further divide and discriminate against vulnerable students. Papers in this session employ a diverse set of methodologies and theoretical frameworks to help us better understand patterns of exclusion among Canadian students.

Organizer(s): *Patrick Denice, Western University; Johanne Jean-Pierre, Ryerson University*

Presentations:

#### **1. Trends in Socio-economic Segregation between Schools in Canada, 1980-2018**

In Canada and around the world, rich and poor students often attend different schools. Though recent research shows school SES segregation is increasing in other countries (e.g., the US, Chile and Sweden), systematic national or provincial evidence on trends in school SES segregation in Canada is limited. This study conducts the first Canadian macro-scale investigation of long-term trends in school SES segregation. We draw on data from all 24 international large-scale assessments in which any province has participated, from the Second International Mathematics Study in 1980 to recent administrations of the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA 2000-2018). Together, the data span nearly 40 years and represent about 380,000 students across all 10 provinces. Results indicate that the overall level of school SES segregation in Canada has increased only slightly since 1980. However, this country average masks variation in trends among provinces, regions, community types and sectors. Data from PISA 2015 show large provincial differences: Quebec schools were equally segregated as US or Australian schools, which were higher than the OECD average. All other provinces were less segregated than the OECD average but also varied widely. We explore potential causes of school SES segregation, including private school enrolment and income inequality.

Author(s): *Anna Katyn Chmielewski, University of Toronto; Sachin Maharaj, University of Toronto*

#### **2. "That's not English or French I hear!" : The impacts of linguistically segregated learning spaces on the integration and identity development of Canadian multilingual youth**

In Canada, 2.2 million children, totaling 37.5% of the population, come from an immigrant background with over half tracing their heritage to Asia. Based on current immigration rates, by the year 2036, this number will rise to 39%-49% of the total population (Statistics Canada, 2017). Recent migration research in Canada shows that despite increases in linguistic diversity within Canadian schools, immigrant children face widespread discrimination when it comes to the use of non-official linguistic knowledge in Canadian classrooms (Cummins, 2009; Guo, 2012). In the case of Canadian language education, this discrimination is especially problematic for multilingual immigrant youth who are left in the difficult position of having to leave their rich linguistic knowledge at the classroom door to compensate for the linguistically segregated nature of Canadian language programs (Mady, 2012; Cummins, 2014). Using retrospective data from a critical narrative inquiry, this paper explores the cumulative impacts of childhood experiences with linguistically segregated language learning on the integration and identity development of Canadian multilingual immigrants. Findings indicate that having to occupy the precarious position of living between worlds while participating in linguistically segregated learning spaces as children contributes to feelings of social isolation, 'otherness' and ambivalence in adulthood.

Author(s): *Katherine MacCormac, Western University*

#### **3. Bullying as mechanism of school segregation for homeless young people**

Based on qualitative methods with homeless young people in two Ontario cities, this presentation considers the prevalence of bullying experienced by homeless youth whilst in school, theorizing its persistence as a means by which contemporary schooling permits the 'push-out' of its poorest students. Despite government discourse



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claiming twenty-first century schooling in Canada is accessible and welcoming to all, accounts from homeless young people paint a picture instead of schools as continually reproducing class disparities. Anti-bullying policies and practices in schools appeared to be irrelevant to the experiences of homeless and at-risk young people while they were still in school, suggesting that such institutional interventions are designed without reference to the existence of class-, (dis)ability-, and race-based disparities that homeless young people identify as the reasons for their victimization. With no policies directed specifically at supports for homeless or at-risk young people in schools, and with anti-bullying policies and practices utterly failing to protect them, schools instead become segregated spaces that are inaccessible to those at the most vulnerable end of the socio-economic scale. Drawing on Bourdieu's approach to social reproduction in education, we theorize such failures as a twenty-first century version of inadvertent yet powerfully effective school segregation policies.

Author(s): *Jacqueline Kennelly, Carleton University; Mikayla Sherry, Carleton University; Stuart Warren, Carleton University*

### Internationalization, Equity and Higher Education in Canada

Session Code: EDU7

Theme: Education

Internationalization is a top priority for the majority of postsecondary institutions in Canada. It is most often understood and operationalized as increasing the number of international students studying in Canada. Congruently, the international student population in Canada increased by over 40 per cent between 2016 and 2018. Multiply constructed as cash, competition and charity (Stein & de Andreotti 2016), this session critically assesses the welfare of international students while in Canada, and Canadian internationalization in the context of white settler colonialism and neoliberalism.

Organizer(s): *Hijin Park, Brock University; Margot Francis, Brock University; Leela MadhavaRau, Brock University*

Presentations:

#### **1. Tokenism and/or racism? International students' experiences of tokenistic policies and behaviours in Canadian universities**

Managing hypervisibility is a difficult and sometimes frustrating challenge for many international postsecondary students. They deal with complexities of political economy of representation and identity politics in Canadian classrooms and labs as students, teaching assistants, researchers or junior instructors to prove and develop their merits, expertise, and knowledge. Tokenism is one of the challenges international and racialized students experience, especially those engaged in student activities. Based on interviews with current and previous international and racialized committee members of graduate student associations and societies across Canada, in this paper I explore how and why tokenism should be studied and addressed in our institutions in order to foster resilience and resistance to racism. I analyze my interviewees' exposure to and experiences of tokenism and use the data to critically examine current (lack of) policies to deal with the issue. I conclude the paper with raising questions on the roles international and racialized students themselves could and should play to lead and change the situation and the social, ethical, and political responsibilities of those privileged enough to be desired for tokenism by institutions.

Author(s): *Rezvaneh Erfani, University of Alberta*

#### **2. Exploring the mental health and well-being of international students**

Canadian institutions have seen a 154% increase in the number of international students from 2010 to 2018 (Canadian Bureau for International Students, 2019). The reason for this increase has been attributed to Canada's positive reputation of being an accepting and inclusive country, as well as its reputation for providing quality higher education. Furthermore, many Canadian institutions have embarked on a drive to expand the international student population to increase cultural diversity and maintain their viability in a highly competitive knowledge economy (CBIE, 2019). With the increasing international student population, Canadian institutions need to anticipate the different demands of the diverse population. Generally, being a college/university student can be highly stressful (Crosby, 2010). However, international students are faced with more pressure to adjust to a

foreign country and assimilate to another culture while attaining high academic standing (Mori, 2011). International students are often physically and socially far from their community and family support and face a new culture, with new values and beliefs. There is additional pressure for international students to adjust to this new culture abruptly and focus on one's education. This quick adjustment can negatively affect the mental health and wellbeing of international students (Mori, 2011). Therefore, this research aims to examine the experiences of international students and explore the impact of studying and living in Canada on their mental health and wellbeing. The research process will employ grounded theory in the research process to generate a theory describing the impact of living and studying in Canada on the mental health and wellbeing of international students. Additionally, the theoretical framework draws on Bronfenbrenner's ecological theory that describes the interactions between the social development of an individual and the environment. The data for this study will be collected through semi-structured interviews with international students at a post-secondary institution in Canada.

Author(s): *Tanaka Malobela Shumba, Dalhousie University*

### **3. Passive Engagement? Intercultural Experience of East Asian International Students at Canadian Universities**

Canadian universities enrol an increasing number of international students to garner global education market share. By focusing heavily on their economic value, universities overlook the intercultural experience of international students. Drawing on 18 qualitative interviews with international students at the University of British Columbia, I utilize East Asian students as a case study to explore the social practices and meanings that students assign to their intercultural experiences. My findings show that East Asian students apply a "silent strategy" in class to construct an identity that is consistent with the culture of their home countries. However, some domestic students misinterpret this silence as indicating a lack of academic aptitude, thereby reproducing discriminatory sentiments and blocking classroom intercultural communication. A second set of findings shows that East Asian students exhibit homophily in their friendship networks. Their willingness for intercultural contact is held back by language barriers, discrimination, culture distance, and limited access to university-led activities. I argue that the university often fails to provide adequate information to promote the awareness of student services and networking events among international students. This study contributes to a better understanding of international students intercultural experience and provides implications for effective interventions for intercultural communication in Canadian universities.

Author(s): *Xueqing Zhang, University of British Columbia*

### **4. Pushed and Pulled: Factors Influencing Post-Secondary International Students' Immigration Decisions**

International students make a significant contribution to the Canadian economy, and are valued as "ideal" immigrants who may have a smoother transition into the Canadian workforce following graduation. In order to understand the immigration decisions of international students, a push-pull framework is often used to identify the factors that pull students to a country of education and those that push them to leave back home. This paper analyzes the data from 60 qualitative interviews that explored international students' decision-making process and the factors that influenced whether or not they intended to stay in Canada. The socioecological model was used in congruence with the push-pull framework to examine the multifaceted factors that shape immigration decisions for post-secondary international students in Canada. Our findings show that racism, as well as an array of micro, meso, and macro factors can shape students' decisions about residing in Canada. As well, certain micro-level factors such as language proficiency may require institutional and governmental intervention in order to support international students who may choose to stay in Canada. This paper highlights the need to consider international students' immigration decisions as a complex set of interconnected factors and to provide necessary supports to students considering staying in Canada.

Author(s): *Lauren Harrison, University of Waterloo; Elena Neiterman, University of Waterloo; Angela Freeman, University of Waterloo; Grace Shoyele, University of Alberta; Christine Covell, University of Alberta*

### **5. Intersectional and Decolonial Perspectives on the Harms Experienced by Racialized International Students in Canada**

While there is significant research on international student migration to and adjustment in the West, there is minimal research on international student victimization while living in white settler colonial states, such as Canada. Drawing on qualitative interviews conducted with racialized international students studying in a primarily white university and city in southern Ontario, this paper prioritizes intersectional and decolonial perspectives on violence and discrimination. It does so by examining the multiple and diverse forms of everyday

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and structural violence and discrimination that racialized international students may experience while in Canada in the context of Canadian neoliberalism built on Indigenous dispossession and a racial hierarchy of entitlements. The research offers new theoretical contributions to the study of international student migration and experience challenging the fixation on “their” cultural difference from “us” and their role as “cash cows” and focuses instead on the systemic harms that they may experience.

Author(s): *Hijin Park, Brock University; Margot Francis, Brock University; Leela MadhavaRau, Brock University*

### Student Mobility Research in Ontario PSE – Current Trends and Future Directions

Session Code: EDU9

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Education

Research on transfer students in Ontario is dominated by studies drawing on administrative data from single PSE institutions, or from small groups of partnering institutions. Though useful – especially for institutional planning – such work leaves many questions unanswered. At the time of writing, we still lack a comprehensive understanding of regional transfer student flows, the antecedents of diverging trajectories (e.g. university-to-college, college-to-university), along with academic and labor market outcomes. This state of the literature is mainly attributable to the absence of longitudinal data infrastructure to study student mobility in Ontario PSE, similar to that in existence in British Columbia and numerous American states (e.g., Florida, Texas) (see Swail & Fung-Angarita, 2018). This panel session will showcase several ongoing efforts to overcome these data infrastructure deficiencies in Ontario, in order to study diverse elements of transfer and student mobility.

Organizer(s): *Roger Pizarro Millian, Ontario Council on Articulation and Transfer (ONCAT)*

Presentations:

1. Roger Pizarro Milian (Ontario Council on Articulation and Transfer) will provide an overview of student mobility research in Ontario, and outline how overcoming present data infrastructure gaps in the province can inform government policy and institutional practice.
2. David Zarifa (Nipissing University) will present a preliminary analysis of regional patterns in student mobility across Ontario.
3. David Walters (University of Guelph) will present preliminary findings of an analysis of student loan burdens/defaults among transfer/direct entry students.
4. Scott Davies (University of Toronto) will present on progress towards the construction of a Toronto Longitudinal Student Mobility Dataset (TLSMD).

### Environmental Sociology

Session Code: ENV1

Research Cluster Affiliation: Environmental Sociology

This session's papers apply sociological perspectives to the study of environmental issues. In the midst of a global social movement cohering around activist Greta Thunberg, political debate over extractive industries, and policy change affecting single-use plastics, there are myriad opportunities for sociologists to contribute to understandings of the environment as a social construct, a political entity, a physical place/space, a component of social structure and more. The presenters in this session share a particular focus on social responses to environmental crisis--from environmental activism to business-as-usual--across varied contexts.

Organizer(s): *Karen Foster, Dalhousie University; Mark Stoddart, Memorial University*

Presentations:

#### **1. In My Backyard: The Use of Lawn Chemicals in Canada**

Lawns are ubiquitous across North America. A well-kept lawn is a sign of a good neighbour. Yet, lawns require effort -mowing and trimming -and inputs -pesticides, fertilizers, and water -all of which have impacts on the local

environment as well as global climate change. American research into lawn chemical use is increasing due to water quality concerns. This study looks at data from Statistics Canada's Households and the Environment Survey since 2006 and sheds light on factors affecting the use of those inputs in Canada. While research has shown that higher education is generally associated with more environmentally-friendly behaviour, such is not the case for lawn chemical use. Restrictions on lawn chemical use are in place in many parts of the country, but people are increasingly ignoring those restrictions. Knowing the risks, people continue to prioritize norms and social relationships over environmental and public health concerns.

Author(s): *Lisa Y. Seiler, York University*

## **2. Environmental Justice Journeys: A Case Study of Environmental Sociology in Action**

This case study examines the efficacy of a field course to not only educate students on issues of environmental racism but contribute meaningfully to decolonization. The WLU field course GS 388: Environmental Justice Journeys models the environmental justice movement's use of tourism to make links between race, class, and environmental harm. Following an orientation week students were exposed to case studies and experiential learning opportunities in Ontario where they volunteered at Mohawk Seedkeeper Gardens on Six Nations of the Grand River, an Indigenous Tourism initiative. We also traveled to Deshkan Ziebing (Chippewas of the Thames First Nation) to labour on and tour new tourism initiatives on that reserve as well as take a toxic tour of Chemical Valley at Aamjinawng First Nation/Sarnia. The US portion of the trip included tours in the Lower Ninth Ward of New Orleans, Cancer Alley in Louisiana, Leau Est La Vie Camp, and visits with the Point aux Chiens Tribe and the Isles de Jean Charles Band of Biloxi Chitimacha Choctaw Indians. Students also spent a week at the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium (LUMCON) learning about coastal land loss, sea level rise, and climate change. One of the ongoing objectives of the course and research practice is to attempt to 'decolonize' tourism and travel by acting in solidarity with Black and Indigenous peoples through highlighting the ongoing impacts of colonialism on Black and Indigenous Peoples on Turtle Island and inverting the power dynamic where students and professors learn from and are guided by the knowledge and experience of Indigenous elders and teachers. The course treats the possibility of decolonized travel as an open question and topic of reflection and makes explicit the connections between colonization, our dependence on oil, environmental racism, ecological devastation and climate change. The students were engaged in land-based learning projects while on the trip while academic requirements included reflective essays, research projects that promote sustainable tourism or critique current practices, and a blog component where students, in pairs or individually, produced a blog post for Alternatives Journal magazine.

Author(s): *Stephen Svenson, Wilfrid Laurier University*

## **3. The environmental justice movement in politically conservative contexts: A case study of the Center on Race, Poverty, and the Environment in Kern County, California**

In this paper I explore grassroots environmental justice movements through a case study of the center on race, poverty, and the environment (CRPE) in Kern county, California. Many of the leading agricultural and oil producers in north American operate in kern county. Consequently, many residents -in particular the 70% who are Latinx - live in communities affected by toxic waste dumps, incinerators, and pollution from fracking and pesticide spraying. Kern county is also one of California's few conservative strongholds, both politically and socially. The challenges of conducting grassroots environmental activism in this type of conservative context are not well understood. Drawing from semi-structured interviews with CRPE members, the goal of my paper is to explain how activists use grassroots organizing techniques to shape their movement in relation to the political and social context in which they operate. I argue that activist success is attributable to CRPE members' ability to build relationships with each other and with the people who previously resisted their efforts, the personal and environmental histories that motivate their activism, and their sense of their own capabilities. These factors have enabled a small organization to successfully challenge two of the most powerful industries in the country - oil and agriculture. These recent environmental activist successes are situated in a long history of such successes, which leaves CRPE members optimistic about their ability to continue affecting positive environmental change in their communities.

Author(s): *Moe Constantine, Brock University*

## **4. Fighting Climate Change in Eastern Europe and Beyond: Competing Priorities, Internal Influences and Globalizing Forces**

Climate change activism soared globally in 2019, exemplified by September marches of over six million people from 163 countries. My research aims to improve our understanding of climate change policy adoption, primarily in low- and middle-income countries, examining how activism, public opinion and globalizing forces impact

climate policy responses. Many low and middle-income countries approach the existential issue of climate change alongside other sizeable and more immediate challenges that crowd the policy-making agenda -including economic stagnation and conflict. This research, mainly focused on Eastern Europe, traces public opinion data, the growth of climate activism and globalizing political processes in the region and beyond over the past decade, connecting this data to major events in climate change policy adoption. The research serves as timely analysis of the complexities of climate change policymaking in countries and regions with competing priorities, including relevant connections to climate policy implementation in Canada amidst current regional economic challenges. In this way, it seeks to increase knowledge on the social, economic, cultural and political influences involved in climate policy adoption processes (Broadbent et al., 2016). My research uses an analytical framework accounting for the impact of globalization, aid, and the world society paradigm, to assess how the domestication of transnational norms, foreign aid and the nation-state are interconnected in climate policy adoption (Meyer et al., 1997; Swiss, 2018). My research also integrates literature on social movements to assess climate activism, building on previous social mobilization analysis (Stoddart et al., 2017). Given the gravity of the climate crisis and growing global commitments to combat the challenge, this research provides tangible insights into potential barriers and opportunities for climate change policy adoption in complex environments where there are numerous priorities, and where activism and globalizing forces compete for influence. My research addresses critical sociological and political aspects of the climate crisis, improving the evidence base on which donor countries (including Canada) and multilateral organizations can approach decision-making with regards to climate aid and the implementation of effective and feasible climate change policies.

Author(s): *Finbar Heffernan, Memorial University*

### 5. Fossil-fuelled Social Practices and Climate Change

Greta Thunberg's avoidance of jet-fuelled flying across the Atlantic was mocked by fossil-fuel supporters. Nevertheless her action and her criticism of 'empty words' correctly focus on the social practices causing climate change and how difficult it is to mitigate. This paper uses the social practices perspective (Shove) to examine the accelerating treadmill of fossil-fuelled social practices, which negatively offsets the development of wind and solar energy, leaving the input of fossil fuels to global energy stuck at 81 %. A simple comparison with the generation of grandparents demonstrates the rapid increase of affluent getaway flying, cruising, energy-glutton social media servers and air conditioning, Canadians eating strawberries in January, even cremation. Fossil-fuelled social practices will eventually be reduced. But will it be through purposively reducing emissions by regulations, taxing carbon pollution, ethically based restraint, hydrocarbon divestment, technological innovations, etc.? In a material world, social movements and political action mitigate emissions not by empty words but by implementing such actions. Or will practices be changed by nature's backlash causing downward mobility for future generations through drought, wildfires, floods, extreme weather, and unforeseeable harm resulting from crossing tipping points into an Anthropocene having degraded services of nature?

Author(s): *Raymond Murphy, University of Ottawa*

## The Sociology of Disaster and Risk I: Health, Risk and the Environment

Session Code: ENV2A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Environmental Sociology

This session considers the insights gained from the analyses of cases from the Global North and Global South that explore issues related to the complex relationship between health, risk and the environment. We consider such issues as: the relationship of the natural sciences and the positivist approaches to the management of environmental and health risks; the politics of risk construction and risk production (including the political economic and cultural dimensions), and the implications these have for improving environmental health policy.

Organizer(s): *Harris Ali, York University*

Presentations:

### 1. "What do we value?" Environmental health trade-off

Experiential evidence of a breast cancer cluster among women working at the Ambassador Bridge at the border in Windsor, ON points to environmental risk factors such as exposures to high levels of air pollution and shift work. Interviewed about their knowledge and strategies for control over breast cancer risk, women workers at the

Bridge described a sense of powerlessness and of barriers to their ability to enact agency around breast cancer risk due to disproportionate power in their workplace and in society more broadly. These words are emblematic: "What do we value? Do we value women's health and how much? I think that that's where you would find that the trade needs and pushing those trucks are going to end up feeling more important to decision-makers or the power players than protecting an individual woman from a risk." Bridge workers recognize their power as dissimilar and diminished as compared to the Ambassador Bridge Company, the Federal Government, their own union at times, and the wider public they interact with. Situated in the socio-cultural context of neoliberalism, analysis of the women's narratives reveal that the pervasive discourse of individualization of responsibility for health decisions, including for breast cancer risk, fails to account for power in health knowledge construction and related strategies for risk mitigation. Structural inequalities and social determinants of health also add to the understandings of breast cancer risk for the women workers at the Bridge. The 25 narratives gathered provide a unique contribution to our understanding of women's perceptions and understandings of breast cancer risk within the context of work and society and substantiate calls for improved policy and regulation in occupational and general environments. The findings also reinforce that the concepts of health and environment are cultural and systemic and should be understood through larger political-economic structural processes.

Author(s): *Jane Elizabeth McArthur, University of Windsor*

## **2. Wildlife, Risk, and Climate Adaptation in the Post-Genomic Era**

This article investigates the use of selective breeding to conserve Pacific salmon in Canada. Advances in genomic science are providing new tools to understand and respond to climate-related threats to wildlife populations. In particular, genomic sequencing introduces the possibility of breeding species with greater resilience to projected climate change conditions, such as higher water temperatures. This intersection between genetic science and environmental management raises critical questions about risk, uncertainty and the ethics of climate adaptation measures. Although environmental sociology and the sociology of risk offer valuable contributions, they are underrepresented in discourse on climate risk management in the post-genomic era. We address this gap through interviews with 147 policy makers, scientists, resource managers, non-profit representatives, fishers, and First Nations involved in Pacific salmon decision-making. We find that although respondents widely perceive climate change as a significant threat, selective breeding remains a point of contention and political debate among groups with divergent interests in conservation and views of the human-nature relationship. These findings contribute to an expanding literature on the sociological issues of genomics and support further integration of sociological and ecological research on climate adaptation.

Author(s): *Valerie Berseth, University of British Columbia; Ralph Matthews, University of British Columbia*

## **3. Effects of Food Production Practices on Health: A Case Study of Smallholder Farmers in Ghana**

Climate change is severely affecting soil fauna, flora, and altering food production practices in most developing countries. The worsening impact of climate change is negatively affecting crops and livestock production in Africa (FAO, 2018; Zwane, 2019). In Ghana, the deteriorating effects of climate change have compelled smallholder farmers to adopt various strategies, including cultivating short-duration varieties and the use of agrochemicals to adapt. Therefore, the objective of this study is to assess food production practices of smallholder farmers in Ghana and their implications on human health. This mixed-methods study sampled 105 participants, and data collected through a survey, in-depth interview, focus group discussion, participant observation, and analyzing secondary sources of information. The quantitative data were analyzed using SPSS 24 and qualitative information analyzed through coding and thematization using Nvivo software. The results of the study indicate that the majority (85%) of farmers used at least one agrochemical. However, farmers' knowledge about active ingredients, the concentration of agrochemicals, brands, time of application, etc. of agrochemicals is minimal. Farmers do not observe any rigorous safety precautions such as wearing protective clothing, observing re-entry period, or avoid spraying against the wind, and these resulted in serious health issues among smallholder farming households and consuming public. The study recommends a rigorous educational campaign to encourage smallholders to adopt safety precautions in their food production practices and also consumers to demand healthy foods.

Author(s): *Suleyman M. Demi, University of Toronto*

## **4. Insights of Disaster Sociology for the African Ebola response: Emergence in conflict and post-conflict riskscapes**

The current outbreak of Ebola in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) can benefit from lessons learned in Ebola response in West Africa in 2014-15. The context in which the Ebola outbreaks and response occur is framed within a disaster sociology perspective. In this study, we explore the inadequacies and limitations of the command-



and-control approach to disease outbreak response. A militarized command-and-control disease response strategy in post-conflict (Sierra Leone and Liberia) and conflict (DRC) settings was found to be extremely problematic and led to issues with community distrust, resistance, and even violence directed at Ebola response workers. The analysis adopts the notion of “riskycape” as a conceptual tool to guide analysis to develop an explicit sociology of disaster analysis of disease outbreaks. Riskscape refers to the place-specific qualities of the social and physical environment that influence the way risk is experienced by people and groups. How the riskycape arises from historically informed social and political forces at play in the region will ultimately influence how the individual and/or group will make decisions on how best to navigate the conflict and post-conflict settings. In the context of the Ebola outbreaks, this will include such decisions as to: which health-seeking behaviours are adopted; how to deal with stigma, and who can be trusted within a setting in which outsiders and the government officials formally involved in the response are viewed with suspicion due to the social and political circumstances in which people find themselves. It is argued that in the context of the African Ebola riskycape, to more effectively address the problems of community distrust and resistance that arise, a more active engagement with the existing social infrastructure will be necessary. This includes the active involvement of community leaders and residents in the technical work of disease response such as case investigation and contact tracing. Disaster sociology may help enhance such engagement by building on the long tradition of research on the role of emergent citizen groups in disaster response. Data for this analysis is based on focus group discussions with community members and key informant interviews conducted in 2018/19 at multiple sites in Sierra Leone, Liberia and the DRC.

Author(s): *Harris Ali, York University; Kathryn Wells, York University*

## The Sociology of Disaster and Risk II: Analyzing Disaster and Disaster Response

Session Code: ENV2B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Environmental Sociology

This session explores some of the epistemological and practical issues involved in researching disasters. In particular we focus on identifying and discussing some of the limitations of current disaster response measures, and discuss the ways in which insights and knowledge gained from such an exploration may be used to improve disaster management. Specifically, we will consider such issues as: social vulnerability, community engagement and resilience; the regulatory risk environment and the problems stemming from the monetization of risk; and improving the governance of risk and disaster management through simulations pertaining to role-playing exercises and disaster simulation exercises.

Organizer(s): *Harris Ali, York University*

Presentations:

### **1. “In real life it might be different”: Ontological disharmonies in disaster and emergency management simulation exercises**

Disaster and Emergency Management (DEM) professionals spend a great deal of time crafting simulations that aim to coordinate interagency response to future environmental and organizational hazards such as extreme weather, pipeline leaks, and evacuations. Drawing on interviews and ethnography conducted across multiple sites where DEM professionals work in the Greater Toronto Area, we show how this imaginative practice straddles two worlds -the real and the simulated -and the resulting ontological disharmonies that result. Ontological disharmonies frequently emanate from sources of uncertainty beyond the simulated scenario itself, such as emergency planning compliance constraints, interagency administrative contingencies, implicit biases of race/class/gender, or actors and observers falling out of character in order to maintain an interactional flow. A subway evacuation simulation, for example, excluded individuals with mobility limitations due to liability concerns. A municipal heat wave exercise avoided “injects” related to public transportation and sanitation because those agencies were not available to participate. We argue that the perceived realism of a simulation is conditioned by the ways that time, space, and human agency get turned into plug-and-play variables. Furthermore, the “success” of an exercise is predicated upon, paradoxically, a series of untenable assumptions about the “real world” hazards indexed by the simulation.

Author(s): *Steve G. Hoffman, University of Toronto; Yvonne Daoleuxay, University of Toronto*

**2. Making Canadian Disaster Management More Inclusive: A Social Vulnerability & Capability Approach**

Emergency management agencies across Canada, at all levels of government, actively prepare for response to natural and manmade hazards in the event that they have disastrous consequences. While meeting the needs of the whole community during disaster situations is ideal, in planning for response, emergency services are generally developed to serve the 'average citizen' depending on how this average is understood by decision-makers. This can result in the needs of certain disaster-affected groups being unmet, which is problematic given the diverse makeup of most cities in Canada, which includes visible minorities, faith communities, marginalized populations, persons with disabilities, and others that may have unique needs. While social vulnerability literature highlights how pre-existing social conditions play a significant role in the ability of individuals and communities to prepare for, respond to, and cope with disasters, especially in light of institutional barriers, what is needed in order to make public disaster management in Canada more inclusive? And, what measures can we take to render these communities more capable of self-recovery? Using findings from recent case studies in Canada investigating issues of social vulnerability in response, this paper presents a foundation for moving the current landscape of emergency response in Canada beyond the status quo, in a way that recognizes inherent capability of Canada's diverse communities.

Author(s): *Aaida Mamuji, York University; Jack Rodzilsky, York University; Jennie Phillips, York University*

**3. Enhancing flood risk governance and resilience with a serious role-playing game as an educational and engagement tool**

Flood adaptation is a significant challenge in Canada and around the world. Local communities aiming to build flood resilience often grapple with balancing competing interests and deciding which trade-offs are tolerable. To facilitate understanding of complex socio-environmental problems such as flooding and climate change, a growing number of games are being developed as educational tools. Research demonstrates that serious games can create safe spaces for stakeholders to explore diverse views in a low-pressure environment. However, a limited number of studies have tested the effectiveness of serious games in achieving their intended learning and behaviour change objectives. This presentation showcases how a disaster sociologist and a flood adaptation practitioner developed a serious role-playing game for flood risk governance in the Canadian context. The purpose of the Flood Resilience Challenge game is to build stakeholders' capacity to improve flood resilience and enhance flood risk governance including collective decision-making. The game achieves this purpose by increasing flood literacy, fostering social learning, and creating a safe space for exploring both risk management and communication strategies. We present workshop evaluation results from surveys and debriefs along with the implication of these findings for applying the Flood Resilience Challenge game in communities across Canada.

Author(s): *Eva (Evalyna) Angelyna Bogdan, University of Waterloo; Heather Murdock, Northwest Hydraulic Consultants*

**4. The Fiscal Costs of Natural Disasters: Environmental Risks and Fiscal Sustainability in Brazil and Mexico**

Both Brazil and Mexico have been facing a wide variety of natural disasters, such as droughts and flooding in urban areas. In this context, how Brazilian and Mexican governments deal with the cost of natural disasters? This research uses Brazilian and Mexican governments database, especially information provided by their federal agencies for natural disasters ( Centro Nacional de Monitoramento e Alertas de Desastres Naturais and Central Nacional de Prevencion de Desastres ) and international organizations. This study adopts a quantitative approach to analyze the data and critically discuss the results based on the theories of sociology of disaster and risk. In Brazil, the National Plan for Disaster Risk Management was introduced in 2012 and it created regulations and federal, state and municipal liabilities. Even though Brazil's government is the main responsible for the budget for natural disasters, some states and cities have their natural disaster funds (Parana and Curitiba, for example). The federal government of Mexico created two management strategies: a) the Fund for Natural Disasters ( Fondo de Desastres Naturales , FONDEN) and; b) CatMex (nowadays called MultiCat Mexico), which is a program that authorize the government to transfer a part of the disaster risks to the capital markets.

Author(s): *Luiz Guilherme Natalio de Mello, Pontifical University Catholic of Parana*

## Democracy, Citizenship and Environment Governance: Challenges and Possibilities

Session Code: ENV3

Research Cluster Affiliation: Environmental Sociology

This session explores the complex and often problematic interrelationship between democracy and the environment. Ecopolitical thinkers have long tried to answer the question of whether democratic governance can guarantee sustainable development and environmental protection. The authors in this session examine questions of the compatibility of democratic rule, environmental sustainability and environmental governance, possibilities for developing ecological democracies, and the effectiveness of states in environmental conservation and preservation. These papers explore controversial debates about preconditions and consequences of democracy in cross-jurisdictional water boundaries, the complexities of the interface of extractive industry-nature based tourism, and new analytical approaches for water governance.

Organizer(s): *Ken Caine, University of Alberta; Rezvaneh Erfani, University of Alberta*

Presentations:

### 1. Environmental Governance and the Oil-Tourism Interface

Nature-based tourism and oil development often share social and ecological space, but environmental governance rarely brings the two sectors into contact through planning or policy-making. However, this connective dimension of governance is vital for thinking about how coastal societies navigate relationships across different forms of development. By comparing Denmark, Iceland, Newfoundland and Labrador, Norway, and Scotland, we examine how political engagement happens within and across nature-based tourism and offshore oil. Nature-based tourism promotes the experience of natural environments and encounters with wildlife, including whales, seals, or seabirds, but often involves fossil fuel intensive travel. Offshore oil promises economic benefits from employment and royalty payments, but is a form of fossil fuel-intensive resource extraction. Political engagement across these sectors is limited. It often occurs as conflict around extending oil exploration and extraction into new regions. Several related factors explain the lack of attention to the connective dimension of environmental governance. First, tourism governance orients around local/regional politics, and involves a more diffuse network of actors, while offshore oil governance orients around regional/national/international politics and involves a more concentrated network of actors. Second, in most cases, offshore oil governance is better established and developed than tourism governance. Third, the separation of oil and tourism within environmental governance reflects the greater perceived importance of offshore oil to the economies and social imaginaries of host communities. By contrast, where tourism is visible in the political economy and social imaginary of host communities there is more engagement across sectors.

Author(s): *Mark CJ Stoddart, Memorial University; Alice Mattoni, University of Bologna; John McLevey, University of Waterloo*

### 2. Environmental democracy in a national historic waterway: rethinking co-governance in a jurisdictional quagmire

The ways in which complex systems are governed often generate democratic malaise. There is a gap between people's expectations and agencies' ability to fulfill these expectations. Additionally, misalignment between ecological and social systems makes it difficult for decision-makers to adapt to dynamic environments. Frameworks for co-governance do not successfully enable collaboration in practice, especially in the context of water bodies spanning multiple watersheds. The governance of the Rideau Canal demonstrates the challenges of managing resources in a jurisdictional quagmire. Given the involvement of multiple actors, vague calls for collaboration are not useful in supporting governance, management or research. Our study aims to get co-governance right by framing environmental democracy as a requirement. We mobilize data from workshops and interviews about the Rideau Canal system to propose guiding principles for collaboration in the governance and management of multi-watershed canals. These include: a tiered-mechanism that facilitates collaborative governance, targeted collaborative exercises which create and strengthen within-ties across tiers of stakeholder groups, and semi-regular forums to support communication between stakeholder groups. The sustainability of co-governance initiatives is a significant challenge; this research contributes to developing resilient governance practices that can withstand the test of time in the face of environmental uncertainties.

Author(s): *Christine Beaudoin, University of Ottawa; Isha Mistry, University of Ottawa; Nathan Young, University of Ottawa*

**3. The social realities of climate extremes in rural Saskatchewan: A study on the RMs of Redberry and Great Bend**

Research shows that as climate change continues to bring unforeseen weather and landscape conditions across the world, Canada's geographic and social diversity renders unique obstacles for different parts of the country. This study explores the particular challenges, vulnerabilities, and adaptive capacities of the rural prairies, particularly farming communities in small-town central Saskatchewan. Based in the rural municipalities of Redberry and Great Bend, this study examines the ways in which changing cultural landscapes, agricultural practices, infrastructure and politics play a role in the lived experiences of Saskatchewan residents potentially facing a rise in climate disaster risk. It further examines the strengths and weaknesses of rural prairie towns and surrounding regions in their management of climate change and disaster risk, and the potential for adaptation present within these communities.

Author(s): *Holly Katherine Campbell, University of Regina*

**4. Unraveling the Social Construction of the 2013 Flooding Disaster in Alberta**

The 2013 flood in the province of Alberta was one of the most expensive natural disasters in Canada's history, with the Town of High River most severely impacted. We examine three situations that intensified High River's vulnerability to flooding: (a) lack of legislative changes (b) insufficient updating of flood hazard maps, and (c) absence of notification on land titles. We analyze these situations through the recently developed threaded situation analysis (TSA) approach and demonstrate that it allows for a more comprehensive analysis than existing similar frameworks. We propose the terms suppressing and languishing to understand how some practices stay dormant or become dominant and also capture actors' wilful attempts to influence practices. Thus, the extent of the flooding disaster stemmed from problems in governance. Although numerous scholars have focused on critiquing top-down approaches to flood risk management, this article illustrates how bottom-up approaches diminished changes critical for reducing flooding vulnerability and thus, reveals the social construction of the 2013 Alberta flooding disaster.

Author(s): *Eva (Evalyna) Angelyna Bogdan, University of Waterloo; Mary A. Beckie, University of Alberta; Ken J. Caine, University of Alberta*

**Best Practices in Teaching about Racism and Colonialism: Pedagogies for Pursuing Racial Justice and Decolonization**

Session Code: EQS1

Theme: Equity

This session examines best practices in teaching about racism and colonialism, primarily in a Canadian post-secondary context. How can universities become both sites of deep learning and critical reflection and sites for advancing racial justice and decolonization? Leading instructors in the field will discuss what they have learned about effective approaches to designing reading lists and assignments, creating inclusive and equitable classroom environments, incorporating Indigenous knowledges and perspectives, and facilitating meaningful discussions around such topics as whiteness, blackness, xenophobia, settler colonialism, antiracism, Indigenous resurgence, and reconciliation. Questions concerning academic freedom, instructor/student power dynamics, the management of conflicts and emotions, and the particular challenges facing Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour (BIPOC) faculty and students in such courses also may be addressed.

This session is sponsored by the Canadian Sociological Association Equity Subcommittee.

Organizer(s): *Jeffrey Denis, McMaster University; Gülden Özcan, University of Lethbridge; Irene Shankar, Mount Royal University; Xiaobei Chen, Carleton University*

Panelists:

- Lynne Davis, Trent University
- Rachel La Touche, University of Toronto
- Eloy Rivas Sanchez, Carleton University
- Vanessa Watts, McMaster University

Spotlight on the Canadian Journal of Sociology special issue “African Canadians, Gender & Sexuality”

Session Code: EQS2

Theme: Equity

This panel will focus on the unique and timely contribution of the Canadian Journal of Sociology special issue entitled “African Canadians, Gender and Sexuality”, which is the first Canadian Journal of Sociology special issue focused on African Canadians. This guest-edited issue highlights the United Nations International Decade for People of African Descent (2015-2024) and increases the state of knowledge about gender and sexuality in African Canadian communities. The special issue features qualitative studies conducted in Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, and British Columbia and examines topics such as education, policing, sexual agency and romantic relationships. The authors of the five articles will discuss key findings of their research, policy implications and knowledge contribution to the fields of sociology, women and gender studies, and Black studies. Below is a short summary of the authors’ article presentations:

- Jessica Bundy’s article explores with critical race theory, Black women’s experiences of the police in Digby, Nova Scotia.
- Gina Lafortune’s article examines through an intersectional lens, how gender impacts the educational trajectories of Montreal CEGEP students of Haitian origin.
- Carl James draws on critical race theory and positioning theory to describe how middle-school Black boys in Toronto socially position themselves for making the transition to high school.
- Husbands et al.’s article delves into Toronto Black men’s perceptions of their sexuality and sexual agency, the structural conditions that affect their wellbeing, and how emergent masculinities can provide insights for HIV prevention.
- Gillian Creese uses intersectionality and critical race feminism to illustrate how gendered and sexualized discourses of Blackness influence Vancouver Black young adults’ everyday and romantic experiences.

Organizer(s): *Johanne Jean-Pierre, Ryerson University; Lance McCreedy, University of Toronto*

This session is co-sponsored by the Canadian Sociological Association Equity Subcommittee and Policy, Ethics, and Professional Concerns Subcommittee in partnership with the Black Canadian Studies Association.

“We are dropping like flies”: The professional and physiological implications of doing equity work.

Session Code: EQS3

Theme: Equity

Patricia Monture (2009:26) correctly identified academia as a carceral space which is “exclusionary, silencing and perhaps even violent.” It has been long established that academia as a discursive and material space selectively recognizes particular forms of knowledge and knowledge holders/experts (Ahmed, 2012; Henry et al., 2017; Smith 2010). As “space invaders,” scholars who do not adhere to the universal/somatic norm are silenced and rendered invisible through the institutional failure to acknowledge the complex negotiations of their multiple lived experiences (Dei and Calliste, 2009:3). Space invaders in the white, male-dominated upper echelons of the academy are more likely to experience microaggressions, discrimination, and distrust of employees, and are less likely to be taken up and trusted as an expert (Puwar, 2004). Yet, it is these same bodies that are often assigned the task of transforming the academia through Indigenization and equity work. Accordingly, in this paper, invited social justice scholars (with prioritization given to Indigenous and Racialized faculty members) will discuss the personal and professional costs of doing this equity work. Specifically, they will address the physical and mental health implications of Indigenization and equity work in an era of increasing hostility towards anti-colonialism and inclusion. Together, the panelists will identify the institutional support required in order to make this work meaningful and sustainable. This session is sponsored by the Canadian Sociological Association Equity Subcommittee.

## 2020 Canadian Sociological Association Conference: Resisting Racism and Colonialism

Organizer(s): *Jeffrey Denis, McMaster University; Gülden Özcan, University of Lethbridge; Irene Shankar, Mount Royal University*

Panelists:

- Jennifer Adkins, University of British Columbia
- Vicki Bouvier, Mount Royal University
- Roselle Gonsalves, Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion
- Lindsay Morcom, Queen's University
- Maki Motapanyane, Mount Royal University

### Beyond equity policy: Searching for institutional procedures and practices that support Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour (BIPOC) faculty

Session Code: EQS4

Theme: Equity

The purpose of this session is to identify and share insights about how to address racism and related issues that affect Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour (BIPOC) faculty at Canadian universities. Drawing on the experiences and knowledge of equity officers and academics in various regions, this session aims to identify institutional procedures and practices that increase retention and success of BIPOC faculty in universities. Topics that will be discussed include:

- Institutional procedures to effectively recognize the ongoing impact of structural racism on marginalized faculty, including ways in which post-secondary institutions can effectively address incidents of racism on campus
- Promising practices that facilitate the professional growth and wellbeing of BIPOC faculty
- The role of collective agreements in supporting BIPOC faculty
- Strategies to support BIPOC faculty's research programs, including community-engaged research.
- The presenters will also highlight what is required to improve university equity and bureaucratic policies.

This session is co-sponsored by the Canadian Sociological Association Equity Subcommittee and Policy, Ethics, and Professional Concerns Subcommittee.

Organizer(s): *Johanne Jean-Pierre, Ryerson University; Jeffrey Denis, McMaster University; Gülden Özcan, University of Lethbridge; Irene Shankar, Mount Royal University*

Panelists:

- Arig al Shaibah, McMaster University
- Glenda Bonifacio, University of Lethbridge
- Claudine Bonner, Acadia University
- Iran Chaudhry, MacEwan University

### Feminist Sociology: Intellectual Theories, Traditions and Trajectories

Session Code: FEM1A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Feminist Sociology

Organizer(s): *Linda Christiansen-Ruffman, Saint Mary's University; Jolin Joseph, York University*

Presentations:

#### 1. Who Am I? Feminist Cultural Studies and the Location, Location, Location of Feminine Subjectivity

In providing a historical overview of the intellectual contours, theoretical developments, and methodological approaches of an academic discipline, a measure of arbitrariness and randomness is present in the narratives researchers present. The history of cultural studies (CS) and feminist cultural studies (FCS), no matter which



chronology or structure scholars propose, is inextricably linked to the history of the Centre for Contemporary Cultural Studies (CCCS) at the University of Birmingham (1964 -2002). FCS, in particular, emerged in Birmingham from the conjuncture of the turbulence of the 1970s, feminism's challenge to patriarchal culture, and the theoretical language designating women as an oppressed class. By elevating women to centre stage as research subjects, early FCS scholars challenged the male core of the academy with their interdisciplinary work. A central preoccupation for them then, as it has continued to be ever since, is the theme of subjectivity and the question of identity, the scholarship for which can be grouped into three thematic categories: (1) mind, body, and consciousness; (2) space, place, and time; and (3) narrative, representation, and truth. In this examination, I conclude that to maintain relevance, FCS must chart a course for purposeful political action in a manner that recognizes, records, studies, values, listens, and amplifies many voices and many stories to change societal conditions and transform research subjects into emancipated, authorial human agents.

Author(s): *Reema Faris, Simon Fraser University*

## **2. Thinking Differently: A Comparative Standpoint Analysis of Vivek Shraya's I'm Afraid of Men**

This article uses a comparative content analysis of Vivek Shraya's (2017) feminist memoir-narrative *I'm Afraid of Men* to explore the methodological and conceptual challenges of applying a standpoint analysis to multiple and diverse subject locations. Standpoint is a popular concept-metaphor in the social sciences that invites researchers and participants to consider how one's social location informs their understanding and interpretation of the social world in order to trace the processes of power that constitute one's lived reality. Working from this definition, we turn our analytical gaze to Shraya's novel with the aim of investigating how our own gender, racial, and professional standpoints produce different interpretations of the gender, racial, and class violences that Shraya speaks to and how these interpretations ultimately impact our personal approaches to feminist research. In doing this, we aim to highlight how the act of conceiving of one's own standpoint constitutes its own methodological challenge. In particular, we set out to illustrate that doing standpoint work is far more complicated than simply identifying one's social location, as our standpoints shape and thus limit our capacity to even identify these forces in the first place. We conclude by arguing that, for standpoint work to be meaningful, standpoint scholars must draw on and consider multiple standpoints to map out the scope and confines of their own, and that failing to do so, runs the risk of producing the same kind of epistemological nearsightedness that standpoint seeks to disrupt.

Author(s): *Jade Crimson Rose Da Costa, York University; Kaitlin Peters, York University; Giovanni Carranza-Hernandez, York University*

## **3. Is There a Feminist Method?**

This paper reiterates Harding's 1989 concern as a starting point to interrogate the widely-used - and expansive - notion of "feminist research" as it is deployed in contemporary social science. While terms such as "feminist method(s)", "feminist research", and "feminist approach" are pervasive in contemporary academe, their use is trans-disciplinary and wide-ranging, and these terms thus arguably lack descriptive power. Based on a systematic review of 30 primary research papers identified by authors as utilizing "feminist methods" or a "feminist approach" (dates of publication 2010-2019), I identify several key tenets of feminist research. These tenets include: an acknowledgement of the intrinsic value in studying women's lives; attention to power as a central research concern; and an understanding of emancipatory social change as central to ethical social research. Insights from this systematic review are combined with my own reflections as principal investigator on a completed "feminist" qualitative research project exploring cis-females' perceptions of safety in Vancouver, BC. I conclude by challenging the notion that traditional feminist research practices, such as "reflexivity" and "member checks", are adequate tools for practicing feminist research.

Author(s): *Rebecca Lennox, University of Toronto*

## **Feminist Sociology: Theorizing Social location and Subject formation**

Session Code: FEM1B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Feminist Sociology

Organizer(s): *Linda Christiansen-Ruffman, Saint Mary's University; Jolin Joseph, York University*

Presentations:

**1. (Un)doing gender: post-fieldwork reflections of a researcher**

Feminist ethnographers have encouraged researchers to practice reflexivity so that the researcher can understand their own biases and how they influence the research journey, and how they too are influenced by the research process. This paper represents a post fieldwork reflexive project, a self-critical sympathetic introspection and a self-conscious analytical scrutiny of the self as a researcher in the discourse of (un)doing gender. "Doing gender" has been reviewed in a number of ways that focus on the interactional process in different institutional settings and situations with a framing of gender as something people do rather than what people are (West and Zimmerman, 1987). After nine months of fieldwork, the reflexive work of my project was concerned with questions of the possibilities of doing, undoing or not doing gender as a youngish, educated Zimbabwean woman, accountable to the contextual, and culturally specific conceptions of "woman" or "man" in interactions in a rural Zimbabwean setting. This paper represents theoretical, methodological and empirical reflections of the doings or undos of gender in fieldwork. I use my reflections as the subject of research to answer to questions of doing, undoing and/or redoing gender.

Author(s): *Shingirai Mandizadza, University of Alberta*

**2. 'Apa Politics': Everyday Narratives of Female Community Leaders of a Neighborhood in Lahore, Pakistan**

Neoliberal feminist liberation projects have often embarked on a mission to highlight and save the oppressed women of the Global South, with a homogenizing lens that overshadows differences in particular contexts. Therefore, it is important to note how within structures of power and patriarchy, women navigate and negotiate their realities, which provides a counter to the one-dimensional postcolonial perception of the Third World Woman. Based on an ethnography of a neighborhood in Lahore, Pakistan, this study highlights the varied everyday experiences of four middle-aged women, Apas, (meaning 'older sister' in Urdu), who serve as formal and informal community leaders. By focusing on their storytelling, jokes, and poetry, the study highlights the heterogeneity of the everyday politics of women in this specific context of the Global South. It also focuses on the importance of their oral communication as an integral part of their being which prove to be a source of disruption and tension for disciplined and civilized narratives.

Author(s): *Umayima Miraj, University of Toronto*

**3. Governing Through Less Governance: Women's Shelters and the Creation of the "Shelter-Citizen"**

This paper theorizes the rules and programming deployed in Ontario women's shelters as forms of neoliberal governance intended to transform clients into self-sufficient subject-citizens. While many researchers have explored and theorized the transitions to neoliberal governance within women's shelters in recent decades, there is little scholarship on how shelter clients respond to such governance. Through interviews with shelter clients and staff, I illuminate how "shelter-citizens" internalize neoliberal ideals of independence, as they aspire to goals such as employment and home ownership. I also analyze 30 Ontario women's shelters websites, focusing on the importance they place on clients attaining independence. I additionally contend that the governance strategies discussed may be less effective for women who differ from the White "shelter-citizen" ideal that is implied within shelter programming.

Author(s): *Natalie Julia Adamyk, University of Toronto*

**4. The (re)production of gender bias within family court & intersecting legal systems: Examining Impacts for mothers (and their children) experiencing intimate partner violence.**

Socio-legal research continues to highlight systemic gender-based problems occurring within and between legal systems (e.g. Neilson 2015; Meier 2019). The lack of coordination across two or more court systems (criminal, child protection and family) can result in the failure of the legal system to provide adequate safety nets and increase the risk of harm to abused women and their children, particularly after post-separation. This presentation will report on one phase of a larger ongoing feminist critical community engaged provincial family court research project undertaken between students in a graduate sociology course, a faculty member at the University of Guelph, and community partner, Luke's Place, an Ontario community based organization that provides family law support to abused women and their child(ren). In this phase of the research, our community-university partnership (CUP) reviewed Ontario family law judicial decisions through online legal databases to identify the extent to which violence against women in intimate relationships was identified in these cases and whether this impacted judicial decisions related to child custody and access. This includes looking at whether the identification of intimate partner violence and/or allegations of violence impacts the mothers' ability to get or keep sole custody of their child(ren) and/or alter the fathers' access arrangements. This research offers a critical feminist perspective on

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how broader gendered assumptions and discourses about parents and gendered violence are (re)produced in the judicial system, and the impacts this has on the family arrangements of female survivors of abuse moving through more than one court system. Our presentation highlights the benefits of community engaged research as a methodological framework, as well as preliminary research findings and the potential practical implications related to increased legal professional training and changes to family law legislation.

Author(s): *Mavis Morton, University of Guelph; Tanja Samardzic, University of Guelph; Leslie Vesely, University of Guelph; Melisa Choubak, University of Guelph; Shannon Johnstone, University of Guelph; Pam Cross, Luke's Place*

### Feminist Sociology: Sexual, Reproductive and Health Policy

Session Code: FEM1C

Research Cluster Affiliation: Feminist Sociology

Organizer(s): *Linda Christiansen-Ruffman, Saint Mary's University; Jolin Joseph, York University*

Presentations:

#### **1. Periods Please! An Invitation to a Sociology of Menstruation**

Menstruation is an everyday occurrence that is part of the lived reality of a large portion of the population, including women, gender queer folks, and trans-men. As such, it is surprising that it does not appear in contemporary sociological literature and scholarship. This paper will provide a much-needed invitation to a sociological study of menstruation by laying out why and how it can be studied and drawing on insights from the sociological study of gender, sexual and reproductive health, and intersectional-feminist policy studies. The paper will identify key fields of study, such as, period equity, beyond the binary and menstruation, menstrual capitalism, ecofeminism and menstruation, non-menstruators as important allies, and global north/south and menstruation. Finally, I will present results from a period equity audit and period product access survey conducted at a community college. The incredible popularity of the recent Netflix documentary, *Period. End of Sentence.*, as well as recent changes to B.C. legislation requiring high schools to provide free menstrual products in all women's and gender neutral restrooms, indicates that there is heightened visibility, awareness, and excitement around acknowledging menstruation as a social issue. I invite sociologists to join the conversation through action, research, and scholarship.

Author(s): *Lisa Smith, Douglas College; Rim Gacimi, Douglas College*

#### **2. Bliss and baby bumps: Images of pregnancy in Canadian vaccine information**

Pregnant women in the media often appear to be in a state of domestic bliss, with thin limbs, perfect hair, stylish clothing, and prominent baby bumps. In contrast, ultrasound images depict a fetus floating as if it exists independent of the surrounding space that is a woman's body. Both types of images conceal the reproductive labour that women and other pregnant persons undertake. One aspect of their work involves following public health recommendations about how to best protect the health of the fetal body. In many high-income countries, public health agencies recommend the inactivated-influenza and tetanus-diphtheria-acellular-pertussis vaccines during every pregnancy. These vaccines prevent severe disease and related complications among pregnant persons, fetuses, and infants. Yet, many healthcare providers and women hesitate to vaccinate during pregnancy after consulting the available information. As part of a larger study, I am conducting a content analysis of available information about vaccination during pregnancy in Canada. Feminist literature informs my analysis of content that can evoke felt responses such as images, information, and key words (such as "baby" in reference to a fetus). My focus is on content may influence how healthcare providers interpret the risks of vaccination in pregnancy. In this paper, I share preliminary findings about the images that accompany vaccine information. In early stages of analysis, I have identified two categories of images. First, images that present women as blissful and presumably, safe from disease. Second, images prominently display baby bumps by blurring or cropping of extraneous body parts. I discuss if and how these images represent dominant discourses about domestic bliss, intensive mothering, and the prioritization of the fetal other over the pregnant body.

Author(s): *Terra Anne Manca, Dalhousie University*

**3. “We need to do public health differently in this community”: Exploring the impact of participatory video on public health policy**

This presentation examines feelings evoked at a participatory video screening intended to provoke policy dialogue around the health and wellbeing of Indigenous youth. The Taking Action! Project engaged Indigenous youth, as health promotion activists, in participatory filmmaking to address HIV in their communities. The filmmakers employed rhetorical strategies of ‘speaking back’ to policymakers and the policy processes from which they are typically excluded. Since the late 1980s research has shown that social and economic environments have a greater impact on health than individual behaviours. Yet studies explaining health determinants and inequalities have had limited influence on health policy. Concerned with the high costs of health care services, Canadian health policy has largely focused on health promotion and prevention of illness through lifestyle and behavioural approaches. The ‘policy rich/implementation poor’ dynamic may be better understood by first seeking to understand why the process of translating health research into policy is so complex. This article draws on a series of interviews with participatory visual researchers working with youth to address health issues. Employing a feminist reading of affect I explore its implications in relation to the impact of participatory arts-based research on the policy process. Regarding the settle-Indigenous context in Canada, I argue that policy processes must begin with awareness of colonial legacies, and affective attunement to the ways in which they affect Indigenous peoples’ everyday lives. Cultural safe practice requires emotional self-reflexivity and cultural humility. Yet self-study approaches can have unexpected outcomes, such as when they reveal what Sarah Ahmed calls “the secret places of pain”. Painful feelings matter: they both fuel and frustrate action. A feminist approach to affect theory may reveal how Indigenous youth and non-Indigenous policymakers may have similar feelings about colonial legacies but may have very different relationships to those feelings.

Author(s): *Pamela Lamb, McGill University*

**4. “Reproductive Rights or Reproductive Justice?: Intersectionality and Second-Wave Abortion Rights Organizing in Canada”**

In this paper, I draw from interviews with 12 feminist activists who played instrumental roles in decriminalizing abortion in Canada in 1988, to show how concern about race- and class-privileged access has been a central preoccupation of Canada’s abortion rights movement since the second wave. I argue that the shift from “reproductive rights” to “reproductive justice” - as a term that captures how feminist organizing around abortion has evolved to be more intersectional (re: less racist and classist) - better characterizes the American movement (where the term emerged), given Canadian feminists consistent engagement with immigrant women of colour (as co-organizers) and socialist feminism (as an analytic lens) from the 1960s onwards.

Author(s): *Jaime Nikolaou, University of Toronto*

**Feminist Sociology: Gendered Power Relations and Social Movements**

Session Code: FEM1D

Research Cluster Affiliation: Feminist Sociology

Organizer(s): *Linda Christiansen-Ruffman, Saint Mary's University; Jolin Joseph, York University*

Presentations:

**1. “Better Paranoid than Sorry:” How Women's Housing Preferences and Dialogues of Safety are Altering the Rental Housing Market**

Changes in the rental housing market often reflect the shifting preferences of individuals. Today, the search for safe and secure housing is crucial to women. Dialogues of female unsafety are changing the conditions of the rental housing market. Relatively little research exists on the housing preferences of women in Canada, and none exist in the case of mid-size cities. The purpose of this study is to examine the rental housing preferences of women in the city of Kelowna, using a post-structuralist, feminist approach. This study focuses on women’s perceptions of their safety as renters, and how this has altered the rental housing market. Preliminary data analysis revealed that women have become increasingly concerned with narratives of safety. Safety concerns have led to a new phenomenon in the housing market: gender-specific rental housing advertisements. Fear of violence, assault, and fraud among women have created an environment in which females feel uncomfortable living with a male

roommate. This study explores how narratives of safety are changing conditions in the rental housing market by exploring three questions: how have narratives of female safety changed women's housing preferences? How have concerns for safety among women created a need for gender-specific rental housing advertisements? What are the effects of gender-specific rental housing advertisements? This study adds to existing feminist-geographic literature by highlighting the importance of dialogues of safety and how fear is informing the rental housing preferences of women in Canada.

Author(s): *Kaylah E. Vrabic, University of British Columbia*

## **2. Freedom from Oppression: Low-SES Single Mothers' Interpretation of Divorce in Turkey**

This study investigates the ways in which single mothers in Turkey interpret the dissolution of their marriage and whether they assign positive meanings to their experiences. While research primarily depicts low-income single mothers as the most vulnerable social group and heavily focuses on the impoverishing and stigmatizing effects of marital dissolution, positive outcomes of divorce on this group remains understudied. This study adds to the growing literature on exploring divorce as a process during which individuals would also experience the benefits. Adopting key informant and snowball sampling, this study draws on semi-structured interviews with single mothers (n=20) who are mostly high school and primary school graduates and living in Ankara with at least one dependent child (under the age of 18 or 25 if studying). Analysis reveals that being able to end an abusive and oppressive marriage, divorced women see themselves as strong and confident. Although they experience major financial and psychological challenges, low SES mothers associate the dissolution of marriage with gaining the freedom to allocate less time to unpaid domestic labour and spend quality time with children as well as with their social network. These findings highlight the need to revise the conceptualization of single mothers as well as the general perceptions towards divorce from vulnerability-based to an opportunity-based approach.

Author(s): *Merve Umay Kader, University of British Columbia*

## **3. Digital (In)Justice: Building Solidarity and Interrogating Whiteness in the #metoo Movement**

In 2017, the #MeToo movement took Hollywood by storm and brought international attention to the widespread issue of sexual violence. In the aftermath of its fervour, scholarly inquiry into the #MeToo movement and its influence are just beginning. Feminist response to and engagement with the #MeToo movement has been varied. This paper attends to the role that social media, digital activism, and anti-feminist backlash have played in the emergence of the #MeToo movement. Through an intersectional theoretical framework, I posit that the movement can be thought of as a contested and fragmented space of counter-public anti-sexual violence activism and as an alternative to the conventional legal response to sexual violence. Namely, the #MeToo movement functions as a survivor-centred informal justice mechanism. At the same time, #MeToo's co-optation by white women in news media, entertainment, and popular culture poses significant dangers that could thwart meaningfully political solidarity and undermine the movement's potential to address the complexity and specificity of survivor's justice needs. This paper explores the dynamic tensions and nuances that the #MeToo movement reveals within digital feminist activism and interrogates how the white problem (or the problem of whiteness) may be addressed while offering key insights into the possibility of digital feminist activism as a new terrain for intersectional, transnational feminist solidarity and support.

Author(s): *Emily Rose Gerbrandt, University of Alberta*

## **4. Femme Theory: Using marginalized femininities to understand gender and power**

The devaluing of femininity is a social problem that has serious consequences. Violence is often exacerbated when elements of anti-femininity/femmephobia are present. Yet, despite growing evidence warranting deliberate consideration of femininity, very little research has considered femininity as an intersectional axis. Anti-femininity/femmephobia has been examined in a fractured manner, isolating and defining its various manifestations in specific, rather than overarching ways. This presentation explores how these diverse systems are interrelated and argues that the sources of oppression underlying many forms of violence today (e.g., anti-LGBTQ+ hate crimes, Incel attacks, sexual violence, trans murders) are symptoms of the same underlying social prejudice: anti-femininity/femmephobia. Using in-depth interviews, this presentation explores the intersecting role of anti-femininity/femmephobia in experiences of discrimination among sexual and gender minorities (N=38). Two thematic networks are presented. The connection between these thematic networks illustrates the symbiotic relationship between anti-femininity/femmephobia and the gender binary. Finally, patterns identified from the thematic analysis are used to generate a model of femmephobia. This presentation suggests that the gender binary is not merely a division; it is also hierarchical and regulated by anti-femininity/femmephobia. The

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presentation will also highlight femininity as central to understanding the ebb and flow of power, particularly in relation to social inequalities.

Author(s): *Rhea Ashley Hoskin, Queen's University*

### **5. Missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls: polarizing public opinions on genocide**

In 2016, the Canadian government began an inquiry into the high number of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls throughout the country. The commission in charge of the inquiry released their final report on June 3, 2019. The commissioners stated the Canadian government's colonial and patriarchal policies displaced women from their traditional roles in communities and diminished their status in society, leaving them vulnerable to violence. The commissioners declared the acts as genocide. The conclusion of the report was met with a mixed reaction from the Canadian population, especially regarding the use of the term genocide in the report. The current study examined Twitter reactions to the report's findings through an intersectional, feminist lens. The study analyzed Twitter posts using the hashtags #MMIWG and #MMIW. The analysis compared content prior to and following the release of the commission's report to examine how the report constructed the narrative around the social problem of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. This analysis explored the polarizing narrative the followed the commission's report -with one side unifying in grief and empowerment and the other minimizing the effect of policies and outcomes from the inquiry.

Author(s): *Natalie Michelle Snow, University of Arkansas at Little Rock*

## Interrogating Feminist Intersectionality in Theory, Research, and Praxis

Session Code: FEM2

Research Cluster Affiliation: Feminist Sociology

Intersectionality has become an important approach for examining the interconnectedness of systems of oppression in women's lives. This session critically engages with the concept and practice of intersectionality as an academic and political project. Presenters may briefly discuss their use of feminist intersectionality methodologically, in theory and/or in their praxis, and they may also reflect on the strengths, limitations, implications and/or challenges of their experiences with it.

Organizer(s): *Linda Christiansen-Ruffman, Saint Mary's University; Jolin Joseph, York University*

Presentations:

### **1. Intersectionality in Research: Is it Integral to Challenging Sexual Violence on Campus?**

This study investigates the current levels of heteronormativity, dominating masculinity, and whiteness at play at one Ontario (Canada) University. In an effort to analyze students understanding of their campus sexual violence policy, and overall feelings of campus safety, one hundred and fifty-five students at a small commuter university in South Western Ontario provided their perspective in a grounded theory open-ended online survey. Using an intersectional framework, I compared the opinions of white heterosexual students in contrast to racialized and/or queer students. Findings revealed that more education and resources are needed to help students understand the impact of sexual violence, masculinities, heteronormativity, and whiteness and that an intersectional analysis is integral to reducing barriers to disclosing on campus. This study adds to the dearth of Canadian research on campus sexual violence.

Author(s): *Lindsay Ostridge, University of Ottawa*

### **2. Examining Social Reproduction and Intersectionality in a Political Science Context**

Ferguson and McNally in *Intersectionality and Social Reproduction Feminisms* and *Intersections and Dialectics: Critical Reconstructions in Social Reproduction Theory*, explore and critique intersectionality as a flawed framework that lacks the historical understanding that a social reproduction approach offers. Although intersectionality like any framework has limitations, Collins suggests that intersectionality is never a done process but is rather an ongoing analytical tool. Ferguson and McNally both argue for an integration of social reproduction with intersectionality in order to overcome the supposed issues; a lack of historical contextualization and an



absence of space for solidarity within its framework. Despite the value of a social reproduction perspective in conversation with intersectionality, Ferguson's and McNally's critique arguably reflects their parochial understanding of Crenshaw's conception of intersectionality based on the abstraction of her work from the larger context of Black feminist thought and epistemology. Intersectionality, as understood by Crenshaw, Collins, and other Black feminist thinkers, necessarily advocates for coalition and solidarity as a product of utilizing the framework. However, social reproduction theory's prioritization of historical contextualization offers a nuanced means of engagement with an intersectional framework to have a capacious understanding of oppression within a capitalist society.

Author(s): *Ashley Jennifer Shalmoni, York University*

### **3. Queer Assemblages Beyond the Secular**

Judeo-Christian moral frameworks, theological concepts, and religious institutions have been weaponized against queer bodies throughout the history of Western Civilization and beyond. Many scholars in the queer cannon speak to the violence of religion which has been historically entangled with state power and governance. As such, Christianity as a discourse and religion more broadly has long been understood as the 'enemy other' to queer discourse and a queer activism that aims to problematize normativity, and expose regulatory regimes of power. Along the way, however, these secularist discourses render queer religious subjectivities unintelligible and mark queer religiosity as traitorous to libertarian impulses in queer theory. By conflating religion with oppression, queer theory illegitimizes the lived experiences of LGBTQ+ religious actors whose realities are far more complex and variable. In this paper, I suggest that queer studies' investment in secularism risks establishing a 'queer normativity' whereby queer religious subjectivities are rendered the 'unintelligible other'. Through an examination of how religion is framed in the work of Michel Foucault, I illustrate the failure of post-structuralist secularist conceptualizations of religion to adequately describe the lived experiences of queer religious actors. I argue that by understanding religiosity as a material (discursive or lived phenomenon) and employing a Deleuzian ontology, we might move beyond oversimplified conceptualizations of religion and reclaim a queer politics of difference making space for queer assemblages beyond the secular.

Author(s): *Eric James Van Giessen, York University*

## **Gender at Work, Gendered Work: Dynamics of Discrimination**

Session Code: FEM3A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Feminist Sociology

Gender intersects with other axes of identity to create particular experiences of working life. Women, girls, and marginalized groups earn less, have fewer opportunities for employment, education and training, and contend with poverty, health challenges, discriminatory norms, policies and practices that do not adequately consider the needs of diverse women or mothers. Their work is often sorted and segregated into particular niches or the margins, and routinely devalued and devalorized. Acknowledging ongoing and persistent gender inequalities in workplaces and the labour market, this session features papers that explore and consider the material conditions of gender and work under capitalist patriarchy.

Organizer(s): *Linda Christiansen-Ruffman, Saint Mary's University; Jolin Joseph, York University*

Presentations:

### **1. Who leads, who listens, and who is left out: A qualitative exploration of gender and teamwork in the operating room**

Effective teamwork in the operating room (OR) is essential for surgical patient safety. Existing teamwork interventions have had mixed results, suggesting a need to consider factors outside of what has traditionally been studied. This includes explicitly addressing issues related to power and hierarchy, such as gender, in order to accurately reflect the broader social context in which teamwork takes place. Although our understanding of gender as it relates to individual surgical practice and outcomes continues to improve, we have yet to consider how it, along with additional social identity factors, may shape interprofessional teamwork in the OR. Qualitative semi-structured interviews were conducted with OR team members between November 2018 and July 2019 and

analyzed using a grounded theory approach. Participants were recruited from each of the three main OR professions (nursing, anesthesia, surgery) across four large academic hospitals in Ontario, Canada. Sixty-six interviews were completed. Traditional gender roles, norms, and stereotypes were perceived and experienced by both women and men, but with different consequences. From this broader theme emerged sub-themes related to the challenges faced by women (e.g. perceived negatively for displaying leadership behaviours); the OR as a male-dominated environment; differences in interactions or behaviours depending on the team gender composition; the role of intersecting social identities (e.g. young, racialized, woman, nurse); and perceptions of how the influence of gender in the OR may change. Interactions and behaviours among interprofessional OR teams are shaped by gender and its intersection with additional social identity factors. This suggests that OR team composition and social context are critical to consider when designing teamwork interventions in order to accurately reflect the gendered reality of the OR experienced by providers in clinical practice.

Author(s): *Nicole Etherington, Ottawa Hospital Research Institute*

## **2. The Underrepresentation of Women in STEM Fields: Advocating for Gender Analysis**

Although in recent years we have seen an increase in the number of women working in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields, women continue to be underrepresented and face on-going barriers to paid employment in these fields. Despite the seeming neutrality of these areas of knowledge, the lack of women's voices is evident in technological innovations and theorizing and require intervention. This paper examines barriers, gender roles, and women's position within STEM fields through a historical approach and current literature review in order to showcase the urgency and need for gender analysis. This paper, specifically, attempts to showcase some of the current barriers women face in STEM fields, such as male anxiety, bias, sexism, sexual harassment, and hostile work environments. Finally, this paper offers openings for further discussions on necessary interventions to bring about substantial changes in the STEM field beyond mere diversity to achieve inclusion and a more equitable environment.

Author(s): *Ashley Jennifer Shalmoni, York University*

## **3. Feminization of beauty work: Embodied and emotional labour of cosmetic saleswomen**

Beauty is an industry that turns women both into consumers and workers. This industry as a globalized economy provides a context in which women enact beauty standards both on themselves and others. The women recruited into low-paying jobs selling cosmetics are crucial to the functioning of the beauty economy. This proposal is feminist ethnographic research on female-dominated and gendered settings of cosmetic stores in Canada. Building on the notions of body labour and emotional work, my research will compare women's work in different stores to examine how different organizational structures produce various forms of body and emotional labour in the process of selling cosmetics. I will conduct part of my research at cosmetic counters in department stores such as Walmart, Hudson Bay and Holt Renfrew. By choosing different kinds of department stores, I might be able to witness a class difference in the type of customer and correspondingly different types of service that workers are required to provide to attract customers. I will conduct another part of my research in small beauty shops that sell natural beauty products such as L'Oréal, Neals, and the Body Shop. These different stores can provide various settings for studying how workers perform gender differently in their interactions with female customers and how the structure of each store affects gender performance. Focusing on cosmetic stores as feminized organizations, the purpose of this research is to examine how different aspects of labour (emotional/aesthetic/body labour) in cosmetic stores contribute to the reinforcement of the gendered structure of cosmetic stores, which aspects of the service delivered (emotional, embodied, or aesthetic) most affect participants' experiences, and how these aspects contribute to the maintenance of the gendered organizations.

Author(s): *Sepideh Borzoo, University of Calgary*

## **4. Does being confident matter equally for women and men?**

Being confident matters, but does it matter equally for men and women? Extending research on the gender gap in confidence, in this article we consider whether the return of being self-confident is also gendered. Analyzing data from Statistics Canada's 2016 General Social Survey (N= 19,294), we find that not only are women less self-assured than men, the earning power of being confident is also less strong among women than men. The fact that being confident is rewarded unequally between genders demonstrates that social bias against women is one major source for women's lack of confidence.

Author(s): *Cary Wu, York University*

## **5. Work at any cost: The experiences of racialized newcomer women in Canadian labour markets**

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Canadian federal and provincial occupational health and safety laws are largely based on the internal responsibility system (IRS). The IRS is a self-regulation model, and a significant assumption of this system is that all workers have a voice in the workplace and should feel empowered to express it without fear of reprisal. The employee is recast as a rights bearing individual, responsible for ensuring their own safety and equitable treatment by asking questions, making complaints, and legally pursuing their rights if they are violated. However, power imbalances inherent in the workplace as well as intersecting factors such as age, gender, language ability, and socio-economic status result in barriers to understanding and reporting workplace safety concerns and violations. Drawing on co-creation methodologies that included 27 interviews with racialized newcomer women with Canadian work experience, this paper discusses the implications of using the IRS as a regulatory model for work in Canada. Building on the conference theme of "Resisting Racism and Colonialism," this paper explores the implications of relying on neoliberal regulatory models that disproportionately affects racialized newcomer women's ability to access safe and equitable workplaces.

Author(s): *Laurent Wall, Bow Valley College*

### Gender at Work, Gendered Work: Care and Social Reproduction under Neoliberalism

Session Code: FEM3B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Feminist Sociology

Gender intersects with other axes of identity to create particular experiences of working life. Women, girls, and marginalized groups earn less, have fewer opportunities for employment, education and training, and contend with poverty, health challenges, discriminatory norms, policies and practices that do not adequately consider the needs of diverse women or mothers. Their work is often sorted and segregated into particular niches or the margins, and routinely devalued and devalorized. Acknowledging ongoing and persistent gender inequalities in workplaces and the labour market, this session features papers that explore and consider the material conditions of gender and work under capitalist patriarchy.

Organizer(s): *Linda Christiansen-Ruffman, Saint Mary's University; Jolin Joseph, York University*

Presentations:

#### **1. The Caring Dilemma in Doula Practice**

The adoption of policies and practices consistent with the neoliberal ideology of New Public Management has been shown to decrease the quality of care provided in hospitals and long-term care facilities. In response, new occupations have emerged in the private marketplace to fill gaps in care, with these workers evading the managerialism and lean staffing measures implemented in publicly-funded care settings. Presently, little is known about the experiences of these workers; existing literature suggests, though, that some encounter challenges stemming from their lack of professional authority and the overlap between their responsibilities and those of unionized staff. Doulas - non-medical support persons to women during pregnancy, childbirth, and the early postpartum period - are one such occupational group. In this paper, I draw on interviews with 26 Toronto-area doulas to explore the caring demands they face in their work and their responses to them. I find that, as with other types of feminized care work, doula practice is shaped by gendered assumptions about women's "natural" and endless capacity to provide care, creating a "caring dilemma" (Reverby, 1987) - a tension between the needs of clients, the taxed maternity care system, and a self-sacrificing ethos that places a heavy burden of care on individual doulas.

Author(s): *Christina Young, University of Toronto*

#### **2. Gendered Devaluation: Positioning the Voices of Early Childhood Educators and Contract Faculty in Dialogue**

While the Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) and Post-Secondary Education (PSE) contexts rarely intersect, this paper positions the narratives of ECEs and contract faculty in dialogue through a Feminist Political Economy and Critical Race framework. The paper explores the neoliberal assault (Giroux, 2014) on both spectrums of the educational landscape in order to draw on the myriad ways that feminized discursive practices (Moss, 2006) devalue and dehumanize women's labour. In Ontario, the devaluation of ECEs through low pay and

poor working conditions, as well as the overrepresentation of mainly racialized women, in precarious contract faculty positions (Dua and Banjii, 2015; Pittman, 2015). While tuition fees and childcare fees continue to rise substantially, ECEs and contract faculty have not benefitted from the skyrocketing cost of what once were considered social and public goods. The work analyzes how social norms, domestic work and capitalist economies inform womens work by drawing on the intersectionalities of gender, race, and social-economic status.

Author(s): *Zuhra Abawi, Niagara University Ontario*

### **3. Capitalist care? An exploration of early childhood educator's experiences of care in an increasingly privatized childcare system**

The care and education of young children in Canada has historically and continues to be provided by a highly gendered workforce. Plagued by a “naturalized” feminine discourse of care, the complex practices required to provide enriching and meaningful caring relationships with young children and families remains economically and professional undervalued (if not completely taken-for-granted) in contemporary Canadian society (Bezanson, Doucet, and Albanese, 2015; Bezanson and Luxton, 2006; Moss, 2006). Furthermore, policy shifts in Ontario are eroding the fragile infrastructure of the childcare system that does. For-profit, including large scale ‘Big Box’ corporate childcare providers, have an increasing presence in Ontario. This paper examines how corporate childcare provision impacts the perceived value and experience of the gendered (increasingly “professionalized”) childcare workforce. Through interviews with early childhood educators working in a variety of regulated childcare settings, the impact of capitalist patriarchy on the practical, professional and moral aspects of caring for children are explored. Building on a social reproduction lens, this paper embraces an ethics of care theoretical orientation (Held, 2006; Kittay, 2015; Noddings, 2015) whereby the relationships and experiences involved in care are understood as being both important and deeply political. The findings raise urgent concerns not only about deteriorating value of child care work and the women providing it, but how this fundamentally undermines the equitable participation of all working women and their children in Canadian society.

Author(s): *Brooke Richardson, Brock University*

### **4. The political economy of heteronormativity**

This paper investigates the relationship between heteronormativity, queerness, and patriarchal capitalism. Our departure point is the 1997 Recognition - Redistribution debate between Nancy Fraser and Judith Butler. By reinterpreting this exchange through a social reproduction lenses, we show that Butlers critique is broadly consistent with a social reproduction analysis of the role of heteronormativity in patriarchal capitalist production system. In particular, the oppression of queer people is essential to stabilizing the gender division of labor, maintaining the monogamous heterosexual family as a privileged site of working-class reproduction, and keeping the working-class divided and stratified. While this suggests that queer emancipation poses an existential threat to the workability of patriarchal capitalism, we contend that capitalism has dialectically reacted to neutralize such threat. This is done by offering opportunity for a small number of mostly white, cis-gender, upper-middle class professional queer elites to assimilate into the patriarchal capitalist mainstream. Such dangerous liaison between mainstream gay rights movement and neoliberal market force results in further marginalization of queers who are unwilling or unable to assimilate.

Author(s): *Duc Hien Nguyen, University of Massachusetts, Amherst*

### **5. Economies of sadness: Theorizing gendered labour, depression, and social reproduction**

In her 2012 monograph *Depression: A Public Feeling*, Ann Cvetkovich theorizes depression as “a way to describe neoliberalism and globalization, or the current state of political economy, in affective terms” (2012 p. 12). Insofar as neoliberal state policies constitute a shrinking public sphere and withering of social services, Cvetkovich writes that “affective life is forced to bear an increasing burden as the state divests itself of responsibility for social welfare and affective life is confined to a privatized family” (2012 p.12). As Ontario social services are increasingly slashed and rates of depression increase nationally, individuals and families are responsabilized to take on the burden of affective life, which includes mental distress and suffering. How do race and gender inform this responsabilization? This paper makes two arguments. The first is that ‘depression’ burnout, and exhaustion are affective states increasingly linked to neoliberal capitalist political economies. The second is that the burden of these affects is particularly gendered in that women are demanded to provide more emotional care for depressed and exhausted friends and family members. Women also experience depression and burnout in particularly gendered ways which are compounded by processes of race and racism. This paper considers the efficacy of a feminist political economy analysis, with its focus on social reproduction, for engaging with the affective

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experiences of capitalism in ways that offer thicker, more textured, and localized descriptions of capitalist affects and their gendered and racialized specificities.

Author(s): *Sarah Redikopp, York University*

### Gender at Work, Gendered Work: Health and Social Policy

Session Code: FEM3C

Research Cluster Affiliation: Feminist Sociology

Gender intersects with other axes of identity to create particular experiences of working life. Women, girls, and marginalized groups earn less, have fewer opportunities for employment, education and training, and contend with poverty, health challenges, discriminatory norms, policies and practices that do not adequately consider the needs of diverse women or mothers. Their work is often sorted and segregated into particular niches or the margins, and routinely devalued and devalorized. Acknowledging ongoing and persistent gender inequalities in workplaces and the labour market, this session features papers that explore and consider the material conditions of gender and work under capitalist patriarchy.

Organizer(s): *Linda Christiansen-Ruffman, Saint Mary's University; Jolin Joseph, York University*

Presentations:

#### **1. Of Course: A Serving of Feminist Food Policy**

Despite decades of interventions--or inaction--from the private, public, and third sectors, 4 million Canadians are "food insecure": folks worry about running out of food, scrimp on quality or quantity, or actually go days without. Women--especially women who face intersecting forms of marginalization--are more vulnerable because they are more likely to be poor. In Canada, women make 74 cents for every dollar earned by men. The gap is even wider when we consider women who are racialized (32 percent), who are immigrants (39 percent), and who have disabilities (46 percent). Women are twice as likely as men to work part time, and make up the majority of minimum wage earners. There are a number of reasons for this: pure discrimination, labour market segmentation, and domestic responsibilities that interrupt the career path. One very obvious consequence is that women whose household incomes fall in the lowest quintile - predominantly single mothers, aboriginal women, women of colour, immigrant women and senior citizens - are more than twice as likely to be food insecure. Moreover, many women continue to put in a "second shift" at home. Women perform more than half the work within the household--cooking, cleaning, caring--yet this significant physical and emotional labour is not valued beyond reaffirming gender roles. In this essay, I will explore the commodification of food and food work, the hunger of the material body and the social body, and feminist theory and resistance. I will suggest that nourishment in our stomachs will feed the new politics we need.

Author(s): *Jennifer O'Connor, Queen's University*

#### **2. Martial Motherhood; Moral Performance and Bifurcated Inclusion in Pakistan's Lady Health Worker Program**

Pakistani Lady Health Workers are vital links in the transnational aid circuit that facilitates sizable flows of foreign currency into Pakistan via the GPEI (Global Polio Eradication Initiative) - a billion-dollar-a-year global project seeking to purge the world of the Polio virus by way of vaccinating vulnerable children. Pakistan is one of the last countries in the world to still host the crippling and incurable Polio disease. And LHWs are crucial agents in the state's efforts to eradicate it. Yet, despite their indispensable service LHWs continue to report humiliation not only at the hands of local government and its various global partners but also from their families and the communities they serve. How do health workers manage this ongoing subordination? What kinds of performances do they bring to bear in managing the denigration they must confront in the course of their work? And how do their contentions shape the broader relational dynamics in this state anchored field of work? This paper draws on 12 months of ethnographic research to examine the moral performances LHWs bring to bear in managing their denigration as they complete their jobs. To manage the humiliation connected with their jobs I found lady health workers draw on morally inflected local roles and idioms: quasi-mystical healer, sister-in-faith, holy-warrior, to reframe the meaning of their work, their wages, and their contravention of gender norms. Adopting the role of

forbearing woman, quasi-mystical healer, mother, and holy-warrior, lady health workers deploy a quixotic presentation I call MARTIAL MOTHERHOOD, a moral performance that not only serves to sanitize their problematized identities but also acts as social emollient, helping ease LHWs efforts to cultivate connections with clients that they can leverage in service to their professional goals. But while these martial motherhood performances work to further LHWs relational agendas with clients, as classed and gendered enactments they also deepen the gender-class breaches that symbolically separate workers and officers in state health arenas. The very cultural idioms and competencies that enable LHWs to connect with poor and working-class citizens also work to expand these working-class women's ongoing marginalization and exclusion from the state they serve.

Author(s): *Fauzia Husain, University of Toronto*

### **3. The Empty Gift: Canadian Employers' Perception of the Career Impact of the Extended, 61-Week Parental Leave**

Over the last 50 years Canadian parental leave policy has gone through several derivations. The intention of parental leave is to help families adapt to their new roles as parents and manage the demands of work and family. In December of 2017 the federal government announced an extension of parental leave from a maximum length of 35 to 61 weeks; however, the Employment Insurance total payment will remain the same, just spread over 61 weeks. Structured interviews with 46 Canadian employers were conducted to understand their perception of the parental leave extension and how it might impact the careers of users of the longer leave. Employers reported low employee uptake of the 61-week parental leave option, citing the affordability of lower EI payments over the longer leave. Given that the majority of Canadian parental leave users in Canada are women and they face considerable workplace stigma for work interruptions, the longer 61-week parental leave appears to only increase the stigma women face. A large proportion of the sample felt that use of the longer leave would have negative consequences on employees' careers. Employers expressed concerns about serial leaves and long absences leading to difficulty with returning to work.

Author(s): *Rachael N. Pettigrew, Mount Royal University*

### **4. Who Funds Women's Charitable Organizations?**

Canadian women's charitable organizations have historically received substantial funding from the federal government but, in the past few decades, these organizations have watched governments embrace austerity policies and cut their funding. Given that many of these organizations rely on government grants as their primary source of funding, such cuts jeopardize the work they do and their survival. How, then, do women's charitable organizations survive when funding either stagnates, is discontinued, or reduced? While some scholars have observed that non-profit organizations are increasingly seeking other sources of funding in the wake of government cutbacks, it is unclear whether or not this is the case for women's charitable organizations in Canada. The shift to other sources of funding is significant because it can provide insight into how organizations survive periods of austerity and reduce the risk of resource dependency on government agencies. It can also present unique challenges for women's groups because funding agencies can be insensitive to the needs of the women they serve. Using the T3010 charity return data of 1551 of women's organizations from the period of 1990 to 2018, I examine whether there is evidence that non-profit organizations are seeking non-governmental funding and support in response to austerity policies and funding cuts.

Author(s): *Emma Kay, Dalhousie University*

## **Critical Conversations among Indigenous, Feminist, and Sociological Analyses**

Session Code: FEM4

Research Cluster Affiliation: Feminist Sociology

This session will provide a platform for research and reflection from scholars, students, and activists that foregrounds the synergies between and specificities of Indigenous analyses and feminist analyses, as well as explores the current relationship and potential of each type of analysis to sociology and to decolonial praxis.

Organizer(s): *Linda Christiansen-Ruffman, Saint Mary's University; Jolin Joseph, York University*



Presentations:

**1. Location-telling: A land-based framework for transforming the settler-colonial politics of feminist self-reflexivity practices**

Employing an anti-colonial feminist paradigm (Abdo 2014 and 2011, Wolfe 2013 and 2012, Masalha 2012, Waziyatawin 2012, Grosfoguel 2011), and as one Acadian woman belonging to Mi'kma'ki, I offer the analytic concept of what I call "location-telling" as an academic voicing of an indigenous practice of relating to the land while introducing oneself. As a critical intervention into the important academic inter-related practices of feminist self-reflexivity and intersectionality, my position is that location-telling is a methodology that is a piece of the puzzle of decolonization of academic and activist spaces and thinking (and elsewhere). I aim to build from Abdo's recent (2018) crucial argument that intersectional feminist perspectives fail to recognize indigeneity and the settler-colonial system of power, and therefore the primacy of land. Some indigenous or indigenous-centered scholars have made use of what intersectionality offers and/or re-worked the approach in useful ways (see, for example, Levac et al 2018: 9). However, as Abdo (2018) contends, intersectional feminist perspectives fail, in general, to recognize indigeneity or the settler-colonial system of power. I argue that location-telling contingently entails three main exercises: self-reflexivity, epistemic positioning, and geo-historicizing one's self and/or community. In other words, location-telling means grounding one's story of the self in one's land relationships and being explicit about one's alliances in the context of settler colonialism.

Author(s): *Katie Boudreau Morris, Carleton University*

**2. Multisided Violence as a Framework for Conceptualizing MMIWG2S+**

In June 2019, the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women released its final report, where it defined the acts of violence against Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA people as genocide. In it, the commissioners argue that this violence and its normalization is rooted in Canada's colonial past and ongoing discriminatory policies and practices that have, as a result, undermined the rights of Indigenous women, girls, and gender non-conforming individuals. In this paper, I bring together the Inquiry's conceptualization of genocide against Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA people as genocide with the framework of "multisided violence" developed by Cecilia Menjívar and Shannon Walsh (2016, 2017). Multisided violence encompasses structural, political, symbolic, everyday, legal, and gender and gendered forms. This framework is a useful analytical tool for understanding how violence against Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA people has been normalized both in the past and in the present, facilitating impunity linked to state action and inaction to prevent, investigate, punish and remedy this violence. I highlight in particular how racism and colonialism are part of the context of multisided violence, extending Menjívar and Walsh's framework and contributing to critical conversations among Indigenous, feminist, and sociological analyses.

Author(s): *Paulina Garcia Del Moral, University of Guelph*

**3. Discussions Around the Role of Leadership in Creating Safe Space for Young Indigenous Women within the Urban Context of Thunder Bay**

This thesis is part of a community-based project between Lakehead University and the Ontario Native Womens Association (ONWA). The thesis seeks to better understand safe space for young Indigenous women (18-29) in Thunder Bay. Specifically, I explore Indigenous womens leadership from the perspective of 31 participants, young Indigenous women themselves. I employ an Indigenous methodological paradigm and conduct 22 semi-structured interviews and one sharing circle for data collection. A grounded theory method was then used to analyze the collected data, where several themes emerge in relation to young Indigenous womens leadership and safe space. In our findings there is an important differentiation between formal and informal urban Indigenous leadership roles. We describe the qualities of an effective leader, which includes someone who: is supportive to other indigenous women; an advocate for the rights of indigenous people; demonstrates bravery or courageous in speaking out; inspires or guides others, especially through story or experience; demonstrates knowledge and pride for indigeneity, while teaching it to others; walks in two worlds; and has an education. I also outline the barriers that Indigenous women face in their leadership aspirations, including the negative impacts of colonialism and intergenerational trauma. The thesis concludes with four recommendations that can assist young Indigenous women in their realization of self-determined leadership goals, hopes and dreams that are part of safe spaces. These results are important because they address a gap in the literature on young Indigenous women and leadership and safe space.

Author(s): *Josie Zussino, Lakehead University*

**4. Clash of Cultures; Colonial Representation and their Implications for North/South Women**

In this presentation I will try to argue that the colonial representations of “different” cultures underlying public policies and discourses have serious implications not only for women for living in global south but also those in global north. These representations of “other” cultures as misogynistic and barbaric highlight the North American/European cultures sophistication and positive regard for women. Binary opposition constructed by the colonial representations is challenged in this presentation, and is presented as “cultural clash” to argue that it has negative implications for women in the global south as well as north. Representing “other” cultures invoke allegiance to those who are identifying with other cultures. They resist change and their belligerence reinforces gender-based discrimination. The women living in the global north also pay a price because the cultural clash invisibilizes deeply imbedded gender based discriminations intersection with neo-liberal economic policies and militarism for their context. The resources needed for changing the structural inequality they face are often directed on waging wars such as the recent one in Afghanistan which the United States and its allies erroneously represented as “feminist war”. Moreover, the focus on cultural clashes conceals the violations of women’s human rights by the western mining companies, financial institutions, and arm sale to poorer countries to repress people’s movements. The case study of the United Nations Commissions on the Status of Women will be presented to explore its discourses on the “harmful cultural practices” attributed to “other cultures” will be presented to argue that cultural clash is a strategy for perpetuating patriarchy in both the global south as well as the north.

Author(s): *Nayyar S. Javed, Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women*

**5. “Peace, Order, and good Government,” or “a wholesome dread” and “constant vigilance” ? Mapping Canada’s Affective Terrain in the West**

What does settler colonialism feel like? When the British Crown extended Canada’s ability to create its own laws, the Dominion was to do so for the “Peace, Order, and good Government of Canada.” Yet, for many peoples inhabiting these lands currently called Canada, particularly Indigenous Peoples, criminalized people, and non-white racialized people, Canada’s existence and its laws could hardly be described as peaceful. An anticolonial, feminist, affective reading of historical primary sources concerning sexual commerce, such as government debates, documents, and correspondence, local and national newspaper reportage, and court cases, reveals the affective basis of settler colonialism, providing a much clearer picture of what settler colonialism feels like. Drawing from new doctoral research on Canada’s westward expansion in the nineteenth century into Indigenous territories and its assertion of a British-Canadian patriarchal gendered order, this paper examines the prevalent and gendered affects that have characterized Canadian settler colonialism in Western Canada, such as fear, anxiety, dissonance, and guilt. This paper confronts the ways that white settlers’ comfort took priority in the Canadian west and turns to affect as a method of disturbing popular and cherished myths about Canada.

Author(s): *Sarah York-Bertram, York University*

**Interdisciplinary Feminist Sessions Bridging Divides, Building Solidarity for Change: Feminists Confronting Colonialism, Anti-Black Racism and Patriarchy**

Session Code: FEM5

Research Cluster Affiliation: Feminist Sociology

Recognising that Congress takes place on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Attawandaron (Neutral) peoples implies responsibilities. This necessarily includes meaningful engagement with Indigenous ways of being, knowing and doing. Likewise, we recognize that what is now called Canada is a site of Black slavery, from the 17th to 19th centuries, and a place where there is ongoing anti-Black racism and white supremacy.

Our interdisciplinary feminist sessions feature papers that take up the responsibilities that arise in settler colonialism, in contexts marked by the dispossession and ongoing resilience of Indigenous peoples, as well as histories of Black enslavement and Black resistance to ongoing white supremacy. Contributions grapple with the question of how to bridge divides and challenge inequities, while building solidarities for change, towards more just, ecologically sustainable relationships. They draw upon feminist critiques of patriarchy, including Indigenous and Black womanist and feminist perspectives.

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Finally, we honour the late Professor Ann Denis, one of the co-founders (with Linda Christiansen-Ruffman) of the interdisciplinary sessions. In a special session in Professor Denis' memory, we critically engage with the legacies of Professor Denis' feminist scholarship and practices, while we remember her warmth and support, especially for young feminist scholars.

Participating associations include:

- Canadian Association for Social Work Education/ Association canadienne pour la formation en travail social (CASWE/ACFTS)
- Canadian Association for the Study of Women and Education/ Association canadienne pour l'étude sur les femmes et l'éducation (CASWE/ACEFE)
- Canadian Committee on Women's History/ Comité canadien de l'histoire des femmes (CCWH/CCHF)
- Canadian Political Science Association/ Association canadienne de science politique (CPSA-ACSP)
- Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women/ Institut canadien de recherches sur les femmes (CRIA/ICREF)
- Canadian Sociological Association/ Société canadienne de sociologie (CSA/SCS)
- Society for Socialist Studies/Société pour études socialistes (SSS-SES)
- Women's and Gender Studies et Recherches Féministes (WGSRF)

Series:

Panel 1: Resisting Colonial and Anti-Black Racisms: Early Career Scholars' Panel

Hosted by: Women's and Gender Studies et Recherches Féministes (WGSRF)

Panel 2: Racialized and Colonial Institutional Violence: Reproduction and Resistance

Hosted by: CASWE – CSSE

Panel 3: Critical Conversations among Indigenous, Feminist, and Sociological Analyses

Hosted by: Canadian Sociological Association/ Société canadienne de sociologie (CSA/SCS)

Panel 4: Honouring Professor Ann Denis: A Life in Feminist Scholarship and Service

Hosted by: Canadian Sociological Association/ Société canadienne de sociologie (CSA/SCS)

Dr. Ann Denis was a vital figure in Canadian sociology and a tireless advocate for feminism and social justice, both in her scholarship and in her professional service. Her scholarship was concerned with women's lives and labour, paid and unpaid, in French and English-speaking Canada, the Caribbean Commonwealth and in France. Concerned with intersectional analysis "in practice, if not [always] in name" (Denis 2008:679), as she might have put it, Dr. Denis' work explored concerns as diverse as occupational segregation by gender and ethnicity in French and English-speaking Canada, the use of new technologies among young Québécois and Canadian women and men, the work experiences and familial trajectories of women managers, and the inequities of globalization as experienced by women in the Caribbean, among others. Whatever the specific focus, her research always foregrounded feminist perspectives, making women's lives visible, in their global diversity, while challenging the reproduction of unjust inequalities, patriarchy, sexism, xenophobias and racism, to which women are subject.

In addition to her scholarship and in keeping with her feminist commitments, Dr. Denis was very active in opening space for feminist research through her professional service. In the field of sociology, she was an important contributor in her home department at the bilingual University of Ottawa, in the Canadian Sociology and Anthropology Association (now the Canadian Sociological Association – CSA), where she was its President in 1996-97, and in the International Sociological Association, where she was on its Executive Committee from 2002-2010 and its Vice President, Research, from 2002-06. With Linda Christiansen-Ruffman, she established the CSA's Feminist Sociology Research Cluster as well as the interdisciplinary feminist sessions at Congress. A major contributor to the Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women, Dr. Denis established scholarships for young women and mentored many others. This session is being held in remembrance of Dr. Ann Denis, and in the spirit of her extraordinary feminist contributions, both scholarly and professional.

Speakers:

- Alana Cattapan, University of Waterloo
- Linda Christiansen-Ruffman, Saint Mary's University
- Elaine Coburn, Centre for Feminist Research, York University
- Marilyn Porter, Memorial University
- Terry Wotherspoon, University of Saskatchewan

## Ecofeminisms: Towards Synergistic, Sustainable, Just Climate Solutions

Session Code: FEM7

Research Cluster Affiliation: Feminist Sociology; Environmental Sociology

Today as we face acute economic and ecological challenges, young women are on the frontlines alongside scientists, politicians, farmers and indigenous community leaders -in the global climate movement. This session considers how ecofeminist ethics and politics reimagines and reconfigures interspecies relationships between humans (women in particular), non-human animals, and the whole of nature. It underscores the power of feminist, ecological and indigenous knowledges, and our responsibilities and actions to confront climate crises.

Organizer(s): *Ronnie Joy Leah, Athabasca University; Linda Christiansen-Ruffman, Saint Mary's University*

Presentations:

### **1. June 3, 2019: Fielding lessons (and policy inconsistencies) from under Vancouver skies**

Monday, June 3, 2019 marked a monumental day in Canadian history, and especially, for eco/feminist organizations in Vancouver (Unceded Coast Salish Territory). This was the day when the National Inquiry of MMIWG2SLGBTQQIA tendered its final report to end the “race, identity, and gender-based genocide” in Canada. A human rights and Indigenous rights crisis, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau would commit government action on all 231 recommendations of the report during his opening remarks later that day at the Women Deliver 2019 conference in Vancouver. It was also the day that Feminists Deliver emerged in the Downtown Eastside (DTES) of Vancouver as a counter-commentary to Women Deliver and action group to “re-envision the global womens agenda as one that centres a diversity of grassroots intersectional feminist voices.” Furthermore, it was on June 3, 2019 that Carnival Cruise Lines, including Princess and Holland America ships (which call the Port of Vancouver home) admitted to violating terms of probation from a previous conviction for discharging oily waste and covering it up. Long have social justice activists (and womxn in particular) called attention to the relationship between environment degradation, climate destabilization, and diaporic experiences of loss (e.g., dispossession, displacement, migration, fragmentation, homelessness, under-nutrition, distress, conflict, statelessness, persecution, detention, interment, encampment, infectious and communicable diseases, and other forms of epistemic, physical, and sexualized violence) that adversely impact structurally marginalized populations, notably, womxn and girls. This paper considers the implications of June 3, 2019 against the performativity of the City of Vancouver’s Greenest City Action Plan (2011-2020) and its more recent ambitions of a Womens Equity Strategy (2018-2028).

Author(s): *Essya M. Nabbali, Capilano University*

### **2. Living in our Mother's Lap: Ecofeminist and Indigenous Understandings of Earth Care**

At this juncture of human evolution, faced with the existential crisis of the climate catastrophe, we need to recover an eco-centric understanding of life which expresses our interconnectedness with the living earth. Through examining the symbols and values of the ancient Goddess cultures of Old Europe, we can envision a way forward to create a life sustaining culture in today’s world. We are beginning to understand that the Goddess cultures were the Indigenous cultures of Europe. They were characterized by values of harmony, peacefulness and cooperation, living sustainably in balance with the natural world, with non-human animals, and with each other. Humans respected the life giving power of women and they honoured the sacred Earth as our Mother, the source of all life. In today’s world, many non-Indigenous environmentalists look to traditional Indigenous knowledge keepers and activists who remember our interdependence with the natural world -- knowing that all of our survival depends on living in balance with the environment in which we are embedded. We all live in our Mother’s lap, and we forget this at our peril. In this presentation I explore ecofeminist and Indigenous understandings of earth care. I look to the values of ancient goddess cultures and the teachings of Indigenous cultures to guide us on an eco-centric life sustaining path.

Author(s): *Ronnie Joy Leah, Athabasca University*

## Sex, Sexualities, and Sexual Experiences in Canadian Society

Session Code: GAS1

Research Cluster Affiliation: Gender and Sexuality

This session broadly focuses on sexualities and sexual experiences in Canadian society. It is geared to helping us think through new empirical insights and theoretical approaches, with particular interest in those that differ from expected and institutionalized arrangements. Looking at the Canadian context, this panel addresses topics of the geopolitics of sexualities, the successes and challenges of safe spaces and providing services, the performances of identities, as well as hook-up culture.

Organizer(s): *Amanda Couture-Carron, University of Toronto; Katelin Albert, University of Toronto*

Presentations:

### 1. Understanding and Supporting LGBTQ Muslims in Social Work Practice

Over the last decade in Canada, a LGBTQ Muslim intersectionality has gained some visibility in social science research, yet, remains largely ignored within normative LGBTQ communities in the arenas of program and service provision. There especially exists a gap concerning how to best support LGBTQ Muslim and their families within the scope of the helping professions, social work practice as it relates to service provision and programming. This presentation will focus on the many hegemonic discourses that construct and influence the lives and identities of LGBTQ Muslims. An overview of the existing research on sexually and gender diverse Muslims in the global North will be outlined. This will highlight some key issues facing LGBTQ Muslims as these relate to sexuality, religiosity, gender identity and expression, families of origin, racism, and Islamophobia. Emphasis will be placed on exploring Rahman's concept of homocolonialism which offers nuanced understandings of gender and sexuality, LGBTQ rights in the global North, Islamophobia and conservative Muslim intolerance for LGBTQ rights. The presentation will argue that the three aforementioned aspects of homo-colonialism triangulate and can invisibilize LGBTQ Muslim sexualities as their identities, and lived experiences transcend hegemonic norms found in both LGBTQ and Muslim communities. In order to address the service gaps, focus will be placed on affirmation of a LGBTQ Muslim intersectionality, critical self reflexivity, and decolonization of gender and sexuality, coming out and performing of LGBTQ lives and identities.

Author(s): *Maryam Khan, Wilfrid Laurier University*

### 2. Examining Queer Safe Space(s) in Halifax: Everyday Successes & Challenges

This project examines 2SLGBTQ+ safe spaces in Halifax, Nova Scotia to gain a sense for the everyday experiences people have in these spaces, the successes and challenges associated with achieving safety, and the cultivation work that goes into maintaining these spaces. Informed by queer and feminist theories and with a focus on intersectionality, the project asks: How do queer safe spaces in Halifax operate? Why? What successes and challenges do they face in their day-to-day maintenance? I interview individuals who operate and use queer safe spaces in Halifax to address these questions. The project addresses a need to situate analyses of safe spaces in their particular social and political contexts and focus on the relational work necessary for maintaining them. Findings offer insights into the ways spaces and their members are meeting their goals of providing safety for queer folks, obstacles they encounter, and suggestions for responding to challenges.

Author(s): *Lexie Milmine, Dalhousie University*

### 3. Keeping things Casual: An Examination of Hookup Culture in a Canadian Context

This paper examines hookups, dating, and hookup culture at a mid-sized university in Ontario. Current research on hookup culture has been based in the United States where fraternities dominate the sexual landscape. The issue of whether a similar hookup culture has emerged in different social/geographical contexts remains largely unaddressed by the current literature. Using data from a mixed-methods study that employs self-administered surveys (N=196) and focus groups with undergraduate women (N=21), I investigate whether hookup culture has emerged in a different social context without a dominating fraternity culture and the impacts of the social norms of the university sexual culture on women's sexual experiences. Though the hookup scene differs in important ways, I find a similar hookup culture has emerged in my Canadian case in which casual, emotionally meaningless

sexual encounters have become the norm. In this presentation, I discuss the implications of these findings for the women who participate in this culture.

Author(s): *Nicole Andrejek, McMaster University*

#### **4. Casual Sex vs Long Term Relationships: Where Are The Reconciled Scripts for Gay Men?**

Queer men's relationships and mental health are often discussed in contexts of sexual health and HIV prevention or stigma. While some scholars have explored the dynamics of queer men's relationship models and communication strategies (Adam, 2006; Bonello, K., and Cross, M. C., 2009; Philpot, S. P. et al, 2017), there is virtually no data that examines the unique socio-cultural tensions queer men must navigate when pursuing casual sex and/or long term relationships. Further, the context of relationship-seeking is rarely discussed as a determinant of mental health for queer guys. Drawing on academic literature, anecdotal psychotherapy data, and lived experience as a racialized queer man, I will demonstrate the presence of conflicting relationship scripts for queer men and explore the social and interpersonal rewards and challenges that come with pursuing goals attached to multiple cultural scripts. In the North American context, queer men exist in a subculture where both casual sex and long term relationships are revered and criticized. There are established and competing scripts for what queer men ought to seek out for connection and pleasure. Some see casual sex as being part of queer men's liberation while others see it as a post-coming out phase until they're ready for a longer-term commitment. Similarly, a long term relationship can create the emotional space that allows queer men to heal from a homophobic world while the desire for a long term relationship can be critiqued as a symbol of internalized homophobia--upholding a dominant culture's idea of what normal is. These are a few examples of tensions that will be highlighted. Centering the context of relationship-seeking, we will develop a new framework for approaching queer men's mental health concerns by positioning them as responses to conflicting cultural scripts around casual sex and long term relationships. We will also consider what reconciled scripts can look like or what skills are needed to actualize relationship models that work for queer men. The nuances of queer men's relationship-seeking context will help therapists and future researchers working with this population, but data will be limited to experiential and anecdotal evidence.

Author(s): *Rahim S. Thawer, Affective Consulting & Psychotherapy Services*

## **Trans Experiences**

Session Code: GAS2

Research Cluster Affiliation: Gender and Sexuality

The sociology of gender and sexuality has made important contributions to the study of transgender experiences, from analyses of the development of trans identities in childhood, the parenting experiences of transgender children, the boundaries of trans identity membership, as well as violence against trans individuals and its representation in the media. This session features papers that extend current analyses of trans experiences in local and global contexts and that take into consideration how colonialism, racism, heteronormativity, heteropatriarchy, and neoliberalism contribute to trans experiences.

Organizer(s): *Paulina Garcia Del Moral, University of Guelph; Chris Tatham, University of Toronto*

Presentations:

#### **1. Transgender Psychoanalysis: Hysteria as a Heuristic for Trans\* Subjectivities**

Many transgender scholars are appropriately skeptical of the discipline of psychoanalysis, due to its fraught history of heteronormative and pathologizing representations of sex and gender (Gherovici 2011). Increasingly, transgender scholars have begun to re-appropriate psychoanalytic concepts from Freud and Lacan to explain the processes of gender acquisition and subjectivation for gender-nonconforming people (Carlson 2010; Cavanagh 2019; Gherovici 2017). In particular, these theorists have begun to reclaim the hysteric subject - a subject position that has historically been pathologized in psychoanalytic thought - as a potential heuristic for trans\* subjectivities. Hysteria is a psychoneurotic symptom which is comprised of two phantasies "of an opposite sexual character" (Freud 1990: 151) or an inability to answer the question "am I a man or am I a woman," (Lacan 1998: 171) for Freud and Lacan respectively. The apparent congruences between this ambiguously-sexed subject position and transgender articulations of identity, particularly among gender-nonconforming and non-binary subjects, have been deployed to reconcile psychoanalysis with transgender studies. This paper will explore these burgeoning



connections to help specify the exceptional position which transgender subjects occupy within normative narratives of sexualization, the psychoanalytic term for gender acquisition. Understanding that the hysteric subject represents opportunities for both pathologizing and liberatory understandings of transgender subjectivity, this paper will adjudicate between the multiple implications of this figure for transgender scholarship and for trans\* subjectivities, more broadly. Ultimately, the hysterical subject will be put forth as a heuristic through which psychoanalytic thought can begin to be reclaimed, a heuristic which will allow for more nuanced articulations of identity to be made possible.

Author(s): *Toby Anne Finlay, York University*

## **2. Trans prisoners, prisoner placement, and the racialized construction of 'risk'**

In recent years, the Canadian prison system has been working to redraft its policies to align with transgender human rights. Historically, trans prisoners have been incarcerated in sex-segregated prisons on the basis of current sex and their requests for transfer to institutions that match their gender identities have been denied because of constructed 'risks' -to institutional order and to other prisoners. Now, federal trans prisoners may be held on the basis of gender identity, unless overriding safety and health issues cannot be resolved. Accordingly, the rights of trans prisoners continue to depend on the logic of 'risk'. While discussions regarding the placement of trans prisoners have largely centred on issues of gender and sexuality, this paper argues that an analysis of the racialized construction of risk may help us to better understand the complexity of placement decisions. Using an intersectional analysis, this paper theorizes the prison's role in (re)producing the category of 'woman' one which is steeped in both cisgender- and racial-privilege. This paper reveals how the logic of 'risk' has similarly informed the placement of trans women, racialized women, and Indigenous women, ultimately operating to delineate boundaries on what is considered appropriate womanhood. Relying on the theoretical framework guiding my proposed doctoral research, this paper invokes the question of whether the rights afforded to trans prisoners function along racialized lines.

Author(s): *Leon Laidlaw, Carleton University*

## **3. The push for transgender inclusion: Exploring boundary spanning in the gay-straight alliance**

Gay-straight alliance (or gender/sexuality alliance; GSA) is a highschool based club aimed at providing a safer environment for sexual and gender minority youth as well as their straight allies. Yet, as a club historically rooted in addressing sexual orientation-related concerns, less attention has been given to understanding the changing relational dynamics of internal GSA activities aimed at expanding membership boundaries through the promotion of transgender inclusivity. I address this by bridging existing scholarship on GSAs, social movements, and the sociology of culture to showcase the impact boundary-spanning strategies are having on GSA mobilization, in-group solidarity, and external political and social activism. My findings reveal that membership boundary negotiations around gender diversity issues are shifting the social landscape of these clubs. Emerging barriers that impede boundary-spanning efforts are also highlighted and discussed. More broadly, I generate new theoretical insights into how boundary spanning can shape political and social activism as well as offer promising future research directions in this area.

Author(s): *D. Kyle Sutherland, University of British Columbia*

## **4. Accessing Public Space for Trans Youth: Navigating Cis-Normative, Neocolonial, and White Supremacist Interactions**

Little is known about how trans and gender diverse youth experience and negotiate public space. TRANS forming JUSTICE: Trans Legal Needs Assessment Ontario was an Ontario-wide mixed-methods research project that documented the experiences and legal needs of trans people 16 years and older. Data was collected from an online survey (n=232), a series of 21 focus groups, and 19 interviews; nearly one-half of the survey respondents (n=102) and sixteen of the trans focus group and interview participants identified as trans youth (16 to 29 years old). This presentation will overview the youth data on accessing public space in the following areas, 1) the quantitative findings on frequencies of public harassment and violence broken down by gender and racial identity, 2) the qualitative thematic findings on accessing public space - surveillance, identity denial, and safety, and 3) the qualitative findings regarding the different performative and navigation skills required to access public space. Overall, it is understood that youth participants utilized a range of skills to access cis-normative, neocolonial, and white supremacist space. The impact of these structures, and the ways in which these youth subvert them, will be centrally discussed.

Author(s): *Julie James, Ryerson University; Peck Ryan, HIV/AIDS Legal Aid Clinic Ontario; David Brennan, University of Toronto; Nicole Nussbaum, Legal Aid Ontario; Greta Bauer, Western University*

### 5. Shifting the Relational Lens: Cis Parents' Gender Journeys

Most research on parenting of transgender children focuses on parents' management of their young children's gender transition process. But how do parents transform their own identity as parents when their adult children come out as gender nonconforming? What other aspects of the relationship change as gendered understandings of the identities 'mother' 'father' or 'child' shift? We interview parents and trans/non-binary adult children to understand the social, psychological, and material processes involved in the transition of the parent-child relationship from cisgender understandings to new gendered frameworks. Our analysis approaches gender transition as an interactional and social process. Drawing on work on gender transitions in cisheteronormative contexts, we examine how these relationships resist and are constrained by normative cultural frameworks of parent-child relations and motherhood/fatherhood. By interviewing trans/non-binary people who have come out as adults, we extend existing literature focused on parenting children, bringing focus to how relational scripts and meanings attached to cisgender identities must shift in response to a close family member's gender transition.

Author(s): *Elliot Fonarev, University of Toronto; Franklynn Bartol, University of Toronto; Emily Hammond, University of Toronto; Rebecca Lennox, University of Toronto*

<https://www.Gender+Sexuality.impact>

Session Code: GAS3

Research Cluster Affiliation: Gender and Sexuality

This session examines the impact of rapid changes in technology and debates about diversity in media on gender and sexuality as identities and as structures of inequality. For many, technology mediates sexuality and gender expression -particularly through the rise of social media and dating apps. Technology also constitutes a platform for artistic and cultural practices as well as for galvanizing feminist solidarity and grassroots activism within Canadian and global contexts. For others, however, technology reproduces inequalities that range from unequal access to technology, a lack of diversity in media representation, to cyberbullying and technology assisted violence against women and LGBTQI2S+ individuals. Technology thus facilitates both connection and alienation.

Organizer(s): *Paulina Garcia Del Moral, University of Guelph; Chris Tatham, University of Toronto*

Presentations:

#### 1. Strange Bedfellows: Surveillance Technologies, National Security & the Making of Queer life

Although Puar's highly influential and oft-cited *Terrorist Assemblages* (2007) forges an important connection between Queerness, statecraft, and national security with respect to contemporary American and Israeli foreign policy, their association is built upon a long historical precedent. This paper traces the ongoing relationship between surveillance technologies, national security discourse, and shifting cultural notions of sexual "otherness". In doing so, it reveals how the definition of Queerness, and the technologies used to capture and describe it, coevolved in response to a series of crises: The Second World War; The Cold War; The HIV/AIDS crisis. I argue that, at each of these points of rupture, Queerness was redefined and reterritorialized in relation to novel assemblages of security discourse, technology, paranoia, and fear of contamination. The result is a long historical trajectory of increased technologization and abstraction of both the identification of Queerness - from psychiatric technologies, to the Canadian "fruit machine" to the CD4 count - and the various rationales surrounding its exclusion and abjection.

Author(s): *Brian Richard Schram, University of Waterloo*

#### 2. My boy wants to f\*\*\* you AND he's Black: Intersections of racism and misogyny in virtual manhood acts on Twitch.tv

At this stage in its development it is likely that there is a generalized lack of awareness that electronic gaming has become both a hugely popular spectator sport and lucrative career path. The advent of Twitch.tv which streams a live feed of gamers in action, allowed on-line game-play to expand from a recreational leisure activity to a billion-dollar industry. Millions of people across the world tune in daily to watch professional game "streamers" broadcasting live video footage of their game-play whilst interacting with their viewers via webcam and chat window. The current study capitalizes on the rapid emergence of pro-gaming in late-modern industry to expand

on interactionist theories of masculinities by investigating the prevalence and impact of manhood acts on the internet. Our study builds on recent studies that have identified a variety of ways young men project a masculine persona online in lieu of a male body. On conducting a content analysis of videographic data and the chat transcripts of popular male and female streamers, we discovered how interaction patterns of streamers and their audiences, result in inequitable outcomes. This study builds upon previous studies on virtual manhood acts by focusing on how race and racism intersect with gender and misogyny to reinforce the dominant masculine order. We reveal how manhood and whiteness are strategically deployed to constrain womens agency and exacerbate inequitable outcomes between male and female streamers.

Author(s): *Andrey Kasimov, McMaster University; Melanie Heath, McMaster University*

### **3. From the virtual to the real: Ontological labour as a response to digital dualism**

Online environments have become a central part of our social, private, and economic life. The term for this is digital existence (Lagerkvist, 2019), which helps mark a new epoch in mediated experience. In the last decade much attention has been paid to the problems posed to one's digital existence by technology facilitated violence and abuse (TFVA) (Citron, 2014; Powell and Henry, 2017). Using data from 15 in-depth interviews with self-identified women, this paper explores the concept of digital dualism (Jurgenson, 2011) as a barrier to support for women who have experienced TFVA. Digital dualism is the socio-ontological habit of treating online spaces as virtual and unreal and offline spaces as material and real. Many of the women in this study, the people and institutions they rely on for support, as well as the perpetrators of the abuse, exhibit this habit of treating experiences online as less real. In some cases deeming experiences as 'less real' is a coping response, but in other cases the women refute this assumption and engage in - what I call - ontological labor as a way to legitimize their emotions and responses to themselves and to others. This paper further outlines the specific barriers women experience as a result of the online/offline divide, ranging from difficulty communicating with family and friends, to being denied services by therapists and law enforcement.

Author(s): *Chandell E. Gosse, Western University*

### **4. Doing Gender Online: Masculinity, Race & Grindr**

As western society continues to migrate into an online world, gender and sexuality have become increasingly technologically mediated social processes. Through online surveys and interviews with 100 gay men who use chat-based gay social apps (such as Grindr), this paper investigates how men understand 'do' their masculinity online and how this intersects with sexualized understandings of race. This paper contends that there are two predominant types of gay masculinity online - masc-ulinity -a concentrated caricature of the perception of straight men and fluid masculinity -a form, born from understanding and experience, in which one's masculinity grows to embody elements stereotypically considered feminine. The relationship between masculinity and race is ubiquitous, yet hidden on gay social apps. In a digital realm where stated racial preferences are blatant and commonplace, racial stereotypes inform one's construction of masculinity and notions of personal sexual attraction. Racial preferences are cloaked within, and ardently justified as, preferences for a certain type of masculinity. As gay dating apps (and gay culture) continue to mainstream, these racialized understandings of masculinity and sexual attraction have the capacity to spread online, beyond the Western gay context.

Author(s): *Chris Tatham, University of Toronto*

### **5. Queering App-appropriate Behaviours: An Investigation into the Socio-Sexual Construction of Gay Online Intimacies**

Recent work within the studies of gay men's online intimacies has begun to investigate the interconnections between normative gay subjectivities, gay online spaces, and structures of neoliberal individualism (Bonner-Thompson, 2017; Stempfhuber and Liegel, 2016; Tzialis, 2015). Many have begun to theorize queer technologies as "counterpublic" spaces (Warner, 2002) where queer sexualities and intimacies are simultaneously limited by, and challenging of, heteronormative, colonial, racist, and patriarchal structures imbued within late modernity (Raj, 2011; Shaw and Sender, 2016). For gay, bisexual, and queer men, online dating and "hook-up" socio-sexual apps, such as Grindr and Scruff, are immensely popular means for meeting other men interested in men (Aunspach, 2019; Yeo and Fung 2018). While these apps are marketed as online "communities," anonymous "no-strings attached" hook-ups are generally privileged online, leaving feelings of ambivalence and pressures to "marketize" the "gay self" online under forms of neoliberal governance (Chan, 2018; Goldberg, 2018; Kong, 2019). Drawing from affect theory (Ahmed, 2004), and Foucauldian Discourse Analysis (Foucault, 1979, 1990), this presentation will engage with qualitative doctoral research of 40 gay, bisexual, and queer identified individuals from a large urban region who either utilize gay socio-sexual applications or specialize in online outreach work within gay

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online communities regarding the construction of gay intimacies within gay socio-sexual apps and online hook-up cultures. Through a Foucauldian analysis of these semi-structured interviews, this presentation will explicate how participants described governmentally disciplining themselves and their emotional productions and connections to other men (and resisting such disciplining) within gay socio-sexual online apps.

Author(s): *Adam Davies, University of Guelph*

### Intersectionality & Masculinities

Session Code: GAS4

Research Cluster Affiliation: Gender and Sexuality

This session focuses on intersectional approaches to masculinities. Though the notion of 'toxic masculinity' has garnered much attention in the media, popular culture and academia in recent years, it has arguably produced a narrow conceptualization of the relationship between masculinity and power. It has also marginalized the varieties of masculinities that exist, including their positive healthy and positive elements. The questions that motivate this panel are: What are the contributions of an intersectional perspective to studying masculinities and the power relations that constitute them in local and global contexts? How do race, class, sexuality, ability, nationality, religion, and other structures of inequality intersect to shape how men 'do' gender? What are the contributions and limitations of intersectional analyses to studying the role of colonialism in the social construction of masculinities?

Organizer(s): *Paulina Garcia Del Moral, University of Guelph; Chris Tatham, University of Toronto*

Presentations:

#### **1. "You feel like you are holding a piece of kryptonite and you can't do crap" : Experiences of chronic illness and disability in the narratives of men with Fibromyalgia (FM)**

This paper examines the intersections of masculinity, disability, and impairment through the narratives of men who have Fibromyalgia (FM). Drawing on critical disability theory and the analysis of six in-depth, qualitative interviews with men in Canada and the United Kingdom, I argue that the onset of FM marks a disruptive shift in how the men perceive themselves and their bodies. Specifically, the interviews reflect how becoming chronically ill and disabled disrupted the men's understandings of themselves and their bodies as strong, productive, and capable. In addition, the men's narratives highlight the tensions between the men's experiences of impairment and disability and what they believe it means to be a "real man" and fulfill the roles of husband and father. I argue that the men's narratives reflect how ableist ideas intersect with gender stereotypes, as well as the complex interaction between varying degrees of embodied impairment effects (such as, pain, fatigue, and cognitive "fogginess") and oppressive assumptions and stereotypes about masculinity and disability. The findings suggest that while men with FM would benefit from help to manage impairment effects, it is also necessary to change oppressive ideas and attitudes about masculinity and disability while ensuring that men with FM have access to social support and accommodations.

Author(s): *Tiffany Boulton, University of Calgary*

#### **2. Homelessness, Hip-Hop, and Black Masculinity in Toronto**

This paper explores the links between hip-hop culture and homelessness within Toronto and centres youth homeless shelters as spaces where Black male youth are able to adapt a masculinity defined through their social location of "being straight from the street". Unhealthy notions of masculinity brought forth through hip-hop culture are explored in the context of homelessness. Connections between protest masculinity, anti-Black racism, and the afrocentric nature of hip-hop culture are explored to help provide context for young people's adaptation of unhealthy notions of masculinity. A historical analysis of the sexual politics of Black Men in North America is provided alongside an exploration of the role of Black music in both resisting and reinscribing dominant notions of Black masculinity. Hip-hop culture, and rap music largely, are presented as the evolutionary next stage in Black male resistance of dominant stereotypes. The ability of a capitalist based counter-culture to resist dominant notions of Black masculinity are proposed as responsible for the reinscription of dominant stereotypes by both blues and hip-hop. Suggestions for teasing apart positive messages of Black masculinity from racist tropes within

hip-hop culture are suggested as a strategy to help highly marginalized Black youth create their own conceptions of masculinity that resist dominant forms of anti-Black racism so frequently presented in dominant media.

Author(s): *Anna Lippman, York University*

### **3. Achieving Idealized Masculinity: The body talk of involuntarily celibate (Incel) men.**

Men are increasingly reporting delayed onset of sexual debut. For instance, from 2002-2014, the rate of men aged 22-35 reporting no sexual activity across their lifetime has nearly doubled. Some of these men refer to themselves as “involuntarily celibate” or “incels,” and have formed online communities to discuss their failures in achieving heterosexual relationships. In this study, we use grounded theory to analyze 9062 comments collected over a 3-month period from a popular incel website, focusing particularly on how incels view male bodies. All comments were coded using Nvivo 12tm software for qualitative data analysis. We find that: 1) incels reference their unappealing physical attributes (e.g., thin wrists and weak jawlines) as a primary reason for their romantic failings, 2) incels contrast their bodies to those of men perceived as extremely attractive to women, such as notable actors and athletes, and 3) incels discuss and pursue surgeries, such as leg-lengthening and brow-bone reduction, to alter their bodies and bring them in-line with these idealized masculine bodies, with such surgeries positioned as a means to secure romantic success. We discuss study findings by combining aspects of medicalization theory and hegemonic masculinity theory to address how masculine ideals shape medical consumer movements.

Author(s): *Kayla Preston, Dalhousie University; Michael Halpin, Dalhousie University*

### **4. Digital Hegemony: Theorizing Masculinities on Stormfront.org**

Theories of hegemonic masculinity argue that different groups of men stratified by race, class, and sexual orientation continually challenge the hegemonic position of some men resulting in it being a dynamic configuration that changes over time. However, this study adopts a novel approach by looking at the struggle for hegemony in a group of men characterized by relative homogeneity in their social location and political beliefs. To do so, a content analysis of the white supremacist website stormfront.org was undertaken to theorize the masculinities that exist in this space. My findings revealed two distinct types of masculinity co-existing on the forum that actively engage in a struggle for dominance in the movement which I term ‘hegemonic Aryan masculinity’ and ‘misogynistic protest masculinity.’ those employing Aryan masculinity see themselves as privileged by their social location (i.e., whiteness and masculinity) and are the assumed authorities on the website through their championing of rationality, family values, and traditional gender roles. In contrast, protest misogynists view themselves as disadvantaged by their race and gender causing them to “compensate” by lashing out vitriolically against women and minorities and advocating violence and aggression to restore men to their ‘rightful’ dominance. These findings suggest that men’s subjective interpretation of their social location causes similarly-positioned men to enact opposing forms of masculinity by reconceptualizing ideologies of race and gender to serve their goals. Those seeing themselves as privileged consolidate their advantages by drawing on the collective power of their social location to authorize their individual sense of superiority. Conversely, men viewing themselves as disadvantaged relinquish broader investments in whiteness and white supremacy in their attempt to gain dominance over women thus placing themselves in a marginal position in the forum.

Author(s): *Jillian Sunderland, University of Toronto*

### **5. “Di Only Panty I See is Mi Wife” : Nocturnal Rumbblings in Canada's Seasonal Agricultural Worker's Program**

For over half century, generations of black men have been leaving their families behind in Jamaica to work in the Canadian agriculture industry, mostly across southern Ontario. While in Canada, these farmworkers not only labour on the farm to which they have been assigned but their temporary residences are also located on the farm or near to it. Given the fact that these men are away from their wives, in some cases for up to eight months, it raises questions about how they manage their erotic desires. Utilizing qualitative field data collected in Jamaica throughout the winter and spring of 2017, this paper looks at how mature Jamaican farmworkers govern sexual relations in their wives’ absence while working in the Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program (SAWP) in Canada. Locating the responses of post-SAWP farmworkers in Butler’s notion of gender regulation along with debates on Caribbean masculinities, this paper counters how Jamaican males have been scripted in literature and the media about their promiscuity when they are dispatched abroad, along with notions that Caribbean males are socialized to ‘roam’ freely in the wider community. Thus, the paper reveals that the Christian principles that older farmworkers adhere to have a significant influence on the fidelity of their marriage relationships.

Author(s): *Edward H. Thomas, York University; Everton G. Ellis, OISE, University of Toronto*

## The Politics of Race, Sexuality, Gender, and Nation in Rightwing Populism

Session Code: GAS5

Research Cluster Affiliation: Gender and Sexuality

At the center of these turbulent political times, sexuality, gender, and race continue to act as building blocks for defining nationhood and belonging. Racial, ethnic, and national boundaries are also gendered and sexualized. Conservative and populist politics exemplify these intersections. For example, Bolsonaro's victory in Brazil is a conservative and fundamentalist Christian response to women's visibility in the public sphere and to the recognition of LGBTQ rights. These reactionary politics, along with xenophobic policies, mark a boundary of who belongs that threatens women, poor, black, indigenous, and LGBTQ communities. This panel will bring together papers on how the changing cultural and political terrain of nations towards rightwing populism are intimately tied to race, sexuality and gender.

Organizer(s): *Melanie Heath, McMaster University*

Presentations:

### **1. Policing the Body: The Effects of Trump Administration Policies on Transgender People in the United States**

This paper seeks to explore how the Trump administration's immigration policies in the United States, primarily designed to identify undocumented immigrants, have translated to a disciplining of transgender bodies, regardless of their immigration or citizenship status. These policies are examined from the perspectives of homonationalism and queer necropolitics, wherein white, middle class, patriotic members of the LGBTQ community are accepted as "good" citizens while others are excluded and effectively erased. The Trump administration has increasingly used such policies to exclude transgender individuals from (homo)nationalist narratives, mirroring tactics that characterized the post-9/11 period. Without changing the mechanisms through which transgender people are legally able to legitimize their gender identity, members of this community will continue to be marked as enemy "others" who do not fit into United States definitions of citizenship and nationalist identity.

Author(s): *Isabel Lucy Krakoff, York University*

### **2. Convergences of anti-genderism, anti-migration and anti-gypsyism in rightwing populism: A View from East-Central Europe**

This paper explores the dynamics of right-wing populism in post socialist east-central Europe and the specific forms it takes in the Hungarian context. Focusing on the country's largest ethnic minority, the Roma, the paper explores how right-wing populism in Hungary brings together an anti-migration agenda and a backlash to what the Hungarian government has termed "gender ideology" with the region's historically-produced racism about 'gypsies.' the paper analyzes the ways in which east-central European governments have framed issues such as feminism, refugee rights, and anti-racism as colonial impositions from the "west," particularly the liberal elites of the European union. Importantly, I make sense of the overlaps and convergences between east European anti-gypsyism, the Hungarian state's anti-migrant agenda, and the dynamics of post socialist anti-genderism by rooting my analysis in a political economy perspective that is attentive to the ways in which the rise of right-wing nationalism in the region is connected to post socialist austerity and contemporary neoliberal capitalism. As such, the paper asks: to what extent do recent post socialist class dispossessions play a role in the right-wing mobilization of anti-genderism, anti-gypsyism and anti-migration in Hungary? The paper is based on my doctoral fieldwork with roma who have fled this increasingly right-wing context to seek asylum in Canada: in the last decade Hungarian roma have formed one of the largest groups of refugee claimants in the Canadian asylum regime. Hence, based on the experiences of Romani refugees in Toronto, I make comparisons between the so-called 'liberal' refugee and gender-related policies of the Canadian state with the 'illiberal' ones of Hungary as a way to interrogate the operation of orientalist dichotomies within discussions on post socialist populism. Ultimately, I argue that there are crucial similarities between Hungarian 'illiberalism' and Canadian 'liberalism' that become obscured in discourses that rely on stereotypes about an anti-democratic and post-communist eastern Europe.

Author(s): *Sara Elizabeth Swerdlyk, Central European University*



**3. “We Must Break the Shackles of White Guilt!” Discourses of Gender, Race and Nationalism in Canadian Right-Wing Extremist Groups**

Right-wing extremist groups are on the rise in Canadian society. Right-wing extremist groups in the Canadian context are creating a sense of nationalism by calling to patriarchal notions of masculinity, heterosexuality and whiteness. This paper examines how Canadian right-wing extremist groups create the racial, sexual and gender “Other” in what has been described as a multicultural Canada. Using literature on whiteness, nationalism and authoritarianism, my research examines how right-wing extremist groups in Canada are part of a reaction to the belief that heterosexual white cis-gender men are being displaced. I conduct a critical discourse analysis of 300 Facebook and Twitter posts from the accounts of three Canadian right-wing extremist groups, ID Canada, Soldiers of Odin BC and Yellow Vests Canada. On these social media platforms, themes such as anti-queerness, white guilt and assimilation are used to define who does and does not belong in the nation space. By discussing these themes, this paper also examines how right-wing extremist groups are working to maintain the current gender, sexual and racial social order in Canadian society which has benefited white cis-gender men since colonization.

Author(s): *Kayla Preston, Dalhousie University*

**4. Radical Women: Cross-National Gender Variations in Radical Right Support in the Nordic Countries**

Western Europe has, in recent decades, seen a significant rise in radical right politics. The Nordic nations - Denmark, Finland, Norway, and Sweden - despite their international reputations as gender egalitarian welfare paradises, are no exception to this trend. Despite the appropriation of gender egalitarian language by much of the Nordic radical right, both the leader and voting bases of these parties remains overwhelmingly male. There is little consensus in the literature on the gender gap in radical right voting, with explanations focusing alternately on differences in values between men and women, or in differences in structural location. Using an analysis relying on country-specific logistic regressions, I shed light on both the cross-national differences in the gender gap in radical right voting between the four Nordic nations, and its drivers, in an aim to further understanding of the relative importance of attitudinal and structural influences on voting behaviour.

Author(s): *Maria Sigridur Finnsdottir, University of Toronto*

**Gender and Sexuality Omnibus**

Session Code: GAS6

Research Cluster Affiliation: Gender and Sexuality

This session features research broadly focused on gender and sexualities. It bridges conversations of partnership and relationships, media, gender, and sexualities.

Organizer(s): *Katelin Albert, University of Toronto*

Presentations:

**1. Who Gets Hitched? Selectivity into Partnership among Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Heterosexual Individuals**

Using data from the 2007 to 2017 Canadian Community Health Surveys (CCHS), we document how selectivity into partnership varies by sexual orientation. Specifically, we focus in on how single versus partnered individuals vary in terms of age, educational attainment, occupational status, labor force engagement, and health. Our evidence provides insights into the process of mate selection in the wake of same-sex marriage equality. We find that the incidence and correlates of marriage and cohabitation vary by sexual orientation, with heterosexual men the most likely to be married and most positively selected into marriage. For heterosexual men, age, children, income, education, hours worked and good health were all strong predictors of partnership. Selection was weaker for gay men, especially for labor supply and income. There was little that predicted partnership for bisexual men. For both heterosexual men and gay men, the predictors of living common-law were weaker than for marriage. With the exception of education, labor supply and income were not strong predictors of marriage for heterosexual women. For lesbians, age, children and education were predictive of marriage. Income was a strong predictor of common-law but not marriage of lesbian women. We discuss the implications of these findings below.

Author(s): *Sean Waite, Western University; Vesna Pajovic, Western University; Nicole Denier, University of Alberta*

**2. “We Grew Up Listening to Heterosexuals Singing About Heterosexual Sh\*t” : Representations of Queerness in Tegan and Sara Song Lyrics**

Representations of queer people in the media have risen, but queer people are still disproportionality underrepresented and incorrectly presented in the media. Representation is vital for queer people as it leads to enhanced understandings of what it means to be queer. Critical studies of media have often overlooked the impact of music on the experiences of queer people, especially that of queer-identifying musicians. This research works to correct this oversight by conducting a content analysis of two queer artists, Tegan and Sara. My research incorporates a critical discourse analysis of the song lyrics written by Tegan and Sara. Through analyzing these lyrics and considering various factors, including representations and narratives surrounding queer politics, relationships, and sexuality, I identify a number of polysemic meanings in these lyrics and argue that they provide more affirming and accurate representations of queer experience.

Author(s): *Katherine Merritt, Dalhousie University*

**3. The virtual is not reality: Feminine gender norm reproduction and masculine exclusion in the illness construction work of Binge Eating Disorder.**

This paper explores the social construction of Binge Eating Disorder (BED) in online patient support groups. Through discourse analysis of Facebook groups we find that the illness experience is primarily represented by women in these online spaces and thus reproduces troupes associated with heteronormative feminine gender expression. These findings are a departure from the prevalence literatures which demonstrate similar rates for BED between those identifying as men or women. This paper explores potential explanations for this inequality of representation (e.g. normalized expectations of the body as a gender project for women and a silencing of diversity in representations of masculinities and femininities) and effects this may have on the experience and construction of this mental illness.

Author(s): *Kate Jean Hickey, Red Deer College*

**Resisting the Prescription: Discourses of Health, Nation, and Race in Canada**

Session Code: HEA1

Theme: Health

The notion of “health” is anything but transparent. Instead, as Jonathan Metzl insists in the introduction to *Against Health*, health is “a term replete with value judgments, hierarchies, and blind assumptions that speak as much about power and privilege as they do about well-being” (2010, 2). Health may be “a desired state, but it is also a prescribed state and an ideological position” (2). In the name of health, bodies are policed and constrained, eating closely monitored, and play recast as “exercise.” This surveillance masks ideological judgments - steeped in discourses of race and nation - about which bodies are “healthy,” which foods are nutritious, and how young people should move in and through the world.

Organizer(s): *Ali Greey, University of Toronto; Jessica Fields, University of Toronto*

Presentations:

**1. No way to live: Fat bodies on reality television**

The global panic regarding the “obesity epidemic” has resulted in fatness becoming an increasingly stigmatized social identity; LeBesco (2004) goes so far as to state that fat people “constitute society’s ‘haunting abject’” (p. 28). Raisborough (2016) suggests that reality television is “the main site where larger people are overrepresented and where connotations of health/weight are at their most normalized” (p. 78). Indeed, reality television serves as a form of public pedagogy about body fat, inciting “lipoliteracy” (Graham, 2005) -or how we ‘read’ and conceptualize fat, contributing to the surveillance of fat people and their behaviours. Using The Learning Channel’s *My 600lb Life* as a case study, this chapter explores how reality television relies on biopedagogies (Rail and Lafrance, 2009) to frame fatness as a disease requiring lifestyle and medical interventions. Specifically, I argue that reality television uses non-fat medical experts (Boero, 2012; Mayes, 2016) to identify chaotic bodies in need of containment. This discourse contributes to the ‘slow death’ (Berlant, 2007) that fat people - and other non-normative bodies, including racialized and (dis)abled people -experience as ‘bad bio-citizens’ (Halse, 2009) in the

form of social exclusion, alienation, and the resulting social, political, and material consequences rooted in anti-fat rhetoric.

Author(s): *Layla Cameron, Simon Fraser University*

## **2. 'I Avoid Them Like the Plague': Examining Binary-Gendered Facilities as Preclusive Portals to Trans Inclusion in the Public Sphere.**

Drawing on in-depth interviews with transgender and gender non-binary (trans) people, I examine how binary-gendered restrooms and locker rooms operate as what I term "preclusive portals," crucial sites which both impede the ability of trans people to access public space and spatially materialize binary constructions of gender as universal and compulsory. I argue that fear inspired by quotidian experiences of violence and social alienation within these spaces acts as a significant barrier to trans people moving through the public sphere and, in the case of locker rooms, participating in physical activity. These spaces, I argue, offer an opportunity to deepen our interrogation of dominant health discourses in two ways: 1) They are spaces discursively represented as crucial to the health of the nation, spaces where the nation's social and moral hygiene is seen as under threat by trans bodies. 2) Binary-gendered facilities have a significant impact on the health of trans people, both in terms of physical health -for example, as spaces where violence is perpetrated and key spaces for accessing physical activity, medical institutions, etc. -as well as emotional/mental health -as spaces where gender identity and social inclusion is affirmed and/or disavowed -(Cavanagh, 2010; Herman, 2013; Sykes, 2011). Gender scrutiny in these facilities, I argue, is characterized by surveillance and scrutiny that is linked not only to gender purity, but also to the production and boundary maintenance of white middle-class respectability politics. Through exploring these facilities as "preclusive portals," I aim to address the structural and architectural exclusion of trans people, as well as to further theorize the concepts of surveillance, boundary maintenance, and the public/private divide. Drawing on intersectional theory, I argue that binary-gendered facilities pose a heightened barrier for trans people of colour, who regularly face intersecting and heightened forms of scrutiny and hostility within these spaces.

Author(s): *Ali Greey, University of Toronto*

## **3. Bartering with the Fate of the Nation: Imagination, Health and the Unfit Body**

In this paper we examine how health, policy and conflicting imaginaries of embodied fitness relate to intersecting identities, regulatory practices and government of bodies. To unravel the entanglements of the un/fit body and citizenship, notions of healthism (Crawford, 1980), biopedagogy (Harwood, 2009; MacNeill and Rail, 2010; Wright, 2009), and C.W. Mills's notion of the sociological imagination (1959) are adapted. Institutional imaginations of such agencies as ParticipACTION and the Canadian Fitness and Lifestyle Research Institute entwine with individual imaginations to anticipate what has influence on future health and how the stories of health possibilities are told and taken up. Using malleable methodologies to get socially embedded understandings of 'health risk' (Kriger, 2018), and socio-metaphoric analysis of physical activity "Report Cards" the contested visions of the Canadian population are examined. Socially and politically situated bodies in the present negotiate a variety of federal claims - what they should be doing, how they should be acting, what they should be eating - if they want to attain a 'healthy future'. The possibilities of 'salubritory imaginations' not stifled by neoliberal narratives of self-responsibility, self-surveillance and culpability for the state of a nation declared to be 'unfit' are raised.

Author(s): *Margaret MacNeill, University of Toronto; Debra Kriger, University of Toronto*

## **Critical sociology of donation**

Session Code: HEA2

Theme: Health

The landscape of donation is growing increasingly complex as advancements in the sciences and technologies make possible the collection, storage and use of an expanding number of biological materials and data for a range of clinical and health research purposes. Blood, plasma, stem cells, organs, oocytes, feces, and genetic information are just some of the materials and data that are donated, and in some cases redistributed, within and across various clinical and research contexts. The establishment of biobanks and new uses for bio-materials, such as umbilical cord blood, have contributed to changing expectations regarding donation, may ascribe new meanings to biomaterials/data and the people and bodies from which they are derived, and offer novel opportunities for identity formation. Heeding Dimond and colleagues' (2019) call for a critical sociology of donation, this session aims to bring together scholars who apply critical theoretical and methodological frameworks offered by sociology

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and related disciplines and approaches (e.g., critical race theory, feminist theory, medical anthropology, STS, ethics) to explore the social, political, historical, and personal contexts and implications of donation.

Organizer(s): *Jennie Haw, Canadian Blood Services; Jessica Polzer, Western University; Matthew Strang, York University*

Presentations:

### **1. The Visual and Textual Discursive Representations of Egg 'Donation' and Surrogacy on Canadian and International Medical Broker and Fertility Clinic Websites.**

Reproductive tourism is a global fertility service marketplace with multiple stakeholders and entry points. These include healthcare providers, hospitality service workers, pharmaceutical companies, lawyers, fertility clinics, hospitals, medical brokers and those who provide the raw materials: the men and women who provide gametes and the women who carry and give birth to children according to surrogacy arrangements. Using a feminist critical discourse analysis, this paper explores the normative, discursive representations of women who provide their eggs and are surrogates for reproductive tourists depicted on Canadian and international medical broker and fertility clinic websites. I argue that the egg provider's and surrogate's narratives are culturally embedded and reference an ethical norm regarding how egg 'donation' and surrogacy should be conducted - namely, part of a gift economy. The narratives highlight the gendered altruistic experiences of these women with no reference to the labour they perform, the potential short and long-term side effects of egg 'donation' and surrogacy, and minimize the unequal power relations that exist between reproductive tourists, egg providers and surrogates.

Author(s): *Penny Melissa Dowdoff, Institute for Better Health*

### **2. 'Expressing' Altruism: human breast-milk donation meets biotech**

The donation of human breast milk to babies whose mothers cannot lactate is as old as humans themselves. But new attempts to commodify and commercialize donated human breast milk raises questions about the ethics and social implications of turning this "liquid gold" into an actual gold-mine for the biotech sector. There is early evidence that companies that rely on donated human breast milk target racialized and low-income communities for donation, and women are reimbursed at a rate disproportionate to what the companies make from these donations after having gone through invasive personal 'screening' to establish their suitability to donate. This paper seeks to examine the ethical and social implications of what happens when altruism, expressed through donation, is exploited for commercial gain, and what the role of the biotech sector has been turning a human fluid into a medicine. It also uses Foucauldian theory to explain how this has been made possible by public health and the "breast is best" messaging over the last several decades. This presentation seeks to examine this phenomenon and its implications for the very notion of "donation" through the lens of public health ethics using a notion of embodied solidarity.

Author(s): *Alison Thompson, University of Toronto*

### **3. From the incinerator to the bank: advancing donation studies in Canada**

In 1989, Dr. Eliane Gluckman and colleagues successfully treated a young boy with Fanconi's anemia by transplanting blood stem cells collected from the umbilical cord blood of his sibling. According to many commentators, this marked a significant shift in how western biomedicine viewed cord blood: from "medical waste," to be disposed of in the incinerator after birth, to "clinical gold," to be banked for potential future use. Since 2015, women and couples who give birth in one of four collection site hospitals may donate to the Canadian Blood Services' Cord Blood Bank, Canada's national public bank. As such, for many pregnant women and expecting parents, what to do with the cord blood after birth has become a new site of health, social, and moral consideration. This talk presents results from a qualitative study examining cord blood donor experiences (n=76). We consider the social and organizational contexts that shape women's participation in donation and the broader values of communitarianism, mutuality, and reciprocity enacted through donation. Lastly, we reflect on how these social values advance conventional understandings of altruism and "the gift" metaphor in donation scholarship and suggest new ways to engage public participation in building vital public health resources.

Author(s): *Jennie Haw, Canadian Blood Services; Jessica Polzer, Western University*

### **4. Reproductive Bargaining: Coming to Terms with Egg Donation**

Egg donation, and specifically concerns about payment for donor eggs, have been the subject of much socio-ethical debate. Debate ranges from whether non-patient egg donation should be permitted at all, given the physical, psychological and emotional risks, to whether payment for egg donation crowds out nonmarket values, like

altruism, and is coercive. Little existing research, however, has explored egg donors' perceptions of egg donation. In this paper, I rely on interview data with 16 Canadian egg donors to explore egg donors' appraisals of the "worth" of egg donation. Egg donors identified a number of losses of egg donation, such as the length of the process, commitment involved, and physical and emotional side effects. Gains that they identified included the ability to pass on their genes through donation, helping and gratitude, and the relationship they developed with the recipient intended parents. Through their narratives, egg donors contributed to answering some of the semantic questions around egg donation. These include: What is the value and meaning of an egg? When an egg donor is paid, what is this payment for? How do egg donors and intended parents earmark money that is exchanged in egg transactions? Ultimately, I argue that egg donors are in a sense "economic actors" (Haimes et al., 2012) who thoughtfully evaluate the losses and gains of the transaction and base their decision to donate (and often to donate again) in whether or not the transaction is "worth it" for them.

Author(s): *Kathleen Hammond, McGill University*

### **5. Proposing a Sociology of Donation: The Donation of Body Parts and Products for Art, Education, Research or Treatment**

This paper advances the case for a 'sociology of donation'. In developing a sociology of donation, we are primarily focusing on the donation of 'body parts' -tissue, organs, gametes -and 'body products' such as blood, aborted fetuses, and breast milk. We aim to establish that there is a need for such a sociology, to bring together the many, often disparate, elements that make up the theorizing, practice and experience of donation. We argue that bringing together different forms of donation illuminates the distinctive place both in social meaning and regulation that the body and its products hold. We will first outline the standard accounts of donation, and consider how relevant these are to donation practices and policies in the twenty first century. We will then critically discuss how a sociology of donation can be used to further current understandings of 'donation' and identify the challenges facing such a proposal, posing questions to encourage reflection on research practices in this area. Finally, we will explore what a sociology of donation might entail.

Author(s): *Laura Machin, Lancaster University*

### **How do Quebec health and social care workers strive to better meet the needs of asylum seekers, refugees and immigrants?**

Session Code: HEA3

Theme: Health

In the context of growing anti-migrant sentiment and where care-providers (e.g., social workers, nurses, psychologists) are faced with budgetary and time constraints and policies that limit access to care and services, new and innovative approaches are needed for working with migrant populations. In this cross-sectoral, interdisciplinary session we will discuss the social and health needs of asylum seekers, refugees, and immigrants in Quebec and present diverse approaches for addressing their needs. Three case examples, based on practice and research with migrant populations, will be presented. This session aligns with the conference theme by presenting strategies that consider the complex and difficult circumstances in which migrants live, including structural inequalities, in order to better respond to their health and social care needs.

Presentations:

#### **1. Lisa Merry, University of Montreal**

In this presentation, Dr. Merry will present results from an integrative literature review, which aimed to determine what is known regarding transnational ties and the health and social care of migrant families during pregnancy, postpartum and early childhood. Following the examination of 79 articles which described a range of care, services and programs (e.g., prenatal classes, doula services, pregnancy Mhealth support, early childhood programs), little evidence was found regarding whether and how care-providers' take into account transnational ties. However, many services and programs do consider migrant families' cultural ties to the home country (i.e., cultural traditions related to perinatal health and raising and caring for children) and there is some literature that suggests care-providers empathize and may offer support and information on family reunification processes for families dealing with separation from loved ones. Implications of these findings for care and future research will be discussed.

**2. Stella Tiné, Centre de recherche en santé publique (CRéSP), École de santé publique, University of Montreal**

Dr Tiné will present results from a pilot community-based project. A qualitative approach using 22 semi-structure interviews and 2 focus group was employed to document the HIV cascade of care among Uninsured migrant people living with HIV/AIDS (PLHIV) and identify key individual and contextual barriers to HIV testing and treatment access. The study used thematic analysis for its data analysis. We highlighted how shared models of care delivered through services corridors allow migrant PLHIV without health insurance to access ART. To assist this group, various HIV services providers has developed a treatment access program. We found that collaboration and partnership between different actors, community organization, volunteer health professionals, social workers, pharmaceutical companies and some public health facilities and laboratories was essential for improving access to screening, care, blood tests and ART for uninsured migrants PLHIV. This study brought relevant information in order to provide a guide for community workers and health professionals to refer uninsured people. There is a need to observe and describe individual cascades of care and related outcomes across distinct geographic, social and political settings for migrant PLHIV in order to guide decisions about the implementation of HIV/AIDS treatment scale-up to all PLHIV in Canada without considering immigration status.

**3. Naima Bentayeb, CIUSSS du Centre-Ouest-de-l'Île-de-Montréal and Dr Leclair Mallette, CIUSSS du Centre-Ouest-de-l'Île-de-Montréal**

Dr. Bentayeb and Dr. Leclair Mallette will present the main results of their in-depth investigation of a unique program specialized in attending asylum seekers' needs (PRAIDA). Through qualitative approach, the evaluators facilitated the co-construction of the program logic model in collaboration with the stakeholders. Three data collection methods were used: a short survey, focus groups and a documentary analysis. The survey consisted on open questions on the program components and was filled out by 35 program employees and managers. The survey's answers served as a basis to elicit discussion in the eight focus groups in which 49 employees participated. The evaluators also gathered 108 documents about the program to have a historical comprehension of structural and systemic changes. The data were triangulated using thematic analysis. Mainly, the evaluators described the services offered, the operating processes and the specialized expertise the program employees developed along the way. The logic model was validated with the stakeholders. Some interesting challenges employees face were discussed and some suggestions were introduced to the managers. This evaluation had made many contributions. Especially, collaborating with stakeholders fostered a common vision of the program, and the evaluator's recommendations guided positives changes within the program structure.

## Health and Illness and Wellbeing

Session Code: OMN1A

Theme: Health

This panel explores wellness, health and healthcare, mental health, aging and dying.

Organizer(s): *Tina Fetner, McMaster University*

Presentations:

**1. Vulnerable and At-Risk: Who Goes Missing from Canadian Hospitals?**

International literature on missing persons suggests a significant volume of missing person cases originate from hospitals and mental health units, resulting in considerable costs, resources, and service demands on both police and health sectors (e.g., Bartholomew, Duffy, and Figgins, 2009; Bowers, Jarrett, Clark, Kiyimba, and McFarlane, 2000; Sowerby and Thomas, 2017). In the Canadian context, however, very little is known about incidents of patients reported missing from health services, or otherwise absconding from hospital care -a knowledge deficit with profound implications in terms of identifying and addressing risk factors that can contribute to this phenomenon. The present study draws on data from a sample of approximately 8,300 closed missing person reports collected from a Canadian municipal police service (2013 to 2018). Using multiple logistic regression, we identify, among other factors, who is most likely to be reported missing from these locations. Results reveal that several factors, such as drug/alcohol dependency and senility, are significantly related to this phenomenon.



Author(s): *Lorna Ferguson, Western University; Laura Huey, Western University*

## **2. The Impacts of Whiteness in Canadian Healthcare: Drawing from a Racialized Patient's Perspectives**

I trace my experience as someone who suffers from severe atopic dermatitis in order to display how the lack of diversity and the abundance of white doctors and medical professionals in the Canadian healthcare system has resulted in a tremendous amount of mental anguish and anxiety for me. I specifically describe my experiences to illustrate the vulnerability of those suffering from severe atopic dermatitis (and other health issues) in the wider context of the multi-billion dollar Canadian dermatology market, how we lose power and agency over our own bodies, and how the lived experiences of racialized patients are frequently and often minimized, dismissed, and denied by white healthcare providers and a wider white healthcare system that is not equipped to serve a diverse population; rather, the system is designed to oppress us. As part of a solution-focused approach, I integrate considerations about how greater openings for immigrant professionals in the Canadian healthcare system would fill the very large vacuum which exists in the system.

Author(s): *Hibah Sidat, OISE, University of Toronto; Hibah Sidat, OISE, University of Toronto*

## **3. What Accounts for the Mental Health of People Living in Atlantic Canada?**

This paper analyzes the factors influence to the mental health of people living in Atlantic Canadian provinces. The publicly used micro file of the Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS) 2014 data have been used in this study. Mood disorders (MD) and anxiety disorders (AD) have been considered to measures mental health conditions. Results of this paper reveal that immigration category, sex, and yearly household income variables are significantly associated with both mood-and anxiety disorders of people of this area. Compared to the Canadian-born population, immigrants; compared to females, males; and compared to lower income holders (yearly household income no or less than \$20,000), higher income holders appear to have better mental health in the context of these two mental health measures. However, the relationship between marital status and the both mental health measure is found to be insignificant. For all other socioeconomic and demographic variables, the results differ based on the measure of mental health used. For example, on average, compared to whites, visible minorities tend to have a higher level of AD, while for MD this variable appears to be insignificant. For Age, compared to the youth (12-24 years old) group, people of from all other age-group tend to have a higher-level of MD, but the senior category appears to be insignificant. For AD, age turns out as an insignificant variable. The study also reveals that educational qualification is positively associated with both mood-and anxiety disorders. However, for AD it is insignificant. For MD, compared to people with lower educational qualification (less than primary), those with educational qualifications of secondary and some post-secondary levels tends have poorer mental health, while the post-secondary and higher-level educational qualification category appears to be insignificant for MD.

Author(s): *Iqbal Ahmed Chowdhury, Dalhousie University; Mohammad Mojammel Hussain Raihan, University of Calgary*

## **4. Aging and the Fear of Dying**

Aging inevitably raises the question of death and dying. Yet, it is a commonplace that there has long been a tendency amongst moderns to meaningfully refuse to engage the experience of dying and the reality of death. Amongst the evidence cited for this ostensible refusal is the widespread prevalence of old age homes where many of the elderly live out their final years, and the overwhelming occurrence of death in hospitals rather than in one's home. And this is believed to be significantly a function of the fear of death and dying. That is why Montaigne is thought to have insisted, as a means of overcoming this fear, on the need to have the taste of death in one's mouth and its name on one's tongue (Barnes 2008). Yet, such a discourse leaves unexamined the meaning of dying and its relationship to the lived experience of aging. This analysis is directed to contributing towards correcting for that absence.

Author(s): *Saeed Hydaralli, Roger Williams University*

## **5. Investigating the Resettlement Experiences of Quebec-based Adolescent Refugee Girls**

In 2019, 70.8 million people had to leave their home and resettle as a result of war and violent conflicts, and among them 25.9 became refugees (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), 2019). According to the UNHCR, more than half of refugees in the world are women and adolescent girls (UNHCR, 2016). This is no different among refugees in Canada with over 50% being females under the age of 17 (IRCC, 2019). Resettlement in Canada can be beneficial to adolescent girls if it meets their basic needs including shelter, food and physical health (Marshall, Butler, Roche, Cumming, and Taknint, 2016). Beyond these basic needs, access to language classes, education, work and appropriate services are vital for their mental health and well-being (UNHCR, 2010).

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Moreover, with adequate support during resettlement, adolescent girls are capable of gaining skills, education, and work experiences that contribute to Canada's economy in the long run (El-Assal, 2015). Therefore, effective resettlement and integration can be beneficial for both refugees and their host countries (UNHCR, 2019). In some Canadian provinces humanitarian communities provide various resources to meet adolescent refugee girls vulnerabilities and needs. In contrast, Quebec refugee programs are not targeting challenges faced by this specific population. The ultimate aim of this project is to amplify the voices of refugee adolescent girls in Quebec through the use of Participatory Visual and Arts-based Methodology.

Author(s): *Nesa Bandarchian Rashti, McGill University*

### Reconciliation Research and Action: Post-TRC Indigenous-Settler Relations I

Session Code: ISD2A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Indigenous-Settler Relations and Decolonization

In 2015, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) of Canada released its final report, concluding that the Indian Residential Schools System had attempted cultural genocide. The TRC issued 94 Calls to Action intended to foster more equitable relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people. Five years later, what actions have been taken to implement the TRC's recommendations? How effective have these actions been for advancing reconciliation? When and why do they backfire? Are there reliable ways to measure progress on reconciliation? Or is the language of reconciliation irrelevant in a context of ongoing settler colonialism and genocide? This session features Indigenous and settler perspectives on reconciliation, decolonization, and allyship, including assessments of reconciliation efforts in the housing, child welfare, economic development, and other sectors.

Organizer(s): *Jeffrey Denis, McMaster University*

Presentations:

#### **1. "Your 'Back Yard' is on Stolen Land" : The Struggle to Build Transitional Housing in Thunder Bay**

This paper reflects upon a recent grassroots campaign to advocate for the building of transitional housing in Thunder Bay, Ontario. Though the campaign was ultimately successful, it was borne out of a response to very overt and hostile articulations of anti-Indigeneity. At a local community hall meeting held at the Boys and Girl's Club in Thunder Bay on the 20th of June, 2019, a local resident remarked that a transitional housing project proposed by Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services ought to be built "on the reservation" rather than in his neighbourhood. His comment was met with applause from the almost entirely white audience. As a response, I began a local grassroots campaign of support and circulated an open letter to businesses, organizations, and individuals in Thunder Bay and beyond. What followed was a very well-theorized sociological response referred to in the literature as a NIMBYist backlash. In this proposed paper, I will review the narrative of advocating for transitional housing in Thunder Bay over and against the NIMBYist backlash of local residents. Thereafter, I will put the particular example of transitional housing in Thunder Bay into conversation with the broader sociological literature on community responses to housing projects that seek to house marginalized community members struggling from mental health and addiction issues. Ultimately, I will comment on post-Truth and Reconciliation politics and Indigenous-settler relations in the context of Thunder Bay and note how social policies congruent with the TRC's Calls to Action typically run up against very racist forms of settler backlash and resistance.

Author(s): *Travis Andrew Hay, Lakehead University*

#### **2. Legitimizing White Allyship: The Case of Wake the Giant in Thunder Bay Ontario**

Allies struggle to reconcile their desire to be part of the solution with an awareness of their role in a given social problem. The organizers and volunteers of the Wake the Giant cultural awareness project in Thunder Bay Ontario were no exception. As members of a community where racist sentiments and hate crimes against Indigenous people are well-known across Canada, three teachers at the Indigenous high school took it upon themselves to enact a positive cultural project for their Indigenous students. Using data collected through participant-observation at the music festival and at the participating businesses of the sticker campaign, we show that white allies display three strategies to legitimate their participation in an Indigenous cultural awareness project. We label these strategies as: "Indigenous blessing", "concern for the kids", and "authentic commitment to inclusivity." We argue that these strategies are anchored in the roles actors play in the community and help resolve the tension

at the heart of allyship. This case study will contribute to scholarly reflections and public policy debates on ally-driven initiatives in the contemporary context of reconciliation in Canada.

Author(s): *Taylor Price, University of Toronto; Marie-Lise Drapeau-Bisson, University of Toronto*

### **3. Azhe-mino-gahbewewin: Returning to a Place of Good Standing in Treaty #3 Territory**

Some scholars and activists have argued that reconciliation is dead, or at least impossible in an ongoing settler colonial context. Yet, dozens of groups aspiring to reconciliation have formed across Canada in wake of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (2015) Calls to Action. Among these is Reconciliation Kenora, or Azhe-mino-gahbewewin, a non-profit organization led by Anishinaabe, Métis, and non-Indigenous members who work together to undertake and support community initiatives in the Kenora/Treaty #3 region, which promote education, healing, and reconciliation. Reconciliation Kenora/Azhe-mino-gahbewewin recently partnered with settler Canadian sociologist Jeff Denis to organize a series of video-recorded sharing circles with Indigenous and non-Indigenous residents to gain a deeper understanding of what reconciliation means locally, the barriers to reconciliation, the actions necessary to advance reconciliation, and how to engage more people in the process. Special emphasis was placed on the perspectives of youth, Elders, and persons without stable housing. This presentation will outline preliminary findings from these sharing circles, including the apparent gaps in knowledge of the local history of Indigenous-settler relations, but also the cautious optimism of Indigenous and settler youth; the perceived need to acknowledge, learn from, and build on past local anticolonial efforts (from the occupation of Anicinabe Park to the Common Ground Initiative); and the Elders' emphasis on the complexity, multidimensionality, and global scope of reconciliation and decolonization processes.

Author(s): *Jeffrey Denis, McMaster University*

### **4. An analysis of "co-development" and advancing reconciliation in the development of the Arctic Policy Framework**

Under the Principles Respecting the Government of Canada's Relationship with Indigenous Peoples, namely guided by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, Inuit and the federal government developed the Inuit Nunangat Declaration and formed an Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee to jointly advance shared priorities. In December 2016, the federal government announced that a new Arctic policy Framework would be "co-developed" in collaboration with Indigenous, territorial and provincial partners, and a shared commitment was made by the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee to develop and include an Inuit Nunangat chapter in the Arctic Policy Framework. In September 2019, Canada's Arctic and Northern Policy Framework was launched, with a statement on the document that reads: "while chapters are an integral part of the process, they do not necessarily reflect the views of either the federal government, or of the other partners". Such a statement highlights questions around how the "co-development" approach actually worked. This paper will explore the concept of "co-development" as it operates within the development of the Arctic Policy Framework. Questions include: How is this concept used to rationalize a successful approach towards advancing reconciliation? What kinds of technologies are developed to normalize and justify the use of a "co-development" approach towards successfully advancing reconciliation?

Author(s): *Gail Russel, University of Toronto*

### **5. Indigenous Research in Motion: Mainstream Child Welfare Accountability and Ethical Space of Engagement**

Indigenous understandings of human existence stem from the belief that we are active and creative participants governed by the ordering principals and processes arising from the abundant flow of creative forces in nature. With an aim to contribute to the advancement of indigenous qualitative research tools, this paper will present an innovative Indigenist research model that draws upon insights stemming from Ermine's (2007) conceptualization of the ethical space of engagement, Indigenous scientific understandings of weather patterns and the tools associated with Cajete's (2004) theory of Indigenous creativity. To demonstrate the model's application we will review how I used these elements to understand the experiences of child welfare practitioners working with Indigenous children, youth and families -and especially to understand how people participate across a space of ethical engagement within the ebb and flow of their existence in these roles and relationships. This model exhibits great potential for identifying from an Indigenous standpoint, the spaces where meaningful and ethical engagement within the child welfare system can be utilized to develop an Indigenous quantitative research framework for assessing mainstream child welfare organizational accountability in the provision of services for Indigenous Peoples involved in the Child Welfare System.

Author(s): *Laurie Anne Sherry-Kirk, McMaster University*

Reconciliation Research and Action: Post-TRC Indigenous-Settler Relations II: Focus on Education

Session Code: ISD2B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Indigenous-Settler Relations and Decolonization

In 2015, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) of Canada released its final report, concluding that the Indian Residential Schools System had attempted cultural genocide. The TRC issued 94 Calls to Action intended to foster more equitable relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people. Five years later, what actions have been taken to implement the TRC's recommendations? How effective have these actions been for advancing reconciliation? When and why do they backfire? Are there reliable ways to measure progress on reconciliation? Or is the language of reconciliation irrelevant in a context of ongoing settler colonialism and genocide? This session features empirical assessments of reconciliation efforts in the education sector.

Organizer(s): *Jeffrey Denis, McMaster University*

Presentations:

**1. Public Perceptions and Prospects for Reconciliation through Provincial Schools**

An extensive range of activities to support reconciliation processes has emerged throughout Canada in five years since the release of the final report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. In the field of K-12 education, all provinces and territories have issued statements of commitment to reconciliation, in most cases supported by new curricula and practices to support improved educational outcomes and practices related to Indigenous students and communities. How much have these new initiatives affected educational practices and the community contexts in which they are being implemented? This paper, drawing on data from a survey of public perspectives on education and reconciliation conducted in two provinces, Alberta and Saskatchewan, which have made strong commitments to enhance education and work towards reconciliation to support their large Indigenous student populations. The findings reveal a strong paradox, with high levels of support for schools' role in advancing reconciliation in local communities but also substantial blocs of opposition to reconciliation, cynicism, and frequent lack of awareness about residential schooling, its impact on Indigenous communities, and what it represents more generally for Indigenous-settler relations. While there are prospects for opening meaningful dialogue about what meaningful reconciliation - framed in relation to pathways to decolonization - might constitute, there is stronger evidence that liberal discourses representing a form of democratic colonization stand in the way of effective educational reform in support of reconciliation.

Author(s): *Terry Wotherspoon, University of Saskatchewan; Emily Milne, MacEwan University*

**2. Teaching Coloniality: How the Education System Impacts Indigenous and Settler Relations**

This paper will highlight the findings from my MA Sociology thesis where I explore the intersections of critical pedagogy and Indigenous and settler relations in a post-Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) context. The TRC 94 Calls to Action have informed this study's qualitative and quantitative questions, specifically calls to action numbered 6 through 12. I have used a mixed-methods approach to survey grade 12 students from two rural Nova Scotia schools and have interviewed both students and educators to gauge their understanding of Indigenous ways of knowing and colonial content. This paper heavily draws on the works of theorists Paulo Freire, Frantz Fanon, and Edward Said. Utilizing these theorists work I will be assessing how the education system impacts the relationship between Indigenous and settler peoples. Not only will I explore the secondary school's capacity to impact Indigenous and settler relations but I will also work to identify where the gaps in knowledge exist in order to discern decolonial remedies; remedies that have the ability to inform schooling and educational policies across the province of Nova Scotia.

Author(s): *Hailie Tattrie, Dalhousie University*

**3. Restorative Justice Education, Classroom Social Dynamics and Teachers' Responses to Reconciliation**

In this research, I examine teachers' experiences with implementing Restorative Justice Education (RJE) in Newfoundland schools. Pierre Bourdieu challenged the school as an instrument of social reform and equality. My research investigates teachers' experiences with navigating social class and social reproduction in the classroom and how class manifests in their experiences with RJE. Further, I look at if and how Restorative Justice Education in schools contributes to reconciliation efforts in the Canadian context. I ask teachers about their awareness of the

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TRC's Calls to Action and how they think RJE is responding to its recommendations and advancing the reconciliation process. I also discuss how teachers are measuring the efficacy of Restorative Justice Education in schools, and how RJE is strengthening teacher-student relationships in the classroom. Following qualitative interviews with active teachers who use RJE in their classrooms, I read for themes and allowed patterns to emerge inductively. An outcome of the research is valuable data on the existent social structures within classrooms in Newfoundland as well as discovery of the meaning that teachers in elementary and high schools associate with Restorative Justice Education and how they perceive that it is impacting relationships and interactions in the classroom. My research also serves as an inquiry into the efforts on the part of teachers to respond to reconciliation within the classroom setting.

Author(s): *Tina Saleh, Memorial University*

### **4. Canadian Universities: Reconciliation efforts in the Post TRC era**

With the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's calls to action, many universities have responded by beginning to take steps towards decolonizing/Indigenizing their institutions, from the inclusion of land acknowledgements to the incorporation of mandatory Indigenous studies courses. Despite institutions of learning declaring motivation for the advancement of reconciliation, some of the new policies and changes have, in fact, facilitated additional hardship for these students navigating their university careers. Furthermore, Indigenous students continue to face high levels of racism and discrimination. Drawing on 27 open-ended interviews with Indigenous students at three Ontario universities between 2016 and 2018, the current study explores the implementation of new university policies/actions from the student perspective -how effective have these changes been (and by what measures)? When have these changes resulted in damage rather than positive change? Have positive changes in learning opportunities and experiences been perceived? How can the results of institutional change be appropriately measured? The data gathered indicates that there is much more work required to isolate what changes are creating positive environments for Indigenous students to feel safe and confident in pursuing their academic goals, and which are potentially performative and/or causing harm.

Author(s): *Kerry A. Bailey, McMaster University*

### **5. Pathways to a better relationship: "Reconciliation" isn't working**

In the years following the release of the Truth and Reconciliation Commissions Calls to Action, there has been an increase in discussions within post-secondary institutions about the need to implement changes within these spaces in response to these recommendations. This dialogue gave hope to many young Indigenous scholars within the system that change was coming and their experiences would improve. Despite this talk, little has changed -a common theme for Indigenous students who still face overwhelming discrimination and racial violence throughout their educational careers while continuing to fight against systematic and institutional racism and barriers. By examining these experiences, we can learn from Indigenous students and find a path forward.

Author(s): *Yotakahron Jonathan, McMaster University*

## Reconciliation Research and Action: Post-TRC Indigenous-Settler Relations III

Session Code: ISD2C

Research Cluster Affiliation: Indigenous-Settler Relations and Decolonization

In 2015, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) of Canada released its final report, concluding that the Indian Residential Schools System had attempted cultural genocide. The TRC issued 94 Calls to Action intended to foster more equitable relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people. Five years later, what actions have been taken to implement the TRC's recommendations? How effective have these actions been for advancing reconciliation? When and why do they backfire? Are there reliable ways to measure progress on reconciliation? Or is the language of reconciliation irrelevant in a context of ongoing settler colonialism and genocide? This session features assessments of allyship and reconciliation efforts among faith communities, arts communities, and racialized immigrants, among others.

Organizer(s): *Jeffrey Denis, McMaster University*

Presentations:

**1. Planting the Seeds of Reconciliation: moving Indigenous/Settler relations forward in a colonial context**

The purpose of this paper is to: (i) describe the community-engaged research project entitled “Planting the Seeds of Reconciliation” that I am collaborating on with Creating Hope Society (CHS) of Edmonton, (ii) outline some of the challenges we have experienced throughout the implementation of our project and, (iii) discuss a number of questions I have been compelled to think about as a settler-ally involved with Indigenous colleagues in this and other projects. Briefly, the purpose of our research project is to provide workshops for 5 business and non-profit community organizations in the areas of health, education, religion, child welfare and politics that enable them to learn about the history of colonialism in Canada and to develop, implement and assess the effectiveness of reconciliation-focused initiatives in their organization. Specific objectives of the workshops include facilitating discussion about how colonialism impacts their organization, what needs to change in their organization to facilitate reconciliation, developing and implementing an “organizational reconciliation action plan”, and assessing within 6 months what differences the changes have made, what hindered their planned changes from happening, and what they can do differently in the future to facilitate reconciliation. Some of the challenges we have faced include reduction in provincial government funding for non-profit organizations, understanding and addressing the changing expectations of project participants, and learning how to honour and respectfully engage the past and present experiences of workshop participants, many of whom are visible minority immigrants from countries affected by colonialism. While I am confident that an openness to altering the language of reconciliation and implementing reconciliation-focused initiatives including ours will help move indigenous/settler relations forward in a good way, the language and vision of Indigenous resurgence raises important questions about the challenges associated with cultivating lasting relations of trust and respect in our current colonial context.

Author(s): *David Long, The King's University*

**2. Engaging Canada's history of dispossession: The KAIROS Blanket Exercise as a tool towards decolonization**

In response to calls for public education by the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, the Aboriginal Rights Coalition (now part of KAIROS Canada) collaborated with national Indigenous organizations to create a popular education tool for raising awareness among Canadians of the Indigenous ‘land question.’ Over the last 25 years, the KAIROS Blanket Exercise (KBE) has evolved from a humble exercise performed in church basements, to a powerful tool used to animate local and national Indigenous rights campaigns, to what some envision as a ‘movement’ towards truth and reconciliation. Following increased exposure during Canada’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and since publication of its Calls to Action, demand for the exercise has skyrocketed, with tens of thousands of exercises being performed in schools, universities, police departments, and community agencies across the country. Led by a widening network of Elders and settler volunteers, this explosion marks a burgeoning engagement with Canada’s ongoing colonial history and proliferating opportunities for relationship-building; it also sparks questions about voice, control, monetization, and connections to decolonial action. Part of a SSHRC-funded project exploring Indigenous-settler alliances in Canada, this paper asks critical questions about the emergence, evolution, and impact of the KBE and its contribution to decolonizing Canadian society.

Author(s): *Chris Hiller, Renison University College*

**3. Struggles for Solidarity: Settlers of faith on the road to reconciliACTION**

The mechanisms of settler-colonial violence as exercised by Christian institutions in Canada have been well documented. What remains underexamined, however, is the work of some settlers of faith who -often because of the harm caused by their communities -engage in faith-based social advocacy and direct action in support of Indigenous peoples fighting colonial oppression. This project will explore such work by bridging two distinct bodies of research: settler colonial studies of Indigenous-settler coalitions and sociological studies of faith-based social justice activism. Drawing on 38 in-depth interviews with members of two distinct faith communities, the Mennonites and the United Church of Canada, I consider (1) how non-Indigenous people of faith promote “reconciliation” and Indigenous justice by connecting such matters with the principles of living out their faith; (2) how the resources and infrastructures of faith-based organizations influence the advocacy work and activism in question; and (3) how, as non-Indigenous people of faith, participants view themselves, their communities, and their responsibilities in the colonial context of Canada.

Author(s): *Mollie McGuire, McMaster University*

**4. Indigenous immigrants - Indigeneity and bridges of collaboration with First Nations, Métis and Inuit people.**



In my dissertation, I analyze the conceptually conflicting position of Quechua immigrants as settlers, racialized immigrants and Indigenous, with the aim of finding possibilities for collaboration. As scholar Sunera Thobani explains it, one of the challenges racialized immigrants face in building relationships with Indigenous Peoples in Canada is the belief that admitting their responsibilities as settlers erases their own oppressions. It is difficult to reconcile these two truths. At the moment, there is no theoretical lens to understand the position of Indigenous immigrants as settlers, Indigenous and racialized immigrants. Having a framework to understand the conflicting identities that Quechua immigrants hold, their complexities, and the barriers to their potential collaboration with Indigenous people in Canada contributes to the Calls of Action as outlined by the Truth and Reconciliation Report. One of the outcomes of my research is to provide a theoretical lens that addresses these concerns. As well, I will discuss the results of my interviews with Quechua immigrants in the Canadian state. Their views on Indigeneity after migration and collaboration with First Nations, Métis and Inuit Peoples in Canada are intertwined and influenced by their own positionality as settlers, Indigenous and immigrants. As well, discrimination, identity and colonialism are at the core of these discussions. Based on the interviews, immigration within Quechua speaking countries and to the Global North reveal interlocking forms of oppression that Quechua people experience, and demonstrate the various ways identity is lived through these transitions and used as a form of resilience. Lastly, this research addresses not only the local problems that Indigenous people face but also links their struggles to globalization, imperialism, and settler colonialism. Transnational economies pose an imminent threat to the transnational rights, security and safety of Quechua people and First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities and, therefore, they need to be part of the discussion.

Author(s): *Brenda Polar, York University*

#### **5. Empathizing in Interactive Theatre about Reconciliation: Can Settlers be Reflexive and do Indigenous People Care?**

What is expected of Settlers when it comes to understanding Canada's history of genocide and relating to Indigenous people's experiences of violence? In North America and Europe, a long trajectory of documenting, theorizing, and representing the Holocaust has given rise to the paradigm of 'empathy' as a standard for educational initiatives aiming to commemorate and prevent genocide. Within sociology, scholars have illustrated how individuals come to morally identify with traumatic events that may be temporally or geographically distant from their lived experiences, including the Holocaust (Alexander, 2002), and Hurricane Katrina (Eyerman, 2015). However, more recent educational paradigms in Europe have moved away from an emphasis on empathy in teaching about genocide, claiming that 'crying begets nothing' (Knigge, 1999; 2015) and emotionally connecting to genocide may short-circuit more useful historical, political and respectful understandings of trauma. Focusing on Canada's emerging educational efforts around Reconciliation, this paper situates Canadian educational paradigms about empathy in teaching about genocide. The paper asks: How do Settlers learn about the legacy of genocide against Indigenous people, and how do Indigenous people understand their role in this process? To answer this question, I draw on a case study of šxʷamət (home), an interactive theatre play about Reconciliation with a mixed Indigenous and non-Indigenous cast which gained prominence in Western Canada during its two-year tour in 2017 and 2018. Based on ethnographic observation of the production and 50 in-depth interviews with the director, cast and audience members who participated in and observed interactions on stage, I find a paradigm which encourages and largely achieves empathy for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous participants through reflexive role-taking. However, while for Settlers role-taking is a key tool for gaining awareness, reflexivity, and communicating understanding of Indigenous trauma, Indigenous participants relied on role-taking predominantly to seek recognition for their lived experiences.

Author(s): *Lily Ivanova, University of British Columbia*

#### **Making Trouble: Fighting colonialism in the classroom**

Session Code: ISD3

Research Cluster Affiliation: Indigenous-Settler Relations and Decolonization

The Calls to Action that emerged from Truth and Reconciliation included sections on transforming post-secondary education institutions. Many academics are committed, in principle, to revising admittedly problematic canonical curricula with indigenous knowledge and teaching methods. Actually doing this, in many cases, remains an individual endeavour. For example, finding resources is difficult, especially in a political austerity climate and the

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failure of government to adequately fund these initiatives. Many university educators are seeking out methods and resources on their own, typically guided by theoretical and political principles from post-colonial critique. This panel aims to rectify the need to provide a classroom resource and start a conversation about how to implement anti-oppression strategies in the classroom. When looking for media resources, educators often struggle to find non-mainstream resources that are doing the work associated with resisting racialization, misogyny, and other forms of inequality. Recognizing and resisting the ongoing forms of exclusion, oppression, and symbolic violence is foundational to our discussion. This panel will screen a 25-minute episode of "Trouble," an online resource for teaching contemporary issues related to racism and other forms of social oppression, produced by subMedia. Then, we will hear comments and responses from political activist Jaydene Lavallée, including how the academy ought to implement indigenous knowledge and methods into the classroom. The remainder of the session will be open to the audience for questions and discussion.

Organizer(s): *Arianne Hanemaayer, University of Cambridge and Brandon University*

Panelists:

- Jay-R, Trouble producer, subMedia Collective
- Jaydene Lavallée, Métis activist

### Author Meets Reviewers: *The Sleeping Giant Awakens: Genocide, Indian Residential Schools, and the Challenge of Conciliation*

Session Code: ISD4

Research Cluster Affiliation: Indigenous-Settler Relations and Decolonization

Three invited scholars will provide critical commentary on Professor David B. MacDonald's recent book, *The Sleeping Giant Awakens: Genocide, Indian Residential Schools, and the Challenge of Conciliation* (University of Toronto Press, 2019). These comments will be followed by a response from the author and audience questions. As stated on the book jacket, "MacDonald uses genocide as an analytical tool to better understand Canada's past and present relationships between settlers and Indigenous peoples... Based on archival research, extensive interviews with residential school Survivors, and officials at the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, among others, *The Sleeping Giant Awakens* offers a unique and timely perspective on the prospects for conciliation after genocide..."

Organizer(s): *Jeff Denis, McMaster University*

Panelists:

- David B. MacDonald, University of Guelph
- Kim Anderson, University of Guelph
- Elaine Coburn, York University
- Erica Violet Lee, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education

### Decolonizing Sport: Indigenous Hockey in Canada

Session Code: ISD5

Research Cluster Affiliation: Indigenous-Settler Relations and Decolonization; Sociology of Sport

Decolonizing Sport: Indigeneity, Hockey, and Canadian Nationalism explores the ambivalent relationship between hockey, indigeneity, and settler colonialism in Canada. The project analyzes the role of hockey in the naturalization

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of the settler Canadian nation state and the simultaneous mobilization of the sport as a vehicle for libratory self-expression and community building by Indigenous players, coaches, and fans. The phrase “decolonizing sport” is employed here in two senses: the first pertains to the need for hockey to be decolonized, given its colonialist baggage and its saturation with racist, sexist, and homophobic iconography and discourse; the second pertains to the capacity for the sport to be exercised in ways that serve Indigenous resurgence. The project brings together eminent and upcoming Indigenous and settler-allied scholars with expertise in Sport History, Gender Theory, Narrative Studies, Sociology, and Filmmaking to pursue the following objectives: 1) To historicize and interrogate the relationship between hockey and settler colonialism in Canada, with attentiveness to the role of indigeneity in the social production of settler entitlement through sport and the impact of such processes on Indigenous peoples; 2) To analyze how Indigenous experiences of the sport are imbricated with and/or exceed the power dynamics of dominant hockey culture in Canada, with attentiveness to how hockey can be imagined and promoted in ways that support Indigenous sovereignty, community wellbeing, and gender equality; 3) To leverage the popular cultural capital of the sport in Canada to promote settler understandings of colonial history, and therefore to encourage reflection on Indigenous dispossession, settler complicity, and pathways toward historical justice.

Organizer(s): *Rob Henry, University of Saskatchewan; Sam McKegney, Queen's University*

Presentations:

### **1. Everyone is so different: Using Indigenous-led survey research to enhance youth involvement in the National Aboriginal Hockey Championships**

Using survey data collected at the 2019 National Aboriginal Hockey Championships in Whitehorse, Yukon, this paper will explore the socio-demographic patterns among Indigenous athletes who competed at the event, with a view to demonstrating the need for greater regional and community-based understandings of sport organizing for Indigenous youth in Canada.

Author(s): *McKee, T., Armstrong, K., Forsyth, J., Benson, A., Pettit, A., Shamy, N., Whitesell, M., and Spencer, J.*

### **2. Comparing socio-demographic information of Indigenous male and female hockey players at the National Aboriginal Hockey Championships**

Using survey data collected at the 2019 National Aboriginal Hockey Championships in Whitehorse, Yukon, this paper will examine the socio-demographic patterns of male and female athletes who competed at the event, with a view to better understanding how sport can better meet such athletes' needs.

Author(s): *Armstrong, K., McKee, T., Forsyth, J., Benson, A., Pettit, A., Shamy, N., Whitesell, M., and Spencer, J.*

### **3. “Doing What it Takes”: Experiences of Indigenous Elite Hockey Players**

This paper examines the experiences of Indigenous elite hockey players both past and current. Through qualitative interviews, I examine not only the struggles physically, emotionally, and financially that impact Indigenous elite hockey players, but also how they negotiated their notions of Indigeneity while playing on primarily with non-Indigenous players, and away from their communities. Through their narratives, I examine the complexities that some players have had to negotiate during their careers and how they have renegotiated their identities after their elite careers have concluded.

Author(s): *Shane Keepness, University of Victoria*

### **4. “We Were the Pelican Blackhawks”**

This talk will explore the hockey history of the Anishinaabe of Lac Seul First Nation in northern Ontario. The talk centers upon preliminary discussions with my father, George Kenny, a residential school survivor who represented the Pelican Lake Indian Residential School Blackhawks in the 1960s. My talk will unpack the enabling and constraining properties associated with his falling in love with ice hockey while in a highly oppressive colonial environment. As my father shared with me, “Playing hockey gave us a sense of community. We were proud to represent the Pelican Blackhawks. It made it so you weren’t just another Indian kid.”

Author(s): *Mike Auksi, McGill University*

**Just a Little Offside: Beardy's Blackhawks and the Saskatchewan Midget AAA Hockey League**

Session Code: ISD5A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Indigenous-Settler Relations and Decolonization; Sociology of Sport

On Nov. 12, 2019, the Saskatchewan Hockey Association (SHA) made public its decision to eliminate the Beardy's Blackhawks Midget AAA hockey program from Beardy's & Okemasis Cree Nation, one of the largest First Nations in Saskatchewan. It was the only Midget AAA franchise in Canada run by and on a First Nations reserve. This panel uses the Beardy's Blackhawks as a case study for considering hockey's relationship to settler colonialism in Canada and for thinking through strategies for combating anti-Indigenous racism in sport, while mobilizing sport as a tool for Indigenous empowerment and possible reconciliation. The decision to eliminate a uniquely Saskatchewan opportunity for cross-cultural exchange among Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth and their families has implications that were felt by players and parents over the past year, and the decision is a direct contradiction to Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action 88, 89 and 90. The TRC insists that government and sport associations "take action to ensure long-term Aboriginal athlete development and growth," to reduce "barriers to sports participation" for Indigenous athletes, and to ensure "anti-racism awareness and training for non-Indigenous athletes." Members of the Indigenous Hockey Research Network have been working with current and former Blackhawks players and their families for the past year, where many players have reported a deep sense of community and personal growth nurtured by a sporting environment informed by Indigenous values. This panel draws together established and emerging scholars of Indigenous Studies, sport sociology, and anthropology to grapple with these concerns.

Organizer(s): *Rob Henry, University of Saskatchewan; Sam McKegney, Queen's University*

Presentations:

**1. "We got the Native flu": SMAAAHL and Settler Colonial Logic in Practice**

In October of 2019, after 25 years of participating in the SMAAAHL, the Beardy's Midget AAA Blackhawks – the only Midget AAA team located on a First Nations community in Canada – received notice that they had lost their team and that it was going to be relocated to a community 40km south to a small city 10km north of Saskatoon. This paper examines how the reasoning of the move was justified around safety and concern for the development of players; however, upon closer examination, it can be seen that the criteria used to assess team locations was not used equally across the province. Secondly, the uniqueness that made Beardy's a place to go and play for Indigenous hockey players, who have stated that they would not otherwise have continued to play, was never taken into consideration, ignoring calls within the TRC to support elite sport opportunities for Indigenous youth in Canada and continuing to support settler colonial logics of erasure that maintain hockey as the game of the 'great 'white' north'.

Author(s): *Robert Henry, University of Saskatchewan*

**2. Dismantling Stereotypes**

For over 25 years, the Beardy's Blackhawks hockey club offered scores of young men and their families a unique opportunity to play elite-level hockey for a First Nations reserve in Canada. Interviews with both Indigenous and settler players and their family members reveal a deeply rooted sense of community cultivated through players' prolonged exposure to a sport setting inflected with Indigenous values. Our interviews further revealed how this exposure also contributed to the dismantling of stereotypes among non-Indigenous players who, with caged faces and the Blackhawks logo on their chest, briefly experienced what it is like to be racially-coded as Indigenous in this country.

Author(s): *Jordan Koch, McGill University*

**3. "More Than Just a Hockey Program": Exploring the Experiences of Beardy's Blackhawks Alumni**

For 25 years, the Beardy's Blackhawks have brought together young Indigenous and non-Indigenous hockey players to play for Canada's only Midget AAA franchise run by and on a First Nations reserve. By incorporating Indigenous values and challenging pervasive settler preconceptions about Indigenous peoples and communities, involvement with the team has encouraged both present and past players to negotiate their own role within Canada's ongoing reconciliation efforts and has offered many Indigenous players the opportunity to play elite level

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hockey. This paper explores the unique experiences of Beardsley's Blackhawks alumni playing for what one former player, Craig McCallum, described in a recent radio interview as "more than just a hockey program".

Author(s): *Mika Rathwell, University of Saskatchewan*

### 4. "Just shake it off" – Manufacturing compliance with anti-Indigenous racism in hockey

Interviews with Indigenous and settler players on the Beardsley's Blackhawks hockey club, as well as with those players' parents, unanimously acknowledge racism directed at Indigenous players during the team's present season. More insidiously, the interviews register social pressures within hockey culture that discourage reactions to such racism and thereby condition acquiescence to and potential reproduction of oppressive colonial conditions. As one First Nation parent states, "you just kind of get used to it and ... either shrug it off or retaliate. We've really chosen to shrug it off for the most part." This ruminates on the manufacture of compliance in order to interrogate the internalization of various tropes in hockey culture that, we argue, conspire to sustain racialized oppression in the game. In doing so, we advocate for the implementation of decolonial anti-racism strategies at all levels of the sport.

Author(s): *Sam McKegney, Queen's University*

## Sociological Insights on Cybercrime and Deviance

Session Code: ITD1

Research Cluster Affiliation: Internet, Technology, and Digital Sociology

From communications to social media to the Internet of Things, there is little doubt that technology continues to occupy an ever greater space in our personal and social lives. As news stories and empirical accounts demonstrate, the continued expansion of technology represents both opportunities and challenges for Canadians. Cybercrime and deviance represent two broad categories of such challenges, and sociologists are among the foremost scholars investigating human-centric problems and solutions. This session brings together those studying diverse topics at the intersection of the internet, technology, and digital sociology and criminology by considering topics including identity theft and fraud, cyber-psychopathy and associated harms, the dark web, and the broader consequences of cybercrime on social and emotional well-being.

Organizer(s): *Ryan Broll, University of Guelph*

Presentations:

### 1. "I Was Just Freaking Out" : The Experiences of Identity Theft Victims in Ontario

Identity theft is increasingly pervasive across the world, yet little research is undertaken in North America to understand the experiences of victims. Most existing research attempts to quantify the consequences of identity theft in terms of the amount taken from the victim, the amount lost after any attempts at recuperation, and the time spent resolving the issue. This presentation shares findings from ongoing in-depth interviews with victims of identity theft in Southern Ontario. This research is concerned with the experiences of victims, how identity theft impacts them, and their attempts at resolving the incident. Additionally, a driving question for this research is how these victims conceptualize and problematize the events that occurred -including as crimes, as minor inconveniences, and as breaches of trust.

Author(s): *Dylan Reynolds, University of Guelph*

### 2. 419: Life, Liberty and Nigerian Cybercrime

Nigeria is known globally as one of the breeding ground of cybercriminals. Cybercrime, also commonly known as "cyber terrorism, identity theft and spam" (Hassan, Lass and Makinde, 2012, p.626) is a recent form of deviance, estimated by Norton (2012) to be "costing" the globe \$110 billion every year. This paper will use fictional novel 419, by Canadian author Will Ferguson (2012), as a point of departure to analyze the congruence of Nigerian Cybercrime and the pursuit of happiness. Authored by a Nigerian-Canadian, this paper will use sociological insight to: first further empathize with the Nigerian quest for the American Dream; then connect it to concepts of "deviance"; the globalization of concepts such as "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness"; and finally the

“internet as the next great democratizer” - to ultimately argue that cybercrime is an inevitable result of income inequality and a vicious global capitalist system that encourages survival of the fittest at all costs. Recently, this form of Nigerian deviance has been occurring directly on Canadian soil -making cybercrime too close for comfort. A simple search for “ Nigerian scam” on database Canadian Newsstream found 1,989 matches in Canadian newspapers -754 of which are from 2010 and 2019, down from 1,199 between 2000-2009. This is a pressing issue that needs thought and meaningful discussion.

Author(s): *Patience Adamu, Ryerson University*

### **3. Cyber-Psychopathy Revisited: Validation and Updated Findings**

This presentation builds on my previous research focusing on how the structural differences between online and offline social contexts can elicit different behaviours and expressions of the ‘self’. Using a criminological lens, I suggested that the Internet may facilitate a context-dependent expression of ‘dark’ personality traits, which I referred to as “cyber-psychopathy” serving as an alternative explanation for participating in deviant actions online that would not normally be performed offline (Nevin, 2015). I revisit this cyber-psychopathy theory in my dissertation research to evaluate and extend the initial findings emerging from my pilot data. First, I seek to improve my focal measures with a validation study based on cognitive interviewing with focus groups of undergraduate students. Second, I collect and analyze updated self-report data from a quota sample of American Internet users ( N =1000) with an original web-based questionnaire. In this presentation, I share the preliminary results from my focus groups and new survey data. In particular, I emphasize an analysis of gender and masculinity as important variables underlying higher levels of psychopathic trait expression when one is using the Internet. I conclude with a discussion of how this work contributes to larger theoretical debates in the growing field of cyber-criminology.

Author(s): *Andrew Nevin, University of Toronto*

### **4. Cyber-Driven Suicides**

When William Francis Melchert-Dinkel catfished Nadia Kajouji and Mark Drybrough online and persuaded them to commit suicide in 2005 and 2008, the justice system observed the incidents lightly (CBC, 2015, February 18); he only served six months of his three-year sentence. The gravity of his crime was masked under the cyber-nature of his actions. Later, in the case of Michelle Carter’s cyber persuasion for her boyfriend’s successful suicide, the justice system treated her criminal activity more seriously and sentenced her to 15 months in prison (Levenson, 2020, January 23). In the most recent case of cyber-driven suicide, the justice system attended Inyoung You’s case, who urged her boyfriend to commit suicide via offensive and threatening text messages, in a faster and more effective manner (Ortiz, 2019, November 22). What we are missing here is the eerie similarities of these cases and the possibility of similar cybercrimes in the future. With the growth of cyber life and the globally anonymous connection among people, we should be waiting for similar criminal cases. The justice system adamantly refuses to recognize the instances of cyberbullying since these cyber-actions do not directly lead to the death of the individuals. This paper investigates the following questions: How can we prevent these predatory actions rather than treating them without breaking the boundaries and individuals’ privacy? Since the cyberworld is achieving its reality and, in many cases, interchanges with the physical world, should the punishment for the cybercrimes stand the same severity of the physical world crime? How would the justice system explain their lack of consistency between treating cases of cyberbullying that lead to suicide and incidents of cyber-assisted suicide? What is the role of the race and ethnicity in the attention that the case receives and the severity of the punishment that the predator receives?

Author(s): *Shila Khayambashi, York University*

### **5. Examining the extent and features of drug sales on the dark web**

Cybercrime is a considerable international issue, one where law enforcement has difficulty keeping pace with the quickly evolving high tech criminal activity. Cybercrime is one of the few growing areas of crime in the current era. One substantial arena for cybercriminals is the dark web: the dark web is a location where many crime types occur with ease due to its hidden nature, nonstandard communication, and the use of cryptocurrencies. Crimes on the dark web include, but are not limited to, fraud, hacking, financial crimes, and drug trafficking. Using the White House Market , a site for the selling of illegal goods and services, this paper focuses on the global trade of illegal drugs. Data were collected over 14 days in January of 2020 from the White House Market resulting in 1,100 cases of available sales. Over 80% of the cases collected were drug sales. Using basic statistical techniques this paper outlines the breakdown of drug types, costs, location of sale, and geography of possible purchases. Results



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indicated a considerable range of distribution locations, a wide array of drug types, and the ease of international drug sale interactions. Issues of policing techniques and organized crime are also discussed.

Author(s): *Shu Liu, Mount Royal University; Tanya E. Trussler, Mount Royal University; Sara Amin, The University of the South Pacific*

### Understanding Fake News: Misinformation, Disinformation and Manipulation

Session Code: ITD2

Research Cluster Affiliation: Internet, Technology, and Digital Sociology

In the wake of the Cambridge Analytica scandal, where information disseminated online was used to manipulate voters during the 2016 United States presidential election, concern has emerged over 'fake news' and its impacts, both online and offline. However, some argue that beyond the concept of fake news, it is important to distinguish between "disinformation" which refers to "information that is false and deliberately created to harm a person, social group, organization or country," and "misinformation" which refers to "information that is false, but not created with the intention of causing harm". Indeed, how the online medium serves to fundamentally manipulate users based on the interpretation of what one consumes is still a nascent area in sociological research.

Organizer(s): *Michael Adorjan, University of Calgary*

Presentations:

#### **1. Fake news and the struggle against Lord Voldemort: An application of Shibutani's approach to rumour**

The phenomena of "fake news" meets the main criteria for rumours elaborated by Shibutani (1966). It is an attempt by people to collectively construct an understanding of important events when more official sources of information have either failed or been shown to be unreliable. This paper explores this theoretical understanding of fake news by examining the role of fake news and rumour in the events surrounding the struggle between Lord Voldemort and Harry Potter as described by J.K. Rowling.

Author(s): *Mark Stobbe, Okanagan College*

#### **2. Rallying Cry or Red Herring? On the Cultural Politics of Disinformation**

In November 2018, members of the United Kingdom's Digital Media and Sport Committee invited government representatives from eight other countries, including Canada, to participate in the first meeting of an "International Grand Committee on Disinformation and Fake News" to discuss the problem of online disinformation in light of the recent revelations of the Cambridge Analytica scandal. In many ways, this scandal and the broader problem of "disinformation and fake news" was a rallying cry for participating governments to come together and formulate regulatory responses to a new political communication ecosystem that suddenly appeared as a threat after the 2016 electoral surprises in the UK and the United States. In this paper, I examine the work of the International Grand Committee, which took place over three meetings between November 2018 and November 2019 in the UK, Canada and Ireland. In these meetings, expert witnesses and committee members started by developing a narrative about the threats posed by disinformation to democracy. However, the "problem" of disinformation in these meetings was quickly set aside in favour larger issues related to privacy, political advertising, tech monopolies and surveillance capitalism. In other words, disinformation became a useful cultural structure that opened symbolic space for participants to learn about and debate strategies for regulating the internet. The analytical focus of the paper, however, is on how this cultural structure opened space for some types of debate while remaining closed to other relevant topics. Overall, these high-level meetings about disinformation ended up primarily focusing on power struggles between governments and the tech giants, while they only occasionally focused on important social justice questions concerning those most affected by disinformation.

Author(s): *Michael Christensen, Carleton University*

#### **3. Fictional Information: A fiction narrative analysis for ideological production and management through disinformation**

Is misinformation new? Why did the “fake news” catchphrase stick to the collective consciousness seamlessly? I argue that the fear surrounding misinformation is not new, and in fact is a reformulation of an old, widely felt, phenomenon. Through a narrative analysis of 1984 and Fahrenheit 451 I show how systems of ideological production, management, and control are relics within the collective consciousness. With Guy Debord’s concept of the spectacle, and authors such as Žižek and Foucault, I identify how systems of misinformation, conditioning, and productive history can be used to control ideology. These novels, published in 1949 and 1953, identified the use of ideological tools which remain relevant today, and they facilitate how the individual approaches these topics. Through a comparative analysis of fictional narrative and real-world discourse, I show how these systems of ideological control were born from fear and anxiety, and I describe how these systems capture these emotions to produce modes of action.

Author(s): *Matty Peters, Carleton University*

#### **4. Siloed health learning? Exploring the impacts of Facebook echo chambers on maternal health beliefs and behaviour**

Mothers are increasingly turning to online communities for social support and information on parenting and health, yet little research explores how participation in such spaces influences health beliefs and behaviour. Drawing from qualitative data from an 18-month internet ethnographic study incorporating participant observation, discourse analysis, and interviews with 29 mothers from diverse “mom groups” on Facebook, this article shows that immersion in online “echo chambers” impacts maternal health beliefs and behaviour. By participating in echo chambers, mothers acquire specific information about health and the healthcare system that aligns with group ideological focus while also receiving social support and validation for their views and choices. Combined, these processes, which I term “siloed health learning” frequently impact mothers’ ideological views around health-related matters, shaping not only their beliefs, but also their decisions and behaviour. These findings have both promise and pitfalls: While social support and information from online groups have the potential to empower mothers, they may also encourage them to challenge or circumvent medical advice and authority; for example, among vaccine-hesitant mothers. Further, in promoting a consumerist approach to health, these groups add more work to an already heavy “motherload”.

Author(s): *Darryn Anne Wellstead, University of Ottawa*

#### **5. Unauthentic Smiles: A Qualitative Analysis on CGI Influencers**

A social media influencer is someone with the ability to affect the consumption behaviours of others because of their perceived authority, knowledge, position, or relationship over a marketable following. Recent technological visual developments have resulted in the appearance of computer-generated imagery (CGI) influencers on Instagram, which are able to mimic social behaviours of a human operator despite their artificial existence. CGI influencers are increasingly becoming indistinguishable from human operators due to advancements in video and photographic manipulation, problematizing the manner in which individuals identify and cultivate authentic virtual relationships over digital space. In this research, I draw on qualitative primary analysis of five verified CGI influencers, and apply Pierre Bourdieu’s theory of taste and distinction to understand how CGI influencers as cultural intermediaries develop, engage, and sustain their virtual audience in order to maintain their virtual status. Findings suggest that these virtual influencers share a close relationship with fashion brands due to its expressive potential in validating cultural capital and niche taste among virtual audience members.

Author(s): *Austin Bernier, University of Manitoba*

### **Internet, Technology & Social Movements**

Session Code: ITD3

Research Cluster Affiliation: Internet, Technology, and Digital Sociology

Internet and communication technologies have become important staples in contemporary politics and social movements. The papers in this session explore the diverse ways progressive movements have come to embrace the internet as a tool for activism at both the global and local levels. On the one hand, this session will focus on the affordances of information technologies that make them especially suited for use by political actors facing various forms of opposition from the state. On the other hand, it will explore the effects such technologies have had on the

public and movement participants' own understanding and experience of technology-mediated political action and the methodological implications of conducting research in this arena.

Organizer(s): *Andrey Kasimov, McMaster University*

Presentations:

### **1. A Digital Bundle - A New Social Movement Online**

FourDirectionsTeachings.com is a novel cultural form on the Internet that challenges existing dominant social configurations of power. The availability of indigenous knowledge online not only speaks to access but to the fact that it represents a new social movement, which I refer to as a digital bundle. Simply speaking, a bundle refers to a collection of things that are regarded as sacred in some way, and held by a person with care and ceremony. Some bundles may be handed down through a family. Other bundles are community bundles and hold a great deal of power, as with very old pipe bundles, some of which may even go back to the beginning of a specific revealed ceremony or tradition that supports the whole community. In this case, the person holding the bundle must undergo a thorough rigorous process of learning about the meaning of the tradition or ceremony, and how it gets transferred to members of the community. Based on these responsibilities, it can be said that a bundle is a lifelong commitment (or, if not, a commitment that has to be responsibly passed on or otherwise released, and never simply neglected or discarded in a disrespectful way). FourDirectionsTeachings.com is considered a digital bundle because it is a collection of teachings by respected Elders and traditional teachers who are sharing Indigenous knowledge that is highly regarded and valued by diverse Indigenous communities. In this way the site contributes to social and political transformation from the periphery by asserting and claiming space for diverse knowledges of Indigenous nations. Having access to this knowledge/ content embodies and enacts Indigenous resurgence by helping to revive cultural foundations for Indigenous communities everywhere.

Author(s): *Jennifer Wemigwans, University of Toronto*

### **2. The Role of the Telegram in the Iranian Social Movements**

If we consider democracy as the exercise of the power of the masses and their participation in the administration of social affairs, the telegram is a tool for the exercise of the power of the masses, democracy, and the free flow of information in recent decades in Iran. In the past decade, Facebook was a tool for citizens to express their influence and solidarity with social elites to curb the flow of information and rule, but now Facebook has taken its place, making Telegram the most popular app in Iranian social movements. In recent years, demonstrations in Iran were mainly organized through Telegram. "The Telegram instant messaging service has more than 50 million users in Iran (BBCpersian, 2017)" and 60% of the countrys Internets bandwidth is spent on using this app (Khorakian, 2017). According to a study, 6 out of 10 Iranian are a member of Telegram messaging app. The study also indicates that 58.4% of Iranian over the age of 18 are using this app (Jafari, 2017). But Islamic Republic authorities have repeatedly have blocked it and imposed restrictions on citizens access to the Telegram. In May 2015 and during the protests on December 8, 2017, Telegram was blocked for more than a week and finally became available again on December 23, 2017. It was re-locked on May 10, 2017, by judicial authorities. On 20 October 2015, Pavel Durov CEO of Telegram announced that "Iranian authorities want to use Telegram to spy on their citizens" (Durov, 2017). After that Iranian citizens started to using VPNs to access Telegram. This study focuses on the telegram app rule in the Iranian social movement for 2 decades. The question is why Iranian use telegram as the main messenger in their daily lives after the government has filtered the telegram for many times. The research hypothesis is that Iranian users were reluctant to leave the telegram because of a sense of security, free exchange of information, and social cohesion and being in a network. The theoretical framework of the research is the Technology acceptance model. The findings indicate that the use of telegram in Iran does not depend on the user's demographic characteristics. Iranian feel safe using telegrams. They welcome the anonymity of the messenger so that they can freely express their political views and opinions. Freedom of information and a sense of social solidarity are also positive aspects of the telegram for Iranian users.

Author(s): *Parizad Bahardoost, Islamic Azad University*

### **3. Understanding Online Activism: Motivation in Use of Social Media as a Tool of Social Movement**

Social media use has been one of the most contested and researched topics of the last decade. There have been numerous examples of social media use that ignited heightened awareness of social issues and in some cases, physical activism/social movements. In many cases, these studies included active use of hashtags by social media users. The primary concern that is addressed in this paper is to understand why and how social media and virtual

space as a whole becomes a sphere for online movements. Furthermore, by examining texts and audiovisual contents on social media, and utilizing “Public Sphere” and “Uses and Gratification” theories, I argue that social media provides an area where individuals without political and social capitals can express their concerns as well as gain emotional and mental supports from other individuals by sharing their opinions on social media platforms.

Author(s): *Yena Lee, McMaster University*

#### **4. Influencing Societal Change, One Hashtag at a Time**

New information and communication technologies (ICTs) have facilitated cultural changes in society, which in turn have impacted the landscape of political life for young people. While a number of studies have examined the ways in which young people use the Internet and social media in an effort to influence societal change, little research has grappled with questions of how the online medium shapes the construction of social and political issues, and how these media themselves are constructed and appropriated by users. This study takes a social constructionist approach to gain a greater understanding of the production of meaning within youth social movements and to explore how young people perceive their participation in digital activism. Using a qualitative methodology, a content analysis of the Twitter platforms of three youth-led movements is being conducted, as well as in-depth interviews with key activists in each of the identified groups. This presentation will discuss preliminary findings, specifically the completed analysis of data from the Canadian youth movement, March for Our Education. Findings can contribute to our knowledge and awareness of the role of social media in shaping the construction of social problems and claims-making and can contribute to our theoretical understanding of contemporary youth movements.

Author(s): *Monica Pauls, University of Calgary*

#### **5. Digitally divided?: Online media and perceptions of polarization in Atlantic Canada**

The increasing polarization of people’s political views - especially on topics of immigration and socio-cultural diversity - has become a widely accepted fact in Canada. A global surge in left-wing social movement activity over the last decade has coincided with the rise of right-wing populist parties and nationalist counter-movements. Both “extremes” are believed to be fueled by social media and the echo chambers that develop in digital spaces. But these narratives were not formed by or for the residents of Atlantic Canada; rather, they are global in scope, while this region’s concerns and events remain largely peripheral. For this reason, we ask to what extent Atlantic Canadians’ politics are being affected by or reflected in these larger narratives of political division. Using data collected in a 2019 telephone survey on the political views of Atlantic Canadians, we examine residents’ perceptions of polarization in the region, as well as consider to what degree their views reflect a polarized public sphere. We highlight the role of digital media in shaping both perceptions of polarization and polarization itself.

Author(s): *Rachel McLay, Dalhousie University; Kayla Preston, Dalhousie University; Howard Ramos, Dalhousie University*

#### **6. Methodology and #MeToo: Studying Feminist Social Movements in the Digital Era**

As feminist social movements and concomitant campaigns have increasingly been taken up online (e.g., #metoo, #timesup), researchers are afforded greater access to online narratives and data related to user experience. In the context of digital feminist social movements, we are left with questions regarding the way feminism has been leveraged through social media and the practical applications of these data as a means to explore and understand social movements. This paper suggests potential strategies to utilize digital campaigns in a way that captures both the narrative depth of digital feminist activism while also outlining the pitfalls of utilizing this data. We explore methodological concerns within this data derived from social media, specifically twitter, such as barriers to collecting demographic information, issues in measuring receptivity, failure to accurately capture sentiment, and the increasing presence of online bots. Further, we explore the advantages these movements offer as a method for exploring narratives and capturing ideological shifts within a relative movement. Through a case analysis of the #whyistayed / #whyileft campaign circa 2014 and the #metoo movement in 2019, we explore the patterns and trends present within the greater context of digital feminist-oriented social movements and examine the constraints within this framework of data.

Author(s): *Madelaine Coelho, University of Toronto; Rachel Meiorin, University of Toronto*

## Surveillance, Privacy, and Risk Management

Session Code: ITD4

Research Cluster Affiliation: Internet, Technology, and Digital Sociology

As digital technologies become more embedded in daily life, it has become important to critically reflect on the formal and informal surveillance practices that increasingly encroach on digital rights. This session addresses the growing challenges related to surveillance, including identifying the consequences of its many different forms, the uses of monitoring technologies as agents of social control, and the implications for users' privacy. A related challenge arises from the application of monitoring technologies and algorithmic modeling to manage risk along a range of social dimensions. The theoretical and empirical presentations in this session aim to contribute to this important discourse through a number of topics, such as state and non-state surveillance, cyberstalking, personal safety apps, digital privacy attitudes, and data justice.

Organizer(s): *Andrew Nevin, University of Toronto; Anabel Quan-Haase, Western University*

Presentations:

### 1. Social Media Surveillance of Refugees

This paper examines social media surveillance of refugees within the context of Canada's refugee vetting system. It focuses on the case of Syrian refugees who experienced the Canadian vetting process and social media screening in 2015 and beyond, some of whom were denied resettlement due to their social media posts. The Canadian authorities are increasingly relying on social media surveillance to assess the truthfulness of refugees' narratives and the level of security risk refugee applicants pose to the public. Social media surveillance could be extended to other categories in the future and become a routine part of the Canadian visa and immigration system. In the United States, since June 2019 all visa applicants are required to submit their social media accounts for the past five years. The social media surveillance of refugees raises important questions about the relationship between technology and society, particularly in relation to the increasing role of surveillance technologies in transforming societies. This paper will selectively and critically draw on a number of sources including the literature on sociology of surveillance, and social theories of Agamben, Foucault, and Deleuze, to analyze social media surveillance of refugees.

Author(s): *Ozgun Topak, York University*

### 2. Moral entrepreneurs on nets of surveillance: social control beyond the state

Today we see widespread use of social media by individuals who accuse each other of inadequate behavior, such as in the #MeToo Movement. These online judgments are possible due to advances in information and communication technologies (ICTs). The phenomenon leads to the question of how do social media users surveil, judge and punish sexual-related behavior publicized online? To do so, this research is based on (1) moral crusades theories and (2) surveillance studies. These, however, are considered in an account beyond a centralized perception of surveillance (viewed as an asymmetrical and vertical power relationship) (Marwick, 2012), once there are today, nets of surveillance, which differentiate the watchers and the watched (Wilson, 2010). The theme is relevant to (1) identify the new social relations which alter the political importance of the state and increase the influence of social movements as social regulators; (2) describe new forms of punishment that do not follow liberal guarantees. The research partial conclusion is the recognition of a capillary structure, made of power and resistance struggles (Mathieu, 2005), populated by individuals who act as moral entrepreneurs (Becker, 1963) and who use lateral surveillance (Andrejevic, 2005) to promote their points of view, with no institutional limits.

Author(s): *Ines Ferreira Dias Tavares, University of Ottawa*

### 3. Every Smile You Fake: A Study On the Perception and Control Of Cyberstalking Behaviours In Contemporary Society

Historically, development of laws surrounding stalking and their enforcement have been problematic; acknowledgement of stalking as a criminal offense was not codified until the 1990s in Canada and these laws remain lacking in some areas even today. Today, these problems include the way we deal with cyberstalking and online harassment in this new era of the internet. The section of the Canadian Criminal Code on criminal harassment fails to adequately address this new form of harassment; this may be due in part to cyberstalking

percieved lack of threat when compared to overt stalking, as well as the failure to define it as either a recognized subcategory of stalking or a crime of its own. This study addresses these concerns and attempts to define cyberstalking as its own unique phenomenon, as well as speaking to the ways that stalking, cyberstalking, privacy and surveillance are percieved by scholars in current times. The study also proposes the ways in which opening up discussion in these areas and defining cyberstalking as its own criminalized phenomenon can help to create proper legislation regarding this topic, and increase controls around these behaviours moving forward.

Author(s): *Lynsay LeBlanc, University of Manitoba*

#### **4. Navigating Risk and Creating a Safer World? There's an App for that.**

Technology presents individuals and communities with new ways to protect themselves and avoid victimization. In this paper we consider the implications of Neighbourhood (Citizen and Next Door) and Personal Safety (Safe and Hollaback) apps and mobile resources that promote crime prevention. Specifically, we analyze promotional material, relevant blog posts, and over 30,000 user reviews in order to explore the ubiquity of surveillance technologies in our lives and understandings of risk. We find that these tech companies construct the world as a dangerous place, particularly for women, children, and the elderly. We suggest this encourages users to re-think their relationship to their physical environments and to avoid particular spaces. While claiming to empower individuals (a refrain echoed by some users), we are concerned that this merely responsabilizes those labelled most 'vulnerable' to victimization and offers private solutions to broader social and economic problems. For their part, neighbourhood safety apps seem designed to quell (or stoke) the fears of the white middle-class residing in suburban communities. We explore the ways this contributes to marginalization, divisiveness, and social inequalities.

Author(s): *Madelaine Coelho, University of Toronto; Liam Kennedy, King's University College at Western University*

#### **5. The Sociology of Resignation: Examining the Digital Privacy Attitudes and Behaviours of East Yorkers**

Digital media are a central part of everyday life in many parts of the world, creating a range of privacy risks through data collection and aggregation practices. Further, the upsurge in use of social networking platforms has also created opportunities for privacy violations through institutional and social surveillance. Employing a qualitative thematic analysis, this study explores how 101 adults living in the East York section of Toronto navigate privacy challenges. The interviewed participants expressed feelings of mistrust, loss of control, resignation, and perceived self-unimportance with regard to their digital data. A key theme was the participants' desire and attempts to gain agency when using digital media. This study supports the rich and developing body of literature on the sociology of resignation. As such, it challenges the notion that digital users are unconcerned about their data online and argues for a re-evaluation of the "informed" and "empowered" actor metaphor at the heart of the privacy paradox debate.

Author(s): *Kaitlyn Cavacas, Western University; Molly-Gloria Harper, Western University; Anabel Quan-Haase, Western University; Barry Wellman, NetLab Network*

#### **6. Data Justice for Youth in Care**

Across the Western world, a range of new monitoring, evaluative and predictive technologies have begun to re-shape governance processes within and across the public sector, as well as in civil society (Dencik, Hintz, and Cable, 2016; Gillingham and Graham, 2017). Data-led initiatives in the social service sector in other Western nations (e.g., New Zealand, the United States), implemented to improve systems efficiencies (e.g., predicting child maltreatment through algorithmic modeling), have resulted in the increased and often nonconsensual monitoring of historically over-surveilled and criminalized groups (e.g., people living in poverty and without stable housing) without improving services or closing service demand and supply gaps (Eubanks, 2018; Keddell, 2014). Research suggests a similar pattern is emerging in Canadian institutions, whereby data-led institutional processes serve the aims of institutional risk-management and oversight without substantively improving outcomes for youth (Nichols, 2019). This presentation focuses on one of three interconnected projects, happening under the umbrella of the PI's SSHRC Insight Grant: Data Justice: Fostering equitable data-led strategies to prevent, reduce and end youth homelessness. We will describe a collaborative intervention to investigate and equitably intervene in the Ontario Government's move to embrace data-led governance in the field of child welfare. We will present a methodology and results for systematically mapping the data assets (sources, owners, users, accessibility and type), data flows, linkages, inter-operability issues and barriers pertaining to youth in and leaving the care system. Ultimately, the systematic mapping exercise will anchor investigations of the social and institutional processes through which young people's complex lives and interactions with state systems are translated into the fields of data-bases,



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administrative data reviews, and key performance indicators, assessing these processes -- and the information and insights they generate -- in terms of quality and justice (for youth).

Author(s): *Michael Lenczner, Powered by Action; Kody Crowell, Powered by Action; Naomi Nichols, McGill University*

### Digital Inequality and Stratification

Session Code: ITD5

Research Cluster Affiliation: Internet, Technology, and Digital Sociology

One of the most prominent research agendas within the sociology of technology investigates how new technological developments contribute to either lessening or compounding existing social inequalities. As our understanding of digital inequality has improved, research has shifted away from an exclusive focus on the gap between the 'haves' and 'have-nots' to begin to highlight other types of digital divides that arise in the networked society. This session contributes to this discourse through presentations that use a lens of social stratification to explore a variety of topics related to digital inclusion, digital literacy, and precarious work in the technology-mediated gig economy.

Organizer(s): *Andrew Nevin, University of Toronto; Anabel Quan-Haase, Western University*

Presentations:

#### **1. Digital Inequalities in Canada: An Updated Analysis of Access and Skill Divides in 2018**

Digital inequality encompasses various digital divides, including access and skill divides, which impact one's ability to leverage social, political, and economic opportunities afforded by digital technologies. To assess outcomes related to persistent digital inequalities and to inform both short- and long-term policies, it is important to track rates of digital connectivity and e-literacy over time. As such, we offer a follow-up to the findings from previous national-level data on Internet adoption and usage patterns in Canada collected in 2010, which observed notable demographic divides related to Internet access, online activities, and social media use (Haight et al., 2014). The Canadian context has since paid more attention to digital inclusion, emphasized by a 2016 CRTC declaration that high-speed Internet access is "necessary to the quality of life" for all Canadians. This prompted increased government funding and a focus on social programs aimed at achieving 100 percent connectivity across the country. In light of these developments, we use data from the 2018 Canadian Internet Use Survey to investigate shifts in the predictors of Internet adoption and its varied uses over the last decade. We also evaluate the progress made toward complete connectivity while identifying those who continue to lag behind despite targeted policy initiatives. We conclude with a critical reflection on the evolution of measures in the CIUS.

Author(s): *Michael Haight, Western University; Andrew Nevin, University of Toronto*

#### **2. Surviving, but not thriving? Lives of immigrants in the gig economy.**

The struggles that immigrants face when they seek to integrate into the labour market in order to seek gainful employment have drawn the attention of immigration researchers in recent years. It has been increasingly questioned how Canada's immigration policies and laws produce this form of precarious employment, and whether this form of precarity in the labour market that immigrants seek to be part of -is exploitative in nature. In recent years, there has been a growth in non-standard working arrangements (ie. Contract work, solo self-employment, multiple job holding). This is increasingly prevalent with the influx of the 'gig' (or 'platform') economy workers. Research in this area, as it relates to immigrant workers, has been understudied. In general, little is known about the demographics of the workers in the 'gig' economy, and why they chose to pursue it. Often lauded as an increased form of income mobility or method to obtain a flexible schedule, there is a lack of research on the long-term effects of this form of work on newcomers, and this is fertile ground of research for immigration scholars, economists, and policy makers alike. I argue that the ability to work multiple jobs (such as through the gig economy) is a form of precarious employment that can create marginally attached workers (eg. Hidden unemployment, discouraged workers) through a learned helplessness and satisficing decision-making behaviour, further affecting their wellbeing. Previous research has documented the factors and conditions of marginally attached workers in society, but the linkages to various forms of precarious employment has been under-explored, especially within the context of immigrants. These findings can reveal how precarity in the 'gig' economy is further

exacerbated amongst immigrants, as it leaves them in a stage of being comfortable enough to survive, but not actually enough to allow them to thrive in the labour market.

Author(s): *Laura Lam, Ryerson University*

### **3. Digital Literacy, Access and Inclusion for Young Adults with Developmental Disabilities**

Young adults with developmental disabilities (YADD) face systematic exclusion and have less opportunities in relation to education, employment, and for contributing and participating to their households and in their communities. Access and use of digital technology promise positive impacts on YADD' social and economic integration, and wellbeing. However, the literature reports barriers YADD face that limits their digital inclusion. Our study consisted of two phases: Phase 1) Scoping Review, and Phase 2) Qualitative data gathering through in-depth interviews and focus groups with YADD and caregivers of YADD. We conducted a scoping review of current literature on barriers to access and utilization of digital technology that support YADD's transition age needs in four areas (education, daily living, integration, and employment). We conducted interviews with 2 YADD and 3 caregivers, and 1 focus group with YADD and their caregivers. Qualitative data analysis was guided by grounded theory. A total of 29 studies met the eligibility criteria. Barriers to digital literacy and access include: (i) education : lack of training for teachers and parents, affordability, poor follow-through in support services, inadequate infrastructure, and lack of adequate functional design; (ii) daily living: unavailable training, inadequate support for parents, complex design, lack of fit with needs, inadequate user interface usability-system support, and lack of appropriate 'technology fit'; (iii) integration: lack of availability of up-to-date technology, poor access to community activities, lack of social acceptance, and low levels of literacy; and, (iv) employment : lack of availability of digital technology, lack appropriate design, lack of provision of accommodations or infrastructure. Basic human rights are a concern due to the lack of equitable access to digital opportunities to improve people with developmental disabilities' wellbeing. An intersectional approach to the study of access to digital technology will shed light on YADD's multiples exclusions, as well as potential facilitators.

Author(s): *Luz Maria Vazquez, York University; Nazilla Khanlou, York University; Attia Khan, York University*

### **4. Online Visibility Practices and Race: Addressing Gaps in the Digital Divide**

The ubiquity of digital media as a means of self-presentation and social interaction among women has raised important questions about issues of online visibility and authenticity. Research in this field has focused on female social media influencers (SMIs), and how they balance presenting an "authentic" self while mediating negative responses to their online presence (Duffy, 2016; Iqani and Schroeder, 2015; Marwick, 2015; Banet-Weiser, 2013). Online visibility practices among SMIs are guided by gender-normative ideals of femininity, which are in turn shaped by feedback from their followers. However, current research has predominantly focused on white, middle-class educated women that have been able to become SMIs. On the other hand, digital inequality has been generally understood as an issue of access and lack of skills (van Dijk and Hacker, 2011; Hargittai and Hsieh, 2013). While these inequalities still persist, the literature available on digital inequality has not fully addressed current issues of differential usage of digital media according to social location, specifically with regards to online visibility practices among racialized young women (Selwyn, 2019). As such, theoretical development is skewed and may be missing important insight into how online visibility practices are shaped by and experienced differently according to social location. This theoretical paper will explore the ways in which current research conceptualizes the relationship between digital race and online visibility practices. In addition, it will develop contemporary approaches to understand how race is made implicit in individuals experiences of digital media use.

Author(s): *Daniela Zuzunaga, Queen's University*

## **Place, Community, and Social Relationships in the Digital Age**

Session Code: ITD6

Research Cluster Affiliation: Internet, Technology, and Digital Sociology

As digital technologies continue to reduce geographic barriers to communication and interaction, they have played an increasingly important role in the re-imagining of community and the changing meaning attached to social spaces and relationships. In this session, theoretical and empirical papers discuss the role of social media and locative media in shaping our understanding of community, both in terms of physical places and online environments. These presentations offer new insights into how technology impacts experiences of urban spaces,

the development of social capital, the dissolution of relationships, and the dynamics of community engagement in the digital age.

Organizer(s): *Andrew Nevin, University of Toronto; Anabel Quan-Haase, Western University*

Presentations:

**1. The Future will not be Instagrammed: Resistance, Gentrification, and the Re-Conceptualization of Community through Place-based Social Media**

Parkdale is a neighbourhood in Toronto, Ontario. Originally developed by wealthy urbanites - even existing as an independent village for a time - it has been reshaped by the industrialization of the waterfront, waves of immigration, and most recently gentrification. Recent changes have produced tensions in the way residents negotiate their sense of place and community. 'Parkdale Life' has developed as a place-based social media presence that centres the lived-experiences of changing urban landscapes and contemporary conceptualizations of community by 'meme-ifying' the realities of Parkdale. Parkdale Life earned a substantial following by sharing the raw imagery of life in the neighbourhood. These often satirical snapshots are eloquently blended with critiques of gentrification, discussions of community-based organizations, and efforts to mobilize resources around various causes (e.g., the food bank, land trust, and legal clinic). We draw from media content (Instagram/Twitter posts, newsletters, and media coverage) as well as autoethnographic vignettes to construct a narrative analysis of the way Parkdale Life employs place-based social media to re-conceptualize community. We explore Parkdale Life's use of humour, anonymity, and digital media in the construction of place and community while attempting to reorient public narratives to include the complex forces involved in gentrification. We discuss these linkages between online networks and locality-based realities as well as how social media platforms can be used to both dissect and construct membership by traversing between online and offline communities. We provide critical reflections on the implications of place-based social media as a mechanism for re-conceptualizing community and contributing to broader public discourse. We argue that the reach and influence of these accounts may be significant in broader social processes and that a critical perspective is necessary to fully understand the implications of place in increasingly digitally-mediated social worlds.

Author(s): *Kyle Rich, Brock University; Ashleigh Weeden, University of Guelph*

**2. Right to the queer city: A theoretical framework for investigating LGBTQ+ uses of locative media in urban spaces**

Locative media are smartphone apps that make use of a device's GPS and other location-awareness technologies to deliver content to users that is specific to their exact location, at the exact time they are there. People's use of these apps can influence both their relationship to the urban spaces they inhabit and the social relations among urban citizens in significant ways. While there is a growing body of literature on locative media, there remains little research on uses of these apps by queer people beyond gay male "hookup" apps. But before engaging in such research, we must account for the differing relationships with space experienced by queer people. Queer spaces are contingent, never fixed, never certain. In this paper, I take as my starting point Lefebvre's notion of the right to the city: the symbiotic relationship between city and citizen, and the resultant rhythms. I examine queer notions of and experiences with (and against) these rhythms of urban spaces, and present a theoretical framework for analyzing queer uses of locative media apps in everyday encounters with others and the urban spaces they inhabit.

Author(s): *Darryl Pieber, Western University*

**3. Streaks, Stories, and Social Capital: Understanding How Teenagers Use Snapchat from a Bourdieusian Framework**

Snapchat (a time-limited, visually-based smartphone application) has rapidly developed into one of the most popular social media platforms among young people. Snapchat allows users to directly message and broadcast both pictures and videos to others. However, the content sent or posted on Snapchat disappears shortly after it is opened. Generally, teenagers use social media to maintain constant contact with their peers. Consequently, social media platforms are well-documented spaces that perpetuate negative behaviour among youth such as drama and cyberbullying. To date, research into teenagers using social media has included platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, but there is little research regarding how teenagers use Snapchat. Drawing from semi-structured interviews, this study explores Snapchat use among high school students in Southern Ontario. Drawing upon a Bourdieusian framework to interpret Snapchat as a field in which young people gain and maintain social capital, the findings suggest teenagers rely on Snapchat to uphold their relationships and status within their peer

groups. As well, the findings show that exploitative behaviours are issues teenagers face with Snapchat use. Namely, participants cited cyberbullying and revenge porn as activities teenagers partake in to look “cool” and bond with their friends, thus increasing their social capital. Altogether, this study introduces how teenagers navigate peer-group power dynamics on Snapchat to the literature. Additionally, this study provides preliminary insight for teachers, parents, and others of authority seeking to prevent and respond to harmful behaviours teenagers face online.

Author(s): *Brianna Green, University of Guelph*

#### **4. Throwaway Relationship: Reddit as the Social Conveyor Belt of the Uncoupling Process**

Through a content analysis of 15 Reddit posts pertaining to breaking up, this study seeks to extend Diane Vaughan’s renowned 1986 study of the uncoupling process, by setting out to answer the research question: “How do online communities provide support for people involved in the personal and varied social experience of the uncoupling process?” Our findings reveal two competing interpretations about the nature of support offered by Reddit: (1) Reddit acts as a resource for strengthening individuals’ agency during the private decision-making phase of the uncoupling process and draws anchorage from George Simmel’s *The Stranger* (1950), through its attractive equidistant duality of intimacy and anonymity, and (2) Reddit acts as a communal and mob-like environment where individuals go to relinquish themselves of the burden of agency; this interpretation received grounding in a dramaturgical analysis, as posited by Goffman (1959). Both perspectives offer unique insights not only into how the use of technology has transformed the traditional process of breaking up, but also how cultural repertoires centered around the virtues of collectivism have been replaced by an alternative unidimensional moralism; this shift is reflected in the roleplaying nature of Reddit. The two rules of roleplay include (1) valuing confidence and unidimensional morality, and (2) rewarding dramatization of one’s role and communal consensus. Moreover, in the perspective of Reddit as ‘the stranger’ or Reddit as mob-influenced stage-play, our fundamental conclusion is maintained -that Reddit acts as a social conveyor belt that catalyzes initiators’ movement out of one of the stages of Vaughan’s uncoupling process. This catalytic quality of Reddit reveals an insightful feature of online forums as a resource: individuals both offering and seeking support on such platforms tend to be fixated on propelling seekers into action, rather than staying mired in deliberative thought processes.

Author(s): *Yagana Samim, University of Toronto; Nathan Ly, University of Toronto*

#### **5. Humanizing through Humor: A Qualitative Media Analysis of Canadian Police Use of Humor on Twitter**

Police use of social media has been increasing over the last decade, and with this increase comes varying engagement approaches. One of notable interest is the use of humor by officers. In this paper, I use a qualitative media analysis to draw on 68 humorous posts, from 5 individual officer Twitter accounts of Canadian police officers, in order to explore how the police use humor on Twitter. I also explore user comments to these humorous posts in order to understand how the public perceives police use of humor. The findings reveal that humor is not a widely used approach by the police, but when it is used it has the potential to be effective. In addition, the types of humor used can be understood in 5 general themes: relatable humor, police humor, safety message humor, self-deprecating humor and humor involving the community. User comments reveal a largely positive response, suggesting that humor is welcomed by police on social media, but it must be used selectively and carefully in order to be effective in humanizing the police.

Author(s): *Vincenzo Soave, Western University*

### **The Challenges and Promises of Technology**

Session Code: ITD7

Research Cluster Affiliation: Internet, Technology, and Digital Sociology

As the sociological study of technology continues to grow, many questions remain unanswered regarding the social implications of digital and networked technologies on our everyday lives and on society more broadly. In this general session, theoretical and empirical papers will address the complicated nature of the intersection between technology and society, which is captured by both the challenges and promises associated with technological development. These presentations offer new directions and contributions to this research area, covering topics such as the effects of technology on democracy, social interaction in the household, and e-

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commerce, as well as the possibilities regarding video games, online genetics, and the presentation of self on the Internet.

Organizer(s): *Andrew Nevin, University of Toronto; Anabel Quan-Haase, Western University*

Presentations:

### **1. E-commerce and the Emergence of new trading risks among Ghanaian online traders**

Studies on the use of Information and Communication Technology in trade in Africa abound with key focus on mobile phones and how it has improved the trading opportunities of traders and made customers easily accessible. The emergence of indigenous online trading and courier services with an African focus such as Jumia, Tonaton, and Jiji introduces a new set of threats to traders and customers. Using the snowball and purposive sampling methods, 21 in-depth interviews of online trading customers of such platforms were engaged to explore the risks and coping mechanisms associated with trading on such platforms. The findings revealed that although the managers of these online trading platforms have created the platform to bring sellers and buyers together, the platform has been adopted by people with criminal intentions to scam unsuspecting visitors (both sellers and buyers). Such scams have the potential of derailing the adoption of online trading platforms. The paper further explores the readiness of existing regulators and owners of such platforms in preventing and safeguarding stakeholders' interest.

Author(s): *Rabiu K.B. Asante, University of Ghana*

### **2. Impacts of New Media Technologies on Social Interaction**

This study examines the relationship between media technologies within the household and social interaction between individuals. It explores how new media technologies such as, video and computer games, the internet, mobile phones and other types of modern technology are playing a major role in everyday life in society. This study set out to explore if new media technologies within the home are serving to bring different generations of the family or a household together or if it is leading to an increasing privatization within the household. Empirical data was conducted from Patiala city of Punjab. Data was collected using the interview schedule. The qualitative data obtained shows that new media technologies are negatively impacting on social interaction between individuals within the household. Firstly, it emerged that new media technologies are immersed into the household and into the daily routines of individuals. Secondly, it became known that there is a close correlation between the location of new media technologies within the home and social interaction. The main findings to emerge from the research process found that new media technologies within the home are leading to increased social isolation and a privatization of people's lives within the household.

Author(s): *Pamaljeet Kaur, Punjabi University Patiala Punjab*

### **3. The Effects of Social Media on Representative Democracy in Canada**

The 2015 Canadian federal election campaign may be remembered most of all for its "candidate controversies." In an almost daily ritual, citizen bloggers exhumed the "unacceptable" words of candidates from their social media accounts, the press reported, the shell-shocked political parties responded, the citizen bloggers responded to the responses, and everyone suddenly found themselves pulled, perhaps unknowingly, into an implicit seminar on Canadian values. Had what these candidates said online been un-Canadian? This behaviour continued into the 2019 federal election, this time taken up by the parties themselves. Until now, no one has seriously explored the ramifications of this remarkable element of the campaigns. This research aims to better understand the nature of the discourse on Canadian values that coalesces at the intersection of politics, journalism, and social media.

Author(s): *Terry L. Newman, Concordia University*

### **4. No Need to Reinvent the Wheel: The Case for Evaluating Existing Video Games' Effects on Social Issues**

Technology depicts real-life issues in interactive videogames designed to engage and entertain the user. Researchers have used similar depictions to create "serious" games to teach skills such as empathy (Baek, Ko, and Marsh, 2014). But these smaller projects can never reach the time or numbers of conventional videogame releases, with their big budgets and detailed artwork. Research can't pull off a big-budget game, but it doesn't need to. If popular literature can be a "catalyst for social action" (McCall and Ford, 1998, p. 130), why not popular videogames? Videogames attempt to immerse users in a believable environment and story, most modeled on the real world (Rejack, 2007) with varying degrees of accuracy (Hong, 2015). Researchers' "serious games" (Baek, Ko, and Marsh, 2014) try to capture the effects of these simulated environments on specific issues, such as perspective-

taking. Games aimed at decreasing racism ("Everyday Racism" app, "alltogethernow.org.au," n.d.) have been made publicly available, but the brief time spanned by the app falls short of the hours spent by gamers on their preferred titles. If a conventional videogame could be recommended as a social learning tool, it could engage users better than an app, or reading a book- because it is made to entertain. In this paper I critically evaluate three game titles with content on race, gender, class and other social issues: 'Zafehouse: Diaries' (2012, Screwfly Studios), 'Gone Home,' (2013, The Fullbright Company) and 'Tell Me Why' (2019) by Dontnod. I contrast this content with social learning content created by researchers, and discuss the stigma attached to the videogaming industry (which leads games' value as art and/or education to be dismissed out of hand). Finally, I make a case for harnessing the products of this billion-dollar industry for use on social issues- rather than trying to reinvent them ourselves.

Author(s): *Ley Fraser, University of Manitoba*

### **5. Online genetics for health: An empirical investigation of how users matter**

Online genetics companies have grown exponentially in the past decade. Empirical research on users can inform current academic debates and upcoming policy decisions on this emergent technology. Since 2017, online genetics companies have intensified efforts to legitimize themselves as scientific sources of health information. In this context, I apply a sociology of science and technology perspective, with a user-centred theoretical lens, to understand how users (as social actors) play a role in interpreting this technical practice. I pose two questions: (1) Why do people do online genetics for health? (2) How do users engage with and interpret health information from online genetics? I present interview data from ten (10) users in total. My findings demonstrate how users (and their social identities) matter in determining the meaning and use of this technology. Since the users I interviewed identify as scientific and skeptical, they pursue online genetics largely for self-insight and identity development, rather than health information per se. They also often question the medical legitimacy of online genetics, despite company efforts to configure themselves as medically and scientifically valid.

Author(s): *Salwa Khan, University of Ottawa*

### **6. Synthesizing digital self-presentation: Young people's ability to refine themselves while online**

Contemporary young people, generally those under the age of 29, are increasingly turning to digital media to explore, discover, formulate, and construct their identities. Characteristic of this shift to the online domain in this process of developing the self are that young people are able to, to some extent, present who they want to be while online by presenting a refined version of themselves through the wide array of tools, techniques, and strategies social media platforms offer. Among a host of other factors, digital self-presentation, then, often depends on the different types of features provided by digital media and the prospective audience, which may or may not be intended. Scholars from an array of disciplines have explored the concept of self-presentation, sometimes alongside online identity, both empirically and theoretically through sociological theories such as Mead, Goffman, and Cooley. However, despite the extensive amount of attention to the concept of self-presentation, a systematic review has yet to be conducted on the topic. Thus, this research employs a research synthesis to review and synthesize existing literature with the purpose of exploring how young people are presenting themselves online, namely through social media platforms. Results highlight key characteristics attributed to the process of digital self-presentation by illuminating the factors uncovered in previous studies in creating and presenting an online self.

Author(s): *Molly-Gloria Harper, Western University*

## **Sociology of Organizations**

Session Code: ORG1

Theme: Organizations

Sociologists study many kinds of organizations, but the Sociology of Organizations has declined as a distinct field of the discipline since the 1980s. If Weber was right that bureaucracy would emerge as a key feature of 20th century societies, it seems his recommendation that it should remain a central concern of sociologists dissipated even as bureaucracies proliferated. Today, organizational research is largely restricted to business, administration, and management studies, where the focus is on the instrumental capabilities of bureaucratic mechanisms. But lately practitioners in the latter fields, struggling with the many and varied personnel crises linked to the implementation and operation of the corporate model, have pondered the advantages of taking a cue



from phenomenologists and once again “inhabiting institutions with people” (Bevort & Suddaby 2015). With this shift toward organizations as enacted (rather than entities that “act upon”) perhaps it is time for sociology to help reinvestigate the field that they helped found.

Organizer(s): *Karen Stanbridge, Memorial University*

Presentations:

**1. The Politics of “Doing Exactly Nothing”: Feminist Legal Change and Bureaucratic Administration of Refugee**

This article explores the limitations of progressive and feminist legal change through a study of the development of gender-based refugee policy in Canada. I argue that the actual impact of feminist and progressive legal change is determined in interaction with the wider bureaucratic and administrative contexts of its implementation; administrative strategies and bureaucratic procedures may, in fact, capably undermine the potentially expansive effects of progressive jurisprudence. As I will show, feminist legal interventions in Canada’s refugee policy did not increase actual access to refugee protection. Not only were these interventions delivered in a decidedly limited administrative form, they occurred simultaneously with highly innovative and coordinated bureaucratic practices that limited the access of large groups of refugee claimants to protection. Thus, while the Canadian refugee system expanded jurisprudentially, access to this system was tightly restricted through administrative and bureaucratic measures.

Author(s): *Azar Masoumi, Acadia University*

**2. Organizations as Systems of Cooperation**

Many years ago, Barnard defined organizations as “systems of cooperation,” a characterization that ensured that the people without whom organizations would fail to exist remained front and centre of organizational analysis. Barnard’s definition didn’t stick insofar as organizational research and study proceeded to push people out of organizations and approach them as mechanisms into which people, like widgets, were plugged. Successful and unsuccessful organizations are thus places through which processes run according to plan and goals are met with little turmoil. But organizations are not things in themselves but collections of imperfect individuals with membership in myriad other “systems of cooperation” with other imperfect people. Abandoning analyses of the messiness of human relationships for the super-clean world of machine-like organizations has made Organizational research more science like but has utterly failed to foster organizational cultures that work in the interests of enhancing human cooperation for any length of time. Putting the people back into organizations is essential to address many of the most pressing problems facing workers in organizations. The paper reviews a case of the organization gone wrong as exemplary of their neglect.

Author(s): *Karen Stanbridge, Memorial University*

**3. Customer Signals and Organizational Flows: Neoliberalism, Out of Place?**

Neoliberalism as a macro-historical process is often deployed to make sense of contemporary shifts in economic organization. Under this neoliberal climate, public organizations are seen to adhere to neoliberal logics through textual signals such as “customer” and “customer service.” Yet, my exploration of organizational texts from two public transit organizations and their predecessors -Toronto, Canada’s Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) and Transport for London’s (TfL) -have revealed that these sorts of signals preceded the dominance and rise of neoliberalism. I consider these findings to ask: what lessons can organizational history and culture provide in nuancing our use and critique of “neoliberalism”? What is the significance of these findings for those who enact and vitalize those public organizations? As these common findings straddle two sides of the North Atlantic, this paper provides a unique opportunity to meditate upon a commonly deployed sociological concept and its supposed dominance in everyday life through differing organizational social contexts.

Author(s): *Kritee Ahmed, York University*

**Political Sociology and Social Movements: Contemporary Approaches to Social Movement Research**

Session Code: PSM2A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Political Sociology and Social Movements

## 2020 Canadian Sociological Association Conference: Resisting Racism and Colonialism

Papers in this session draw on diverse case examples to theorize key facets of contemporary movement activism, including online activism, the challenges of political participation/apathy, the role of art and symbolic representation, and movement diffusion.

Organizer(s): *Barry Eidlin, McGill University; Emily Laxer, Glendon College, York University*

Presentations:

### **1. Don't Punish Pain: Chronic Pain, Opioid Use, and Online Social Movements**

This paper describes the emergence of online activism among people with chronic pain opposed to recent policy decisions in Ontario and elsewhere to curb the opioid crisis by restricting access to prescription opioids for pain management. In light of legislation including Ontario's Patch for Patch Program, as well as policies set out by the College of Physicians and Surgeons forcing physicians to taper patients' opioid doses or to stop prescribing opioids altogether, many people with chronic pain have found themselves without adequate pain management options. These patients experience stigma, a significantly lowered quality of life, and severe impacts on their mental health as they struggle to survive without pain medicine. In response to these measures, people with chronic pain have utilized online forums, Facebook groups, and e-mail listservs as a means of organizing themselves to protest what they perceive to be unfair restrictions on their access to opioids. This paper explores how these online activism groups came to be, how they are organized, and the strategies people with chronic pain utilize to foster a burgeoning social movement. In particular, I focus on the use of discursive strategies grounded in human rights-based arguments, as well as comparisons between "respectable" opioid users compared to users of illicit street-based opioids.

Author(s): *Leigha Comer, York University*

### **2. Mapping the field of political participation in Canada**

Popular discourse and research show that participation in electoral politics has largely declined in recent decades. Some explanations for this trend include the rise of internet technologies, the emergence of new forms of political participation, rising individualism, and apathy. Using General Social Survey data from 2003 to 2013, we map the underlying relationships between various forms of political participation and demographic factors, social and economic status, news and media consumption, and internet use using correspondence analysis. We compare these three cohorts - capturing a period of significant transition/transformation in the technological and political spheres - to determine how the latent structure of Canadians' political participation has changed over the years. We argue that current analytical tools used to study social movements are not capturing underlying trends and that it is essential to identify and theorize the structure of political participation.

Author(s): *Rachel McLay, Dalhousie University; Howard Ramos, Dalhousie University*

### **3. Strategic action fields as a theoretical framework for examining stability and change of waste incineration policy in China (1988-2019)**

Strategic action fields (SAFs) is a theoretical tool proposed by Neil Fligstein and Doug McAdam (2011, 2012) to understand dynamic mesolevel social order in a specific field. Focusing on competitions between challengers and incumbents, SAFs theory has been widely applied in social movement studies. Considering waste incineration policy as a SAF, I examine the diachronic process through which various forces vie for the dominant position around the implementation and operation of waste incineration plants in China. More specifically, I use events process analysis to present the emergence of waste crisis, the application and promotion of waste incineration, an episode of contention, and resettlement. Interactions between anti-incineration forces and pro-incineration groups and the resulting changes in the field help test the applicability of SAF theory in authoritarian countries.

Author(s): *Xixi Zhang, Université du Québec à Montréal*

### **4. L'imagerie d'une contestation : une conversation silencieuse dans les rues de La Havane**

Cette présentation se penchera sur le phénomène des murales dans le Cuba contemporain. Elle visera à répondre aux questions suivantes : comment les dynamiques sociales modulent-elles les images des murales des artistes engagés et dans quelle mesure interviennent-ils dans la reconfiguration du champ artistique (des muralistes) à Cuba ? Plus encore, à quelles interprétations donnent-elles lieu ? Nous défendrons l'hypothèse qu'elles explicitent les usages multiples (stratégiques, identitaires et cognitifs) de mise en scène visuelle de la mobilisation à travers lesquels s'expriment le nationalisme, le politicisme et l'a-politicisme de la quotidienneté des Cubains. Pour ce faire, nous identifierons des formes de convergence ou de polarisation entre les artistes découlant de la lutte pour

l'interprétation ou l'orientation, et dégagerons des formes de circulation des idées ou des images entre les champs artistiques et leurs effets sur la structure du champ artistique. Au final, cette présentation permettra d'explorer les transformations du champ artistique à Cuba, pour interroger s'il y a certaines crises de représentation, en soulignant la contribution des artistes. Sans aller très loin, elle touchera également à la réception de ces messages hors du champ artistique, lesquels constituent de véritables marqueurs identitaires ou politiques publiques et autonomes vis-à-vis des agendas des artistes.

Author(s): *Niloofar Moazzami, Université du Québec à Montréal*

### **5. Measuring the Diffusion of Social Movements: Exemplified by Protests in the United States, 1960-95**

Measuring the diffusion of social movements, or more generally, the diffusion of event occurrences is an important and ongoing task in social sciences. In this paper, we introduce the public health method into social movement studies and propose a five-step procedure to measure diffusion: (1) Use event-based data which contains information of the time, location and main features of each protest; (2) Define the temporal and geographical limits; (3) For each observation, count the numbers of events that took place prior to or after the selected observation, within the defined temporal and spatial limits; (4) Predict the counts as dependent variables with appropriate models; (5) Calculate the ratios of predicted values from post-event and pre-event count models for corresponding predictors. The calculated ratio will serve as the diffusion index, and we could calculate the confidence interval for the index as well. Applying this method to the Dynamics of Collective Action data (USA, 1960-95), we identified a few risk factors associated with social movement diffusion and decline. We discussed the implications for social movement studies and sociology in general.

Author(s): *Tony Huiquan Zhang, University of Macau*

## **Political Sociology and Social Movements: Gender and Sexuality**

Session Code: PSM2B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Political Sociology and Social Movements

Papers in this session consider how social movements addressing questions of gender and sexuality navigate opportunities and constraints in their respective political settings.

Organizer(s): *Barry Eidlin, McGill University; Emily Laxer, Glendon College, York University*

Presentations:

### **1. Gendered Pathways into LGBTQ Activism in Israel**

Existing scholarship on social movement mobilization is overly structural and takes an aggregated perspective on activists' pathways into activism. Consequently, researches overlook why individuals embedded within similar structuralist circumstances differ in their mobilization outcomes. In this study, I take a micromobilization narrative approach to the study of LGBTQ activism in Israel. Despite repeated attempts to diversify, Israeli LGBTQ social movement organizations are still populated predominantly with men. I ask, why are Israeli queer women less likely to mobilize into LGBTQ activism than men? Building on interviews with ten Israeli LGBTQ activists, my findings reveal two distinctly gendered pathways into LGBTQ activism in Israel. The pathway preferred by the men values dominance and conflict, while women preferred a pathway that leads into activism through egalitarian communities of belonging and collaboration. The dominance of the male pathway in Israeli LGBTQ mobilization explains why so few women are mobilized, as it both limits opportunities for collaborative communities to emerge and devalues the contribution of women to social movement activism. These findings demonstrate the impact of gender norms on social movement processes, namely mobilization. They also point to the need to de-aggregate our understanding of mobilization, as generalized views obscure unique interactions between individual identities and social movement participation.

Author(s): *Tom Einhorn, University of British Columbia*

### **2. 'I Am Enough': why LGBTQ Muslim groups resist mainstreaming**

This article draws on twenty-four interviews and two years of ethnographic fieldwork with leaders of Queer and Trans Muslim Organizations (QTMOs) in Toronto, Canada. Rather than focus on individual LGBTQ-religious

identity dissonance or integration, I shift the analysis to LGBTQ-religious group formation and membership. I contextualize LGBTQ Religious activity within social movements scholarship: I show that QTMOs can be analyzed as alternative-to-mainstream “safe spaces,” in which collective oppositional identities are cultivated. Rather than integrate into mainstream Muslim or LGBTQ groups and to acquire acceptance from them, these QTMOs pose a challenge to the hegemony of the mainstream in three ways: they resist homophobia, transphobia, Islamophobia, and racism; they cultivate strong communities in response to LGBTQ-Muslim erasure; and they destabilize the rigidity of identity categories. The paper contributes to the analytical development of ‘free spaces’ or ‘safe spaces,’ as sites within which marginalized collective identities emerge.

Author(s): *Golshan Golriz, McGill University*

### **3. A Comparative Review of the LGBTQIA2S+ Rights Movements in Sweden and Canada**

Sweden and Canada differ significantly in their populations, history and culture, which has contributed to very different trajectories of LGBTQIA2S+ equality (Government.se 2018, Waite and Denier 2019). Sweden and Canada have similar positions on most issues of LGBTQIA2S+ equality at present, but the times in which these rights and freedoms were obtained vary between the countries. In this paper, I compare the progression of LGBTQIA2S+ equality in Sweden and Canada (drawing examples primarily from marriage equality). I first clarify the language I will use throughout the paper, and relate my positionality to the topic. I then begin by relating the sociocultural views toward LGBTQIA2S+ identities in Canada and the timeline of legal rights (which are often intertwined), tracking the progression of social issues that prompted them and the cultural contexts in which they took place. Then I highlight the disparities between the Canadian and Swedish progression of rights and offer social and cultural reasons that created the necessity of differential progress.

Author(s): *Ley Fraser, University of Manitoba*

### **4. Mass Media Representation Social Movements: Media Geography and Ideological Orientation**

The images of Iranian women, in the Western countries’ mass media, might not represent an accurate recognition of these women. To understand the dominant discourses in the US and Canada’s mass media, this paper asks: How are Iranian women represented in US and Canadian media, after 2001? the geographical location of these newspapers have had more effect on their representation or their political viewpoint? Through a critical discourse analysis of four most circulated national newspapers in Canada and US ( The Globe and Mail , National Post , The New York Times , and USA Today ) and using theories of hegemony, counter-hegemony, and intersectionality, this research shows that the general representation of women has changed positively toward a better recognition. However, hijab is represented as oppressive and negative in all four newspapers. There are more similarities and differences based on the orientation of newspapers than media geographies.

Author(s): *Elahe Nezhadhossein, Memorial University*

### **5. Disappointment in Times of Abeyance: The Case of the Commemoration of the Feminist Novel "L'Euguélonne" in Québec**

Social movement actors have high expectations; they mobilize in the hope of drastic and at times revolutionary change. As such, they are bound to experience disappointment. The exclusion from the literary canon of Québec’s first feminist “big book” L'Euguélonne epitomizes such disappointment amongst feminists. While it was a critically acclaimed and best-selling book in the late 70s, it has not been anthologized as a literary canon and has become a forgotten classic. How do feminists cope with the disappointment of women’s continued exclusion from “high art”? Through the analysis of feminists “speech acts” (Pia Lara 1998) across cultural productions, from newspapers to exhibits, to bookstores, I find that feminists’ disappointment about L'Euguélonne’s lack of recognition is juxtaposed with an effort to renew their hope through commemoration. Based on these findings, I suggest to conceptualise commemoration as rallying from disappointment, a way to recover and renew from failed hopes. In doing so, this paper contributes to our understanding of commemoration by shedding light on it distinguishes disappointment from disillusionment.

Author(s): *Marie-Lise Drapeau-Bisson, University of Toronto*

## **Political Sociology and Social Movements: Labour Mobilization**

Session Code: PSM2C

Research Cluster Affiliation: Political Sociology and Social Movements

## 2020 Canadian Sociological Association Conference: Resisting Racism and Colonialism

Papers in this session examine the internal conflicts and organization of labour movements, and their external effects on politics and social policy.

Organizer(s): *Barry Eidlin, McGill University; Emily Laxer, Glendon College, York University*

Presentations:

### **1. In the Streets or the Courts? Determinants of Collective Action Strategy among Rank-and-File Union Members**

Why and under what conditions will people seek to address grievances using available institutional channels as opposed to more contentious methods? Using the case of internal labour union contention, we explore the determinants of collective action strategy. Specifically, we group action into two types: “inside” activism which makes use of formal institutions (like union elections and the legal system); and “outside” activism which circumvents these institutions in favour of more informal contentious activity (like holding a rally or turning up at the union leader’s house). We use a novel data set comprised of newsletters published by the Teamsters for a Democratic Union, a reform group within the International Brotherhood of Teamsters union. From these newsletters, which span 30 years, we hand coded over 4,000 individual instances of contentious activity. To uncover why mobilization takes place through inside versus outside mechanisms, we begin by quantitatively establishing relationships between the action type and variables such as timing, target, and grievance of the action. We then trace these relationships qualitatively by examining specific instances covered in the newsletters. Our findings provide insight into broader questions about mobilization and the determinants of collective action strategy.

Author(s): *Catharina O'Donnell, McGill University; Barry Eidlin, McGill University*

### **2. Two Steps Forward, One Step Back: Labor Mobilization and the Social Economy in Quebec, 1967-1996**

Quebec’s “social economy” sets it apart from the rest of North America. This combination of expansive social policies, including subsidized child care and anti-poverty programs, and civil society institutions such as union-backed “solidarity funds,” has reduced some measures of poverty to levels seen in Scandinavia, tempered the growth in economic inequality seen elsewhere, and allowed workers a greater voice in the management of social investment. Moreover, Quebec built its social economy at a moment - the 1980s and 90s - when most other countries were retrenching their welfare states. While existing theories would predict that Quebec’s social economy was either the effect of mass social mobilization or far-sighted employers and state managers, neither offers an adequate explanation. Most social economy reforms were implemented long after social mobilization had subsided, and many were implemented only reluctantly over employer opposition. Using a negative case analytical method, we examine the relation between protest and social policy in Quebec from the Quiet Revolution to the “socio-economic summit” of 1996, which consolidated the idea of the social economy. Our analysis finds that Quebec’s social economy is the paradoxical product of movement defeat. In the face of sustained government and employer attacks, unions and affiliated social organizations backed away over time from more radical demands for worker control and nationalization in favor of a corporatist compromise with employers and the state: the social economy. The findings cast new light on theories of welfare state development, while also providing insight into the long-term effects of social mobilization.

Author(s): *Barry Eidlin, McGill University; Emanuel Guay, Université du Québec à Montréal*

### **3. Between Internationalism and Ethnic Particularism: the notion of ethnicity within the organizational practices of the Workers' Unity League**

Between 1929 and 1935, in the midst of the economic crisis, the Workers Unity League (WUL) was founded by several union organizers. Those organizers, mostly communists affiliated to the Communist Party of Canada (CPC) - aim to rally the most vulnerable workers, particularly those abandoned by other union organizations. During its six years of activities, the WUL reached a membership between 30 000 and 40 000 persons and organized in different industrial sectors (mining, clothing, fishing, and forestry) several strikes and important labour struggles, notably in Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia. While CPC membership was overwhelmingly based on the Ukrainian, Finnish and Eastern European Jewish communities, many of the workplaces organized by the WUL grouped workers belonging to the same ethnic groups (especially in the garment, and mining sectors). I, therefore, propose to investigate how ethnic and national issues were articulated through these union struggles. I will present how the organization of workers according to their ethnic origins may have been in contradiction with the communist internationalist will. First, I will see in what context the migration of these workers to Canada takes

place. I will then discuss the creation of the WUL and its positioning within the Canadian trade union landscape. I will assess how the organization of workers by the WUL was possible beyond ethnic and linguistic differences and by what means. Finally, I would study the contradictions between an internationalist communist theoretical posture and revolutionary organizational practices among a proletariat divided along ethnic, linguistic and cultural lines.

Author(s): *Florian Alatorre, McGill University*

#### **4. The Evolution of Workers' Compensation in Ontario: A Case for Injured Workers and the Benefitted Party**

The shift from tort regime to workers' compensation in 1914 marked an important event in the lives of Ontario workers. Employers, workers, and the justice system alike came to a common understanding about the inadequacy of the law. But power-imbalances amongst the classes maintained their deeply rooted status throughout the evolutionary laws. The question remains: who has the workers' compensation system benefited the most? This paper examines the major historical shifts in the treatment of injured workers beginning from the 1800s until present day Ontario. The struggles of workers continue until this day with advocates asking the Ontario government to hold the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board accountable. Advocates require workers to be treated fairly and that the Board upholds its purpose justly without bias. Workers' compensation is a social obligation, this province has been built and advanced by workers who paid their dues to the success of Ontario. Thus, biases within the system should be eliminated otherwise elimination of the Board may be the best hope for those in need. This paper asks for better treatment of injured workers, it acknowledges that a return to tort is a disadvantage for all parties, hence, proper reforms should be established if harmony in a workplace is truly desired.

Author(s): *Merna Fatohi, York University*

### **Political Sociology and Social Movements: Neoliberalism, Anti-capitalism and Human Rights**

Session Code: PSM2D

Research Cluster Affiliation: Political Sociology and Social Movements

Papers in this session uncover the strategic dilemmas that social movements face as they work to resist capitalism/neo-liberalism and promote human rights in diverse national settings.

Organizer(s): *Barry Eidlin, McGill University; Emily Laxer, Glendon College, York University*

Presentations:

#### **1. Social Service or Social Change? The Non-Profit Industrial Complex and the Neoliberal Agenda**

Under scrutiny here is the power praxis of non-profit social service organisations operating on the front-line of care in contemporary Canadian society, and their impact upon potentials for social change inside of the political economy. Over the previous four decades these organisations have increasingly succumb to market principles in the so-called neoliberal era, and the care sector in Canada has almost entirely been coopted by neoliberal governance, with great effect upon the regulation of poverty. Within the domestic care sector the management classes now oversee the management of impoverished subjects, in line with the accomplishments of the global economic restructuring process, and the wider devolution of the state from tending to the welfare of its citizens. Under this guise the position of impoverished subjects in Canada has become valuable currency for the caring professions to trade in, transforming marginalized subjects into consumers. Furthermore, as the industry has evolved it has tended to redirect activist energies into career-based modes of organizing, in place of mass-based organizing capable of structural transformation. Thus as poverty increasingly becomes commodified in Canadian social services it follows that leaning towards eradicating it becomes less relevant under the principles of the neoliberal agenda.

Author(s): *Keith A. Ó Néill, University of Amsterdam*

#### **2. Market Reforms, Resource Extraction, and Social Movements in Bangladesh**

This paper analyzes social movements against foreign investment-driven resource extraction projects in Bangladesh. In this country, as elsewhere, left-leaning political groups have mobilized against market-oriented energy policy reforms, influenced by the structural adjustment policies of the Bretton Woods Institutions.



Scholarship on contested market reforms in the Global South considers these social protests through Polanyi's theory of double movement. This scholarship, although helpful in analyzing anti-corporate social protests in the neoliberal era, says little about the Bangladeshi case of market reforms in the energy sector and the oppositional mobilizations responding to these reforms. Since the late 1970s, market reforms in Bangladesh have largely gone unchallenged. Thus, the mobilizations against foreign investment-driven resource extraction projects are puzzling. I draw on the scholarship on political economy and institutional causes of development to make a nuanced sense of this puzzle. I argue it is not market reform (i.e., the neoliberal orthodoxy of the Washington Consensus) per se that triggers Bangladeshi anti-corporate social movements. Extractive political institutions and the corruption of political and bureaucratic elites are more significant drivers. More specifically, activists' perception that extractive political institutions, a corollary of a specific political settlement, fail to reap the ostensible benefits of market reform for the masses shapes their framing of grievances and their movement agenda. I use three cases of social mobilizations which dominated public debate over resource extraction during 1998-2014 to elucidate these arguments.

Author(s): *M. Omar Faruque, Queen's University*

### **3. Crowdfunding the Welfare State: Continuity and Change in Canadian Public Aid and Charitable Fundraising**

The rise of the welfare state in the mid-twentieth century institutionalized basic supports for the well-being of most Canadians and was a response to the haphazard and inequitable approaches to public aid characteristic of the late nineteenth century. The period since then has seen the decline of the welfare state, resulting in fewer social protections and greater financial insecurity. Going beyond the analysis of formal social policies, this study examines the ground-level consequences of welfare state restructuring using the case crowdfunding, a form of internet-based charitable fundraising that has received substantial attention in the last decade. Crowdfunding involves individuals using dedicated websites to make pleas for help with expenses associated with, e.g., healthcare and education. These appeals are posted to public websites and are used to solicit donations from "crowds" of anonymous Internet users. We argue that despite its novelty, crowdfunding represents a return to the fundamentals of nineteenth-century charity and that its popularity in North America is a striking measure of the peculiar weaknesses of the welfare state today. We use historical records and contemporary interviews to compare accounts of nineteenth-century alms-seeking to those of today's crowdfunding users, noting continuities and changes in both the structural circumstances described as well as individuals' efforts to get help. We supplement this comparison with original quantitative data documenting crowdfunding's prevalence.

Author(s): *Erik Schneiderhan, University of Toronto; Martin Lukk, University of Toronto; Jasmine Anthony, University of Toronto; Rose Davis, University of Toronto*

### **4. The Role of Affect in Black Youth-Led Anti-Capitalist Social Movements: Education for Emancipation**

How might affect come to play a central role in the development of Black youths subjectivities and forms of identification? And further, how does this relationship between affect and identity advance theorizing for those interested in contemporary Black-led social movements? Through four qualitative interviews with Black youth who all attend Camp A (an educational summer camp for youth who identify as Black or along the African diaspora and their families) and an analysis of this organizations 5-year strategic plan, I explore these questions. Ultimately, I propose that these youths experiences of and feelings associated with not-quite-fitting-in within the Canadian nation-state, paired with the unstructured space to interact with other Black youth who have similar lived experiences, creates the conditions for these Othered subjects to comprehend and reconstruct their identities as they come to understand the contradictions between Canadian narratives of equality, belonging, and inclusion, and their own experiences of anti-Black exclusions while living in Canada. The connections these youth make with one another, I suggest, can be built upon - especially within spaces of education - to advance understandings of raced and gendered exclusions in Canada, including for those Othered subjects who dont identify as Black. This opens up possibilities for more effective affective social movement organizing.

Author(s): *Mikayla Sherry, Carleton University*

### **5. ETAN Claims-Making and Responding Activities about Human Rights Abuses in East Timor**

Drawing from the social constructionist perspective on social problems, this paper examines the East Timor Alert Network's (ETAN) claims-making activities and strategies regarding support for the East Timorese during the Indonesian occupation from 1975-1998. It accounts for the ways in which the Network made viable claims about human rights violations in East Timor. I discuss and describe four principal claims-making strategies that were critical in sustaining the viability and resonance of the Network's claims about Indonesian human rights violations

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in East Timor: (1) the use of the "Holocaust" as a vernacular resource, (2) establishing "Canadian complicity" in Indonesian human rights abuses, (3) the strategic use of concrete cases of horror stories and testimonies as valuable resources in foregrounding the problem, and (4) the use of photography and film to humanize the tragedy in East Timor. This discussion concludes by arguing from a constructionist re-specification of the study of "human rights."

Author(s): *Julian Torelli, McMaster University*

### Political Sociology and Social Movements: State and Power: Law, Policy and Radicalization

Session Code: PSM2E

Research Cluster Affiliation: Political Sociology and Social Movements

Papers in this session use evidence from distinct cases across the globe to elucidate the complex relations between social movements and state power. Key themes include the governance of indigenous communities, nationalism and the state, right-wing populism, and radicalization.

Organizer(s): *Barry Eidlin, McGill University; Emily Laxer, Glendon College, York University*

Presentations:

#### **1. Governing Indigenous Peoples in Canada: Federal Policy Change and Local Resistance in British Columbia**

Contemporary struggles to advance the self-government of Indigenous Peoples in Canada have achieved tremendous policy gains, including increased autonomy and access to capital, services, and resources. Although these changes have been studied from the perspective of social movements, they remain under-theorized in political sociology and public policy. This paper explains the emergence of self-government as a policy regime in Canada. It answers the question how have settlers sought to govern Indigenous Peoples and how have Indigenous Peoples resisted and sought to govern themselves? It does this by recovering insurgent and subjugated discourses of power and knowledge of the Indigenous Peoples of the Nicola Valley region of British Columbia and by comparing these to the changing policy regimes of the government of Canada which evolved through discourses of sovereignty, salvation, and finally self-government. The paper looks at how different levels of governance - the macro-policy scale and the micro-everyday scale - interact. To accomplish this, first, the paper examines the emergence of policies governing Indigenous Peoples in Canada at the macro-scale through a Critical Discourse Analysis of Indian Affairs year-end reports from 1861-1990 and a quantitative analysis of these reports. From this analysis, policy regimes and policy change are conceptualized through examination of critical junctures. Second, the paper examines the descent of these settler policy regimes into the everyday interactions of Indigenous Peoples in the Nicola Valley and the friction settler policies encounter at the micro-scale through ethnographic fieldwork. It is argued that a critical evaluation of self-government as a tool of colonial control through policy is demanded. Moreover, while political sociology has increasingly studied Indigenous Peoples at the Band and Tribal level, it is necessary to conceptualize and study other political relationships particularly those between different Bands and across different Tribes.

Author(s): *Dean Ray, York University*

#### **2. How legacies of geo-political loss shape popular nationalism today**

Geo-political competition and conflict plays a central role in canonical accounts of the emergence of nation-states and national identifications, yet so far, work in this tradition has paid little attention to variation in everyday, popular, understandings of nationhood. We propose a macro-historical argument to explain cross-national variation in types of popular nationalism. We show that the conflictive, relational processes associated with geopolitical competition and rivalry during the formation of modern nation-states left a lasting imprint not only on the political organization, power balances but also on the range of beliefs, tropes about national characteristics, symbolic boundaries, levels of pride in traditions and symbols that constitute the various schemas of rank-and-file nationals. Our analysis builds on recent advances on the measurement of popular nationalism (DiMaggio and Bonikowski 2016) and work linking the geo-political history of a country to variation in restrictionist attitudes towards immigration today (Hiers, Soehl, Wimmer 2017). In a series of mixed-effects multinomial logistic

regression models, we show that accounting for a range of individual- and country-level factors, recurrent and ongoing conflicts as well as the traumatic losses linked to geopolitical rivalries and wars decrease the prevalence of liberal nationalism - schemas of nationhood that combine patriotic pride, self-confidence with symbolic boundaries that are relatively permeable. At the same time past geo-political loss increases the share of individuals who hold schemas that reflect restrictive boundaries vis-a-vis outsiders and at the same time display comparatively little confidence in the nation.

Author(s): *Thomas Soehl, McGill University; Sakeef Karim, McGill University*

### **3. Challenging Italian right wing populism.**

Stopping the growing electoral success of Matteo Salvini and the Lega was one of the main reasons the M5S-Lega coalition government fell in 2019. As of this writing, the new PD and M5S coalition, as well as the grass roots "Sardine movement," are mobilizing voters to take a stand against the Lega and Matteo Salvini. This paper examines some of the reasons for the fall of the previous M5S-Lega coalition and investigates the rise of new political formations, both in government and on the streets, that can potentially challenge right-wing populism.

Author(s): *Joseph Galbo, University of New Brunswick*

### **4. Deconstructing the Notion of Women as 'Perpetrator' of Jihadi Terrorism: The Case of Boko Haram**

This paper deconstructs the notion of women as 'perpetrator' of terrorism. Drawing on Boko Haram's tactics for recruiting and deploying female operatives, and the narratives of rescued/surrendered female insurgents in the Northeast, Nigeria, the paper advances three main arguments: First, the growing social construction of women as 'perpetrator' of terrorism - particularly radical Islamic terrorism - downplays the socio-cultural and structural processes leading to women's involvement with terrorist organizations. Second, female agency in terrorist organizations and activities is better understood when grounded in the cultural and structural milieu of female insurgents in conventional society, terrorist organizations' construction of 'gender' and the experiences of female insurgents on the frontline. Third, the mechanisms through which female Boko Haram operatives are recruited and deployed make them more of victims than perpetrators of terrorism. The paper draws on the agency-structure approach and argues that the gendered power asymmetries embedded in the cultures and structures of Northern Nigeria - the base of Boko Haram - highly influence how women are involved and for what purpose in the insurgents' activities. Although the paper does not negate the agency of women in terrorism, it aligns with the studies that consider women insurgents as MORE victim than 'perpetrator' of JIHADI terrorism.

Author(s): *Damilohun Damson Ayoyo, University of Alberta; Anthony Mpiani, University of Alberta; Temitope Babatunde Oriola, University of Alberta*

### **5. La mobilisation du terme radicalisation dans les politiques publiques de prévention de l'extrémisme violent**

Presque absent au début des années 2000, le terme de la radicalisation est aujourd'hui une expression en vogue. Qualifié de grand « buzzword » (mot à la mode) de notre époque, il est mobilisé par les acteurs politiques, les groupes activistes, les médias, les agences gouvernementales et bien d'autres. Le terme radicalisation est devenu un cadre conceptuel visant à mieux comprendre et à expliquer le phénomène de l'engagement dans l'extrémisme violent. Toutefois, il est difficile de mettre une date sur la première utilisation du terme de radicalisation. Notre objectif est retourné à l'émergence de ce terme. Le souci n'est alors pas de trouver l'origine absolue ou le sens véritable du terme radicalisation, mais de comprendre et d'expliquer comment il a été construit socialement. En ce sens, cette recherche aborde les configurations sociopolitiques qui ont permis au terme radicalisation émergé en tant qu'objet entre le début des années 2000 à aujourd'hui en Europe et en Amérique du Nord.

Author(s): *Gilbert McLaughlin, University of Ottawa*

## **Political Sociology and Social Movements: Theory Roundtable**

Session Code: PSM2F

Research Cluster Affiliation: Political Sociology and Social Movements

Papers in this roundtable tackle the perennial challenges of theorizing social movements, party politics, and governance.

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Organizer(s): *Barry Eidlin, McGill University; Emily Laxer, Glendon College, York University*

Presentations:

## **1. The Tale of Resentment in the House of Modernity: World Alienation**

The proliferation of discourses of resentment and the exclusionary practices of other-making post 9/11 should not be considered as an aberration in the house of modernity in general, and in the U.S.'s sociopolitical landscape in particular. If in *The Origin of Totalitarianism* and in *The Human Condition* Hannah Arendt is critical of systemic violence within the house of modernity as exemplified through her historical analysis of Western colonialism and imperialism, in *The Politics of Resentment: A Genealogy*, Jeremy Engels sheds light upon the U.S. sociopolitical landscape that points to systemic violence that feeds on civic and political resentments providing fuel for neoliberal politics and agendas. Moreover, *On the Genealogy of Morality*, Friedrich Nietzsche shows us that resentment is not only a reactive emotion, but also dependent on a negating mentality of either / or. In other words, "You're either with us or against us." Through a postmodern critical methodology, the aim of this paper is to examine how resentment has been used to institute the supremacy of the western self at the expense of unfamiliar "others" leading into world alienation.

Author(s): *Ladan Adhami-Dorrani, York University*

## **2. When getting "tough-on-crime" has no bite: An analysis of the criminal justice policies of the Harper Conservative governments**

In the 2006 federal election, all major national parties made getting "tough-on-crime" a major part of their political platform. During the three terms of the Conservative administrations led by the Hon. Stephen Harper, PC, 81 of 399 government sponsored and 149 of the 311 private members bills introduced by Conservative MPs had the stated objective of increasing the utilization or severity of incarceration as a response to crime. Opposition parties also proposed dozens more "tough-on-crime" private members bills. Despite this, Canada's incarceration rate at the end of the Harper governments' terms in office was identical to what it was at the beginning. This paper uses systems theory developed by Niklas Luhmann and symbolic action theory developed by Murray Edelman argue that this mismatch between legislative preoccupation and carceral result was the result of both the systemic organization of Canada's criminal justice system and the government's preoccupation with political mobilization instead of substantive results.

Author(s): *Mark Stobbe, Okanagan College*

## **3. Incredulous Onlookers and Charismatic Expansion**

Steven Lukes recently concluded that Trump's leadership style "approximated Weber's ideal-typical picture of how charisma works "remarkably closely." Using Trump's rise as an empirical source, I develops the social-interactional role of incredulous onlookers to expand current theories for the etiology of 'miracles' - so central to Weber's account of charismatic legitimation. Incredulous onlookers are institutional animals; creatures of regulation and custom (the rational-legal and traditional Herrschaft) who have a stake in institutional continuity. To such actors, the incipient charismatic challenger reads as a sort of enfant terrible - a plucky upstart who 'doesn't know their station.' Charismatic indifference to institutional code roils these onlookers into expressions of shock, exasperation, and outrage (collectively, 'incredulousness'), and while such expressions are meant to bolster institutional strength and instigate monopolistic closure within the halls of power, they actually augment charismatic potency and proliferate charismatic rupture - in two ways. First, through their incredulity, such onlookers define expectations about the seeming impossibility (read: 'miraculousness') of the leader's conduct. By enshrouding incipient charismatic leaders with impossibilist characterizations, incredulous onlookers lend a sense of wonder to early successes, even if such successes are initially minor and otherwise unimpressive. Their performative contributions are thus social-interactional 'negatives' of the charismatic miracle; standing ready for development into a photorealistic visage of charismatic "'proof' before their eyes" (Weber 1922:266). Second, by virtue of their role as institutional-organizational mouthpieces - a location decidedly outside of the 'charismatic community' (Gemeinde) - incredulous onlookers widen the aperture for extraordinary expression within the institutional spheres they represent, bringing their full communicative/interlocutory capacity within reach of the incipient charismatic leader, offering exposure to a much wider audience than would otherwise be available from within the closed interactional sphere delineated by leader-follower relationships. Thus, by means of affect and position, we can say that incredulous onlookers unwittingly expand and promulgate charismatic culture.

Author(s): *Paul Joosse, University of Hong Kong*

## Administrative Data in Science and Policy: Building Bridges for Innovation and Transformation

Session Code: PSM4

Research Cluster Affiliation: Political Sociology and Social Movements

The increasing availability of administrative data, coupled with growing demand for evidence-informed decision-making in government, presents a rich opportunity for increased collaboration between government and academia. This panel will discuss the use and value of administrative data in government and academic research with a focus on how evidence stemming from these data can be leveraged to support policy planning, development and evaluation in tandem with scholarly research. We will also discuss how partnerships between policy makers within government and producers of knowledge in academia can help to overcome some of the challenges associated with bringing research into the policy arena.

Organizer(s): *Anna Slavina, Research Manitoba / Government of Manitoba*

Panelists:

- Michael Haan, University of Western Ontario
- Lori Wilkinson, University of Manitoba
- Lisa Kaida, McMaster University
- David Phipps, Executive Director of Research and Innovation Services at York University

## Author Meets Critics: Unveiling the Nation: The Politics of Secularism in France and Québec (McGill-Queen's University Press 2019)

Session Code: PSM5

Research Cluster Affiliation: Political Sociology and Social Movements

Over the last few decades, politicians in Europe and North America have fiercely debated the effects of a growing Muslim minority on their respective national identities. Some of these countries have prohibited Islamic religious coverings in public spaces and institutions, while in others, legal restriction remains subject to intense political conflict. Seeking to understand these different outcomes, social scientists have focused on the role of countries' historically rooted models of nationhood and their attendant discourses of secularism.

Emily Laxer's *Unveiling the Nation* problematizes this approach. Using France and Quebec as illustrative cases, she traces how the struggle of political parties for power and legitimacy shapes states' responses to Islamic signs. Drawing on historical evidence and behind-the-scenes interviews with politicians and activists, Laxer uncovers unseen links between structures of partisan conflict and the strategies that political actors employ when articulating the secular boundaries of the nation. In France's historically class-based political system, she demonstrates, parties on the left and the right have converged around a restrictive secular agenda in order to limit the siphoning of votes by the ultra-right. In Quebec, by contrast, the longstanding electoral salience of the "national question" has encouraged political actors to project highly conflicting images of the province's secular past, present, and future.

At a moment of heightened debate in the global politics of religious diversity, Laxer's *Unveiling the Nation* sheds critical light on the way party politics and its related instabilities shape the secular boundaries of nationhood in diverse societies.

Organizer(s): *Barry Eidlin, McGill University*

Panelists:

- Emily Laxer, Glendon College, York University
- Efe Peker, University of Ottawa
- Amélie Barras, York University
- Rachel Brown, Program Coordinator, Centre for Studies in Religion & Society, University of Victoria

## Teaching Social Movements in an Age of Social and Political Upheaval

Session Code: PSM6

Research Cluster Affiliation: Political Sociology and Social Movements; Teaching Sociology

University-level teaching on the topic of social movements brings several inherent decision-making dilemmas. The changing nature of the student body, combined with the urgency of several contemporary issues on which movements have been mobilizing, together raise several questions about how we teach this topic. For instance, to what degree should our class content and assignments be geared to professional and analytical neutrality versus evincing engagement and sympathy toward specific movements? The question of neutrality becomes even more salient in light of some fairly undeniable threats to democracy, humanity, and the planet, including the rise of the far right, and the crisis of mass extinction posed by climate change. This panel brings together scholars who have been teaching – or have written instructional texts – on this topic at the university level, to mine their experiences and thoughts on these issues. We anticipate that the panelists' exchange with each other and with the audience will yield fruitful insights for addressing both the more perennial dilemmas in teaching social movements as well as some of the newer conundrums.

Organizer(s): *Emily Laxer, York University; Lisa Kowalchuk, University of Guelph*

Panelists:

- Catherine Corrigan-Brown, University of British Columbia
- Kathleen Rodgers, University of Ottawa
- William Carroll, University of Victoria

## Modern Orientalism and Muslim Experience

Session Code: RAE1

Research Cluster Affiliation: Race and Ethnicity

Whether the European hijab ban, Quebec's niqab ban, American ban on Muslim travellers, or Chinese re-education camps, the experience of Muslim identity is traumatic and constantly under scrutiny. In this session, I am inviting all to discuss the global Muslim experience. When exploring the Muslim experience, the orientalist discourse is the overarching ideology that produces the ongoing discussion in mass media, social media, and daily social interactions. The global revival of blatant orientalist discourse shapes the Muslim experience under the guise of national security and moral threat to the fabric of society. Muslim bodies are being defined and redefined under orientalist discourse, where a public exhibition of the Muslim body is identified as a security breach.

Organizer(s): *Shila Khayambashi, York University; Shirin Khayambashi, McMaster University*

Presentations:

### 1. Syrian Refugees in Canadian Newspapers: Orientalism and its Consequences

This paper explores how Syrian refugees are represented in the media, within the context of Canada's refugee vetting system, through an analysis of a random sample of 80 newspaper articles published between 2015 to 2018 from four major media outlets: the Globe and Mail, the National Post, the Toronto Star and the Toronto Sun. In more than half of the examined articles, refugees are presented through Orientalist discourses (Said 1978) that not only pose refugees as security risks but essentialize Middle Eastern culture and Islam, establishing them as violent and threatening. This paper also discusses how the representation of Syrian refugees as security threats in an Orientalist fashion contributes to a 'moral panic' (Cohen 1972) surrounding Canada's refugee vetting system and calls for 'extreme vetting' measures, similar to the ones deployed in the United States. Finally, drawing upon semi-structured, qualitative interviews with Syrian refugees, the paper discusses their experiences with the vetting system and their perspectives about their Orientalist representation.

Author(s): *Ozgun Topak, York University; Cheery-Maria Attia, York University*



**2. Defining the (Non)Religious in Quebec's Bill-21**

Classified as "An Act respecting the laicity of the State," Bill-21 was passed earlier this year in Quebec to reinforce its stance on secularization held at the provincial level. Attempts to call Quebec's legislative intentions into question during the recent federal election resulted in an embarrassing scenario for the federal candidates, all the while religious minorities continue to suffer under the once-unthinkable Bill-21. I will be exploring how the Provincial Government of Quebec defines "religion" and "the religious," while also analyzing how Bill-21 tries to limit the practice of religion in the province under the guise of a "secular state." Furthermore, by using an adapted version of Jolyon Baraka Thomas' notion of the colonial construction of secularism as a methodological approach, I will argue that Bill-21 constructs both secularism and religion to subjugate minority religions under the supposed separation between religion and state. Additionally, I will briefly explore such issues surrounding Bill 21 being constructed as secular and its effect on religious minorities, particularly Muslims within Quebec.

Author(s): *Philip Oddi, York University*

**3. The Wounds of Populism: How Muslims Adopt Narratives of Collective Marginalization**

Experiencing racism is, in part, a narrative accomplishment. Instances of racism frequently contain a degree of ambiguity, which individuals have to resolve in order to experience them as such. Narratives of collective marginalization serve as interpretive tools in this process, linking individuals and their experiences to the overall manifestations of racism against their group. Drawing on in-depth interviews, participant observation, and a supplementary media analysis, I describe and analyze narratives of collective marginalization among Muslims in Quebec. I show that individuals adopt such narratives specifically as a result of two biographical turning points: exposure to populist politics and experiencing overt Islamophobia first-hand. After encountering these turning points, respondents expect to face Islamophobia and are therefore likely to interpret ambiguous situations as such. Additional support for these hypotheses is drawn from an analysis of six respondents' cases who did not embrace narratives of collective marginalization. Implications for the study of populism, political mobilization, and perceived discrimination are discussed.

Author(s): *Jan Doering, McGill University*

**4. Defining Muslim Bodies: Exploring the Intersectional Identities of Muslim Women through Modest Fashion**

Orientalist discourse continues to broaden the divide between Muslims and non-Muslims. Creating alternative ways of knowing using arts-based research methods can bridge this divide and contribute to understanding the embodied realities of the "Other". Under the theme of Modern Orientalism and Muslim Experience I am proposing a paper presentation that explores the intersectional identities of Muslim women's embodied experiences through modest fashion. This paper will build on a recent study where I used the arts-based method of digital storytelling as a tool to understand the experiences and fashion practices of Muslim women to break down growing resentment toward Muslims and provide a path towards curbing the resurgence of society's continued orientalist discourse and need to legislate women's bodies. The digital stories produced in my study challenge dominant orientalist narratives and stereotypes and give voice to this marginalized and misunderstood community that often stands in harm's way because their sartorial choices make them hyper-visibly Muslim. I will demonstrate how the complexities of intersectionality can be explored and communicated through these participant-created digestible multi-media narratives. These narratives also reveal that by prioritizing modesty as a sartorial practice Muslim women are diverting the Western gaze and challenging narrow Islamophobic stereotypes.

Author(s): *Romana B. Mirza, Ryerson University*

**5. Millennial Canadian Muslims on Identity, National Belonging, Faith, and Secularism: Finding the True Voice of the Transitional Generation Amidst the Humdrum of Political Correctness**

This paper is part of a preliminary analysis of Canadian Muslims narratives of identity and national belonging in the aftermath of the Quebec Secularism Law, Bill 21. Drawing on qualitative data derived from in-depth interviews, it primarily seeks to explore how Canadian Muslim young adults value religiosity in their daily lives, and what they make of the relationship between their faith and political forms of oppression in the name of "secularism". The paper also has a special focus on the conceptualization of religion for second-generation immigrant Canadian Muslims, and how political correctness may be a form of oppression for these Muslims, who are trying to carve out unique intersectional identities that still take into account their Islamic heritage. Lastly, drawing on Contact Theory, the paper also has a component of examining the factors that would facilitate inter-group social contact leading to the formation of long-lasting, positive friendships between Canadian Muslims and non-Muslims.

Author(s): *Saba Raja, University of Toronto*

## Anti-Racism and Decolonization: How to move forward?

Session Code: RAE2A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Race and Ethnicity

In 2019, Canada saw a resurgence of racist behaviours within the most powerful institutions in the country. Whether it is the racial profiling of Black students at the Congress and on several University campuses or PM Justin Trudeau's brown and blackface scandal prior to the federal election, racism has captured the headlines in Canada and internationally. Many discussions that followed in the media and academia diagnosed racism as a problem to be solved. However, meaningful discussions about how to strategically address the systemic roots of racism lacked. The presentations in this session explore some of the strategies that have been used in academia to tackle racism and decolonization head on by focusing on the experience of those who have implemented them. In doing so, this panel's goal is to show that it is only by coming to terms with racism and decolonization that we will make real progress forward.

Organizer(s): *Jennifer Adkins, University of British Columbia; Jessica Stallone, University of Toronto; Carlo Charles, McMaster University; Jasmeet Bahia, Carlton University*

Presentations:

### 1. Empowering Others: Claiming Space in the Academy

Through graduate school, I have experienced many moments that have made me feel like I do not belong in academia. I now recognize this feeling as IMPOSTER SYNDROME, a persistent inability to believe my success is deserved or has been legitimately achieved as a result of my efforts and skills, coupled with a fear of being outed as a fraud (Hill, 2019). Imposter syndrome is particularly pervasive among women of colour whose feelings stem from their experiences of being othered in predominantly white spaces, having to navigate gendered racial microaggressions, and existing in spaces that were not created for them (Hill, 2019). The effects of imposter syndrome are amplified by the UNDERREPRESENTATION of those who look like us in positions of power, which makes us feel like imposters, regardless of how impressive our curriculum vitae might be (Hill, 2019). To combat these feelings, I have collaborated with other graduate students to create a lecture series devoted to empowering the voices of "others" in the academy. The series, EMPOWERING OTHERS: CARVING SPACES IN THE ACADEMY, features all female speakers, centering their diverse experiences navigating the challenging world of academia. Each speaker addresses what brought them to academia, some of the challenges they have faced, and how they have carved a place for themselves and others in their fields. What is cemented by each speaker's story is that the experiences of women in the academy are distinct and are worth sharing and listening to. This presentation expands upon and unpacks notions of representation, underrepresentation, and imposter syndrome from my unique vantage point as a graduate student and woman of colour. I also discuss my motivation for creating the Empowering Others lecture series and highlight the necessity and benefit of building community among "others" in the academy.

Author(s): *Marsha Rampersaud, Queen's University*

### 2. Black Students Matter: An Examination of How Black Led Supplementary Education Programs are Contributing to Students Education in Edmonton, Alberta

Black Canadians have created supplementary education programs to fulfil the needs of Black students that are unsatisfied by the K-12 mainstream school system. This study addresses the need for research on students' experiences in these Black-led supplementary programs in Canada, focusing on an African-Canadian/ African-Caribbean community organization in Alberta that offers out of school tutoring and organizes an annual Jeopardy! style competition aimed at increasing awareness of Black history. I examine the experiences of 25 students, alumni, parents, volunteers and workers within the organization using semi-structured interviews and participant observation of tutoring sessions. Drawing on Tara Yosso's (2005) theory of Community Cultural Wealth to explore the rich forms of unrecognized social and cultural capital existent in Black communities, this presentation argues that the organization's supplementary education program model, which is built on mentorship from tutors, builds students' confidence in themselves and their academic abilities, instills pride in themselves as African descended peoples, and improves students' educational performance. This suggests that Black-led supplementary education programs cultivate forms of knowledge about Black history and how to navigate schooling that better prepare -

students to succeed in mainstream K-12 while at the same time cultivating a stronger sense of identity and critical knowledge of Black heritages.

Author(s): *Alleson Alecia Mason, University of Alberta*

**3. “Empty Land begets Empty Bodies” : Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Media Representations of Tina Fontaine**

The 2014 Royal Canadian Mounted Police report on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) highlights that the deaths of Indigenous women are part of a larger sociohistorical system that devalues Indigenous women. In 2015, the Canadian Liberal government announced a national inquiry into MMIWG. The 2019 final report by the inquiry concludes that the incessant and systemic violence against Indigenous women is genocide. In this paper, I engage in a critical discourse analysis to examine media discourses in the coverage of MMIWG on the intersection of structural colonial gendered violence and Indigeneity in the 2014 case of murdered Sagkeeng First Nations member, Tina Fontaine. I analyze 115 print news articles between 2014 and 2018 to compare the media representations of Tina's case among Indigenous and non-Indigenous media outlets. This paper seeks to further our understanding on how identity becomes *terra nullius* with its application beyond the physical dispossession of Indigenous peoples to illustrate how the doctrine becomes a driver and justification for the media to contain and restrict female Indigenous bodies. The findings reveal that the mainstream media reproduces colonial philosophies for a gendered Indigeneity while Indigenous-controlled news sources reproduce popular narratives of a gendered Indigeneity.

Author(s): *Ferdouse Asefi, University of Toronto*

**4. Squaw Bitches and Wagon Burners: Alumni of the Plains Indians Cultural Survival School (PICSS) Reflect on the Impact of Racism Experienced in Mainstream Schooling and How a Cultural Survival School Helped Them Eventually find “Success”**

This qualitative, hermeneutic research explored the experiences of alumni who attended the Plains Indians Cultural Survival School (PICSS) in the 1980's and 90's. PICSS was an initiative of the PICSS Society and the Calgary Board of Education (CBE). It was among the first schools run by, and for, Indigenous people in an urban area in Canada. Many of the alumni described experiences of overt and covert racism from teachers, school administrators, and fellow students while attending mainstream schools. Participants described themselves as “floating”, “a ghost”, “invisible”, “lost”. “Lost” is a particularly interesting word choice; the etymology dates to 14th Century Old English, and means to be “wasted, ruined, spent in vain”. This word captures the overall impact of their time in school prior to attending PICSS. Participants did not feel appreciated, understood, or valued. They discussed how they lacked the ability to find the words and physical energy to fight the negative impacts of racism. A majority dropped out of school, and then eventually found their way to PICSS. In contrast, once attending PICSS, alumni described their experiences as feeling “proud” and having “dignity”. “Dignity” comes from the Latin word “*dignitatem*” which means “worthiness”. This sense of pride and worth legitimizes students as active participants in the learning process and validates the knowledge they bring to the classroom and world. Many alumni of PICSS went on to become successful lawyers, professors, teachers, nurses, actors, and community activists. There is much to be learned about the impact of racism vs. cultural caring in schools. Data collected in 2018/2019 from Calgary, Alberta indicate that only 40% of self-identified Indigenous graduated from the CBE high schools within the expected three-year period. This research will explore why this innovative schooling program may provide some insight on how to turn a very important corner.

Author(s): *Cynthia J. Gallop, Mount Royal University; David Turner, Alberta Health Services; Reanne Arcand, Mount Royal University; Marlena Bullee, Mount Royal University*

**Racism, Diversity and Racialization across Space and Time**

Session Code: RAE2B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Race and Ethnicity

This session illustrates how experiences of discrimination and racism affect processes of identity formation for racialized minorities. The included papers also examine how the diversity of racial minorities permeate decision-making in government policies on crime in Vancouver and Chicago and in the indie music scene in Toronto. More broadly, this session covers issues related to diversity in different cities in North America.

## 2020 Canadian Sociological Association Conference: Resisting Racism and Colonialism

Organizer(s): *Jennifer Adkins, University of British Columbia; Jessica Stallone, University of Toronto; Carlo Charles, McMaster University; Jasmeet Bahia, Carleton University*

Presentations:

### **1. Navigating & Negotiating Racial Identity in Thunder Bay**

How does place shape the lived experiences of racialized peoples in or nearby Thunder Bay, Northwestern Ontario? As northwestern Ontario's "commercial, medical, and industrial hub" (Macdonald, 2017), this small city is in stark contrast to the typical metropolises used to examine racism in Canada. Thunder Bay is largely white-dominated in proximity to 49 First Nations. There has been some work on Indigenous experiences (Sanders and Burnett, 2019; Tuesday, 2019) in Thunder Bay, but almost no research on racialized peoples. Through 8 in-depth semi-structured interviews, I investigate the realities of racialized peoples' lives in Thunder Bay, focusing on how microaggressions (Wing et al., 2007) impact people's sense of safety and the overall quality of life for racialized peoples in Thunder Bay. I present the following findings in this paper: First, racialized individuals experience microaggressions most commonly in their day-to-day lives, resulting in a sense of self as inherently inferior. Second, lateral violence (Bombay, Matheson, and Anisman, 2014) occurs in Thunder Bay as a function of settler-colonialism; racialized and Indigenous peoples are the ones who face continuous resistance to their existence. The paper concludes with a discussion about implications to resisting racism and colonialism in places like Thunder Bay and Canada more broadly.

Author(s): *Kristen Kowlessar, Carleton University*

### **2. Two worlds, where do we fit? Second-generations African youth at a crossroad in identifying themselves**

Second-generation African youth experience several challenges which includes racism, discrimination and social exclusion. The government of Canada have made funding available to tackle some of the issues concerning Black Canadian youth which includes Second-generation African youth. Regardless of the fact that most of these Second-generation youth were either born or raised in Canada, they still do not know if they can identify with being Canadian or they should identify with their parents' country. Thus, most of them experience identity crisis. Using qualitative methodology that employed the content analysis of 30 in-depth interviews, I explored the issue of identity crisis amongst Second-generation African youth and how it influences their transnational connections. My research demonstrates that the main cause of identity crisis amongst African youth in Calgary is racism. My analysis is guided by the theory of racism, theories of identity and the conceptualization of transnationalism as a reconstruction of place and locality.

Author(s): *Animwaa Obeng-Akrofi, University of Calgary*

### **3. How American Media Affects Perceived Racism in Canada**

This study aims to identify whether perceptions of racism in Canada are influenced by the consumption of American media. The current study hypothesized that individuals exposed to an American news story (Group 1) would have a more favourable evaluation of Canada than those who were not exposed to the story (Group 2), that participants who were people of color (PoC) would have no significant differences in scores between the two groups, and that Canadians would overall rate Canada more favourably than America, but that this difference would be more pronounced in Group 1. Seventy-two (72) participants contributed data by completing one of two versions of the same questionnaire, which had questions regarding satisfaction of life in Canada, perceived ethnic diversity or acceptance in Canada, perceived racism in Canada, and a comparison between Canada and the USA. One version opened with a short vignette describing an example of racism that has recently occurred in America (Group 1; 47 questions), while the other version did not (Group 2; 46 questions). A 2x2x2 analysis of the data revealed that PoC and those with a different national affiliation exhibited lower scores pertaining to perceived diversity in Group 1 than Group 2. Caucasian participants evaluated Canada more favorably than America in Group 1, whereas PoC rated Canada better in Group 2. Limitations of this study included sample size, diversity of the sample, reliability of the scales, and self-selection/self-report biases. Future research should aim to rectify these and also further explore the significant differences that were found.

Author(s): *Emily Morgan Wiebe, University of Saskatchewan*

### **4. Toward An Awkward Comparison of Racial Discourses of Crime in Vancouver and Chicago**

A sizable body of social science research demonstrates that crime has served as a locus of racial governance in Canadian and American cities, affecting the different ways in which people are surveilled, policed, and subjected

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to state violence. Yet, there exists substantial variation in how these processes of racial governance work across different urban centers. This paper proposes a new method of comparative analysis, which I have called an awkward comparison, to reveal how racial discourses of crime materialize through place and locality. The paper models this method through a sustained comparison of how these discourses condition the political circumstances of two racialized populations: young South Asian men in Metro Vancouver and young African American men in Chicago. This awkward comparison illustrates how crime is governed through different racial indexicalities, which shape how differences are fabricated and cited through language; different optics of surveillance, which affect how danger is identified in public spaces; as well as different vernacular explanations of crime, which position familial structures as a principal cause of crime.

Author(s): *Bonar Buffam, University of British Columbia*

### Racism and Immigrant Integration

Session Code: RAE2C

Research Cluster Affiliation: Race and Ethnicity

In the 1960s, Canada officially moved away from overt racist criteria that pervaded its immigration policies to celebrate multi and interculturalism as political projects, which aim to recognize immigrants' plural ethnic origins. Nonetheless, racial discourses and racism have continued shaping the everyday experience of immigrants from non-White-European origins in Canada. The presentations in this session explore how racism is reproduced and enacted in everyday life through Canada's implementation of liberal politics, regulation of entry and belonging to the nation, as well as through the re-imagination of the boundaries of multiculturalism to fit cultural and religious exclusions.

Organizer(s): *Jennifer Adkins, University of British Columbia; Jessica Stallone, University of Toronto; Carlo Charles, McMaster University; Jasmeet Bahia, Carlton University*

Presentations:

#### 1. Unraveling Racism in Canada's Post WWII Immigration Policy

Through an analysis of a collection of correspondence among Canadian state authorities with officials of Lebanese, Syrian and Armenian descendant, in the time period of 1947-1952, it was found that in the immediate era of post-World War II, in spite of superficially adopting a liberal 'non racist' stand, Canadian officials, especially in terms of immigration policies, continued to be racist. While the events of the Second World-War, had made institutionalization of racial politics utterly unfashionable, the archival analysis shows how Canadian officials were cognizant of it, yet continued to struggle in justifying their exclusion of 'Asiatic' policies from a liberal lens. An even more interesting observation, however, is how different ethnic minorities attempted to bargain for inclusiveness without challenging such social Darwinist discourses. While on the surface one might argue that the ethnic minorities' discourses and struggle for inclusion is a story of struggle to challenge the Canadian racist policies, analysis of this archive shows that their *modus operandi* never seriously challenged the racial discourse. Instead, their primary struggle was to fit themselves within the Indo-European lineage. The most important takeaway from the research, however, is a humbling reality of how racial discourses continue to pervade seemingly liberal Western politics. While this research is historical, it hints at the tools and mechanisms that continue to selfreproduce through modern constructions such as liberalism, states and political agents. An eerily similar immigration policy is in effect right now in contemporary America, which puts a blanket ban on immigration from Muslim majority countries. Similar to the findings of the archival analysis, the Trump Administration currently justifies the ban in the name of national security. The findings of this analysis are, thus, important, because they reinforce the understanding that racial politics and policies can continue to reproduce within a liberal state.

Author(s): *Leili Yousefi, McMaster University*

#### 2. Guarding the Future Citizen: Secularism, Social Investment and State Interventions in Early Childhood

This paper investigates recent controversies related to diversity and migration in Quebec, and argues that they must be understood in the context of a destabilization of markers of national identity and a rising importance of discourses of social cohesion. In particular it focuses on the emergence of the figure of the child in social policy in

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the mid-1990s as a member of society requiring protecting not only from poverty but also from the ostensibly negative cultural/religious influence of family.

Author(s): *Ian Anthony Morrison, The American University in Cairo*

### **3. Racialization of Second-Generation Black Jamaicans and The Role of Multiculturalism in Navigating Racism**

This study examines the interlocking effects of race and class on the integration of second-generation Jamaicans into Canadian society. Though born and raised in Canada and socialized in Canadian institutions, second-generation Black Jamaicans are often not easily accepted in Canadian society. Race informs second-generation Jamaicans' everyday life, where the color of their skin has serious social consequences in every domain of their life such as educational institutions, labor market and criminal justice system. However, despite the fact that they are discriminated against in most Canadian institutions, most of the study participants see "multicultural" Canada as an ideal place to live. The research question guiding this study is as follows: "What role does multicultural ideology play in the integration of second-generation Jamaicans into multiethnic Canada?" To address these lines of inquiry, twenty-three in-depth interviews were conducted with second-generation Jamaicans in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). This study is unique in its approach to the ideology of multiculturalism and the ways in which it can be tied to the integration of second-generation Jamaicans. It argues that multicultural ideology functions in a dual fashion: inducing false consciousness while also acting as an integrative tool for second-generation Jamaicans.

Author(s): *Esra Ali, King's University College at Western*

### **4. Marriage Migration and National-boundary Making: Experiences of Racialized Spousal and Partner Immigrants in Canada**

This paper examines spousal and partner immigration application processes as a racialized site where the boundaries of the Canadian nation are drawn and shifted with respect to the legitimacy of the relationship. This paper first examines the roles of visa officers as gatekeepers who are tasked with determining the legitimacy of applicants' relationships and analyzes how visa officers regulate the entry and belonging of marriage migrants to the nation. Secondly, this paper analyzes the experiences of racialized marriage migrants in their immigration application processes. I argue that experiences of spousal and partner immigration applicants are shaped by their different positionalities based upon intersections of race, gender, culture, class, and the country of origin. Spousal and partner immigrants and their Canadian spouses negotiate their cultural and racial identity in relation to their understanding of 'Canadian norms' (white hegemonic norms and/or multicultural values) in order to secure their entry to Canada. I contend that the processes of spousal application work as racialized venues where racial and cultural hierarchies are reproduced and reinforced with respect to the legitimacy of the relationship.

Author(s): *Jiyoung Lee-An, Carleton University*

## **A Racialized Govern'mentality': Racism in Government Institutions**

Session Code: RAE2D

Research Cluster Affiliation: Race and Ethnicity

A government by the people for the people? Through different case studies, this session examines racism in government institutions in areas such as healthcare, education and (transnational) adoption. Through different qualitative methods, the papers first discuss the disproportionate access to quality healthcare for racialized minorities in terms of diagnosis and treatment in the medical industry. Second, they tackle how processes of adopting domestically and internationally become embedded in racial hierarchies, which are exacerbated by government policies. Finally, presenters trace the challenges embedded in collecting and protecting archival material for Black communities in Montreal. This set of papers in this session point to the workings of a racialized governmentality in different institutional settings.

Organizer(s): *Jennifer Adkins, University of British Columbia; Jessica Stallone, University of Toronto; Carlo Charles, McMaster University; Jasmeet Bahia, Carleton University*

Presentations:

### **1. Understanding Black women's perspectives and experiences of cervical cancer screening: A systematic review and qualitative meta-synthesis**



Cervical cancer is the third most common gynecological cancer, constituting 6.6% of all cancers found in women. Effective population-based cervical cancer screening programs exist, but improvements in morbidity and mortality continue to demonstrate racial disparities. For example, Black women are 41% more likely to develop cervical cancer than white women, and are twice as likely to die from their diagnosis. It is therefore important to understand whether these inequities in cervical cancer outcomes are related to differential access and experiences of screening programs. In this systematic review and qualitative meta-synthesis, we used an intersectional lens to understand Black women's experiences and perspectives of cervical cancer screening (CCS), in order to offer suggestions of how access to CCS may be improved for this group of patients. We identified 11 factors related to the perspectives and experiences of Black women participating in CCS across three levels: the personal (micro), the contemporary socio-cultural (meso), and the socio-historical/structural (macro). Understanding the experiences and perspectives of Black women with CCS through this lens can help individual clinicians and policy makers implement CCS in a way that is culturally appropriate and trauma informed.

Author(s): *Kayonne Christy, University of British Columbia; Sujane Kandasamy, McMaster University; Umair Majid, University of Toronto; Meredith Vanstone, McMaster University*

## **2. Collaboration and Control in Community Archiving with/in Black Communities**

As an important generation of Black community activists and community workers in Montreal age, there is an urgency to have proper archives preserving the record of their work. Consequently, there is increased attention in Montreal Black communities to creating such archives. Indeed, research indicates that community archives - defined as "collections of material objects, paper and digital records, audio-visual materials and personal testimonies, all created or collected and held within the community" - are instrumental in documenting the histories of marginalized communities, their histories of struggle, and in shaping collective memory (Flinn 2007; Flinn et. al, 2009; Bastian and Alexander 2009; Gerrard 2013). Though questions of power play out in all projects of historical memory, current research demonstrates that institutional archiving is particularly fraught with the kinds of unequal power relationships that may maintain the very inequality and erasure that Black community archives and Black community work more broadly seek to disrupt. Given what is at stake here, this presentation, situated in the Montreal context, will explore the following questions: 1) What are the kinds of challenges that communities are faced with when attempting to collect, organize and preserve knowledge/memory? 2) What are the pros and cons of a community organization handing over their archives to an institution rather than retaining full control of them? 3) What must be considered in the making of these decisions? 4) (How) can researchers act ethically and collaboratively in these circumstances? The presentation is based on preliminary analysis of interviews with members of several Black community supplementary education initiatives in Montreal, as well as our experience collaborating with them in participatory research that entails perusing their archives. It contributes to the broader discussion around ethical research with/in Black communities.

Author(s): *Philip S.S. Howard, McGill University; Désirée Rochat, McGill University; Lerona Lewis, McGill University; Adama Kaba, McGill University*

## **3. The Impacts of Whiteness in Canadian Healthcare: Drawing from a Racialized Patient's Perspectives**

I trace my experience as someone who suffers from severe atopic dermatitis in order to display how the lack of diversity and the abundance of white doctors and medical professionals in the Canadian healthcare system has resulted in a tremendous amount of suffering as well as mental anguish for me. I specifically describe my experiences to illustrate the vulnerability of those suffering from severe atopic dermatitis (and other health issues) in the wider context of the multi-billion dollar Canadian dermatology market, how we lose power and agency over our own bodies, and how the lived experiences of racialized patients are frequently and often minimized, dismissed, and denied by white healthcare providers and a wider white healthcare system that is not equipped to serve a diverse population; rather, the system is designed to oppress us. As part of a solution-focused approach, I integrate considerations about how greater openings for immigrant professionals in the Canadian healthcare system could fill this very large vacuum which exists in the system.

Author(s): *Hibah Sidat, University of Toronto*

## **4. On the Colour-line: Transracial adoptees**

This paper examines transracial adoptees' (TRA) experiences of negotiating their racial/ethnic identity within white adopting families. It argues that embedded racism within governmental adoption policies' negatively affects TRA's sense of identity. Moreover, indicates how the adoption of transracial adoptees reproduces a racial hierarchy that places Indigenous and Black children at the greatest disadvantage. TRA's are negatively impacted by color-blind ideology, and the white saviour narrative as it hinders their sense of self as adoptees, and people of

color. TRA's undergo a complex identity making process as people of color due to their lack of belonging into racialized groups, and a conflicting sense of racialization stemming from contradicting socializing forces in the public and private domain. Adoptees' must negotiate a disconnect between internal perceptions of racial identity from their familial environment and the external classifications of presumed racial identity based on phenotype and physical appearance. Their white families are a significant socializing force that deeply impacts TRA's identity and sense of self. TRA's identities are created, negotiated and navigated on the margins of the color-line. This paper places their experiences within broader patterns of racialization of groups and provides a nuanced account of their lived experiences that unpacks causal mechanisms for how racialization and gender norms operate.

Author(s): *Jennifer Peruniak, University of Toronto*

#### **5. The Promises and Lies of Big Data for Diagnosing Race/Ethnicity: Interviews with Ontario Physicians**

Although uses of 'race'/'ethnicity' for diagnostic purposes remains a controversial practice given the socially contingent meaning of the terms, health researchers continue to report possible relationships between health outcomes and race/ethnicity in medical literature. Using big data algorithms to search hundreds of medical journals on a daily basis, private companies generate summaries of these studies that are then incorporated into commercial databases designed to provide medical practitioners with actionable information at the point of patient care. However, the algorithms that drive the databases often collect data inconsistently and without context, sometimes unintentionally incorporating racist biases in the search reports that medical practitioners may rely on in patient consultations. Based on semi-structured open-ended interviews with physicians in Southern Ontario, this paper examines the social impact of these pithy medical conclusions about race/ethnicity in order to assess the extent to which they inform patient diagnosis and treatment, especially for population groups that are already disadvantaged in other aspects of daily life.

Author(s): *Sachil Singh, Queen's University*

### **Understanding Anti-Blackness and Whiteness in Processes of Racialization**

Session Code: RAE3

Research Cluster Affiliation: Race and Ethnicity; Critical Ethnicity and Anti-Racism

Critical whiteness research on race, racism and racialization interrogates whiteness in ways that attend to and challenge ongoing institutional and ideological forces that systemically normalizes the benefits of the 'wage of whiteness' and unearned privileges. While such work seeks to expose how discourses and practices of White fragility, innocence and rage establish new configurations for the expansion and reproduction of White power, it is also marked by 'epistemic breaks' ignorance and the problematic call to move beyond the so-called 'Black and White binary paradigm'. This session explores theoretical and/or empirical scholarship that accounts for the fluidity of white power, developments in whiteness theorizing and the politics of anti-Blackness.

Organizer(s): *Katerina Deliovsky, Brock University; Tamari Kitossa, Brock University*

Presentations:

#### **1. Situating the Black Experience Project - The country's largest investigation into Blackness in Canada**

In 2013, Sedef arat-Koc wrote about a transnational whiteness, a phenomenon that was novel at the time. What does whiteness look like outside of Europe and north America, in non-western, non-European contexts? This paper contributes to the theoretical development of global blackness and the global African diaspora. Using the monumental black experience project study as its point of departure, this paper will support a conversation on what race means in a post-racial or multicultural society. Intentionally using the term 'black' rather than 'racialized' this session will emphasize the solidarity that is implied with this word in helping black Canadians to self-define, self-identify and negotiate belonging. This paper interrogates and engages with contemporary debates involving global movements like black lives matter; more local, nuanced topics like black on bay street, and theoretical contributions that include black feminist thought and African ways of knowing. The critical ecological model, developed by dr. Wendy Cukier at the diversity institute at Ryerson university, will be applied as a way of bridging theory and practice to develop a framework for action that accommodates both theorists and activists working on several levels.

Author(s): *Mohamed Elmi, Ryerson University; Patience Adamu, Ryerson University*

## **2. Centering the White Gaze: Black Jamaicans and Dark-White Portuguese**

This study examines identity construction among second-generation Jamaicans and Portuguese in Toronto. The research question guiding this study is as follows: in a “multicultural” Canadian setting, are there differences between the ways second-generation diasporic Jamaicans and Portuguese define themselves, both ethnically and racially, and how others see them? To address this line of inquiry, I conducted 43 in-depth interviews with second-generation Jamaicans and Portuguese in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). This study also seeks to lay bare the impact of racialization on identity construction. Since both the Jamaican and Portuguese participants of this study are mostly working-class immigrants, it is easier to discern the impact of race on identity construction when the role of class is held constant. Furthermore, comparison of the two groups is utilized to delineate distinct degrees of racialization within the two groups: one is a “visible” minority while the other is a non-visible minority. Based upon my interviews and my review of the literature, I argue that Portuguese are seen as dark-whites in Toronto due to their social class and their non-Anglo-Saxon culture. On the part of Jamaicans, society in general defines Jamaicans as black as a result of slavery, power relationships, and color symbolism. The theories and concepts guide this study are identity construction, racialization, blackness, and whiteness.

Author(s): *Esra ARI, King's University College at Western*

## **3. Criminology as Anti-Blackness: On the (hidden) logic of genocide**

Between the subtlety of liberals and the assertiveness of conservatives in criminology, the commitment to racism is of degrees rather than kind. Despite very different deterministic theoretical assumptions, one being bio-psychic and the other socio-cultural, both conservative and liberal criminology rest on a shared meta-theoretical foundation of anti-Blackness and racism. With emphasis on anti-Blackness, this presentation demonstrates that the foundational nature of racist determinism in criminology is manifest from its inception in Europe's so-called Enlightenment, colonialism and the transatlantic slavery. The presentation demonstrates that subsequent to the Western world's post-Nazi embarrassment of white supremacy, criminology has encysted its anti-Black racism within the protective coating of class determinism (which was also manifest at the ‘disciplines’ founding). The presentation suggests that the confected debate on data and the so-called race-crime nexus not only makes conservatives and liberals easy bedfellows, but conceals that the ultimate logic of criminology is Black cultural and physical genocide.

Author(s): *Tamari Kitossa, Brock University*

## **Different countries, one Muslim experience? Cultural Politics, Identity and Anti-Muslim Racism in the West**

Session Code: RAE4

Research Cluster Affiliation: Race and Ethnicity

In North America and in many European democracies, Muslim cultural and religious practices are perceived to be incompatible with Western norms and values. As a case in point, the Quebec government most recently passed Bill 21—the first North American legislation that limits the wearing of religious symbols for public servants, especially affecting women wearing hijab. Under this ruling, women wearing hijab are no longer able to work as teachers, police officers, daycare workers etc. Through different national contexts, invited panelists in this session will shed light on the shared experience of racism and Islamophobia for Muslims in Western liberal democracies. Tahseen Shams will unravel how these global racializing outcomes influence how South Asian Muslim immigrants in the United States locate themselves in the national polity. Moreover, through a comparative analysis between Quebec and Geneva, Amelie Barras analyzes how similar legislations on religion and Muslim dress have passed in different national contexts. Finally, Thomas Soehl will discuss how religion shapes experiences of discrimination for second generation immigrants in France. Conversations in this session will implicate broader discussions about secularism, citizenship, multiculturalism and the politics of belonging.

Organizer(s): *Jessica Stallone, University of Toronto*

Panelists:

- Tahseen Shams, University of Toronto
- Amelie Barras, York University
- Thomas Soehl, McGill University

## Emergent Issues in Research Ethics

Session Code: REM1

Theme: Research Methods

The labour of institutional ethics can crowd out space for the ongoing development and refinement of research ethics in Sociology. We invite papers that do the work of preserving an ethical reckoning and genealogy in the discipline. We seek both empirical and theoretical papers exploring emergent ethics, including critical reviews of the ethics culture of particular sub-disciplines in sociology, reflection on canonical past studies, or experiences with REB/IRB. We feature papers in which authors discuss their own current research practices or research experiences, presenting conundrums or innovations.

Organizer(s): *Ali Greey, University of Toronto; Judith Taylor, University of Toronto; Kathleen Rodgers, University of Ottawa*

Presentations:

### 1. Ethical Dilemmas in the use of Domestic Violence Narratives on Twitter

New sources and milieus for web-based data proliferate far faster than primers for thinking about how to ethically access them. In this paper, we reflect on our research in the twitter-verse, specifically, tweets sent as part of campaigns to raise awareness about IPV (Intimate Partner Violence). In this paper, we consider ethical conundrums we faced not because of institutional guidelines, but because of our own conceptions of fair-use. Some of the ethical concerns that animate our paper include attaching names to tweets, even though Twitter asks scholars to cite in this manner and people post publicly and in full knowledge, as well as excluding tweets that are politically salient but are not re-tweeted enough to meet the threshold for analytic inclusion. Combing through thousands of tweets, we also think about the way in which these personal stories of risk, shame, and vulnerability can become disembodied narratives in search of a pattern, rather than real lives with real risks. Using Andrea Doucet's (2006) metaphor of Gossamer Walls, we present suggestions for ethical practice for researchers. Such reflections, we believe, ask us to consider the risks people take posting narratives, and in so doing will make for better understanding of the narratives, and lives, we find.

Author(s): *Madelaine Coelho, University of Toronto; Rachel Meiorin, University of Toronto*

### 2. Doing Drug Research as an Intimate Insider

The present paper focuses on the intersection of two unique types of research: intimate insider research (see, for example, Ellis 2007; Irwin 2006; Taylor 2011) and drug research (see, for example, Bourgois and Schonberg 2009; Carlson 2009; Kelly 2010). The former refers to studies where the researcher has pre-existing relationships with his or her participants. In such cases, the researcher never truly leaves the field. The latter refers to research where the participants engage in licit and/or illicit drug use. Together, these two types of research raise several unique ethical and methodological issues that the researcher must negotiate. In this paper, I discuss my own experiences as an intimate insider doing research with people who use club drugs. I discuss some of the unique challenges and issues I experienced throughout the research process and I describe how I worked through them. I chose to focus on these issues because of the uniqueness of intimate insider research with people who use drugs. While there is literature on the ethics of intimate insider research as well as literature on the ethics of illicit drug research, there is very little that considers the ethical issues produced through the intersection of the two. With this paper, my intention is to provide a discussion of these issues and of how I worked through them so that future researchers might be better prepared and informed when undertaking similar projects.

Author(s): *Nicholas Cristiano, York University*

### 3. The 'hypervisible' researcher: Exploring the role of the fat researcher in fat studies

In conducting feminist research, the researcher must provide the reader with 'accountable knowledge' (Letherby, 2000), in order for the reader to understand the location of the researcher in relation to the research. Clandin and Connelly (2000) argue that experience should be the starting point of all inquiry in the social sciences. Further, Kreiger (1985) highlights the need for researchers to understand not only their data, but to also understand their own experiences as part of the community under study. This paper explores how my experiences as a fat woman cannot be separated out from the research I conduct, especially when the starting point for this research emerges

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out of my own experiences with the health care system. In this paper, I explore the role of the fat researcher in conducting fat studies research, specifically locating myself, and what it means to do research where you cannot hide your 'insider status'. As a fat woman, my fatness is hypervisible (Gailey, 2014) and cannot be hidden. The visibility of my body immediately implicates me in the research process. Drawing on the work of Letherby (2000) and Stanley (1993) on the auto/biographical 'I' this paper unpacks the implications of being an insider in fat studies research, and the benefits and challenges that come with this position, and the value of accounting for your own experiences as data.

Author(s): *Kelsey Ioannoni, York University*

### **4. Ethics Beyond Ethical Review: A New Approach to Conflicts in the Field**

What happens when all the rules are followed and people still get hurt? In this paper, we explore non-legal and institutional-wary remedies for thinking about how to heal relationships between researchers, community members, and the researched. Using a case study from the world of feminist research and feminist NGOs, we explain how social scientists' research practices do not grasp the extent of vulnerability of those with whom we work. We suggest university-community partnership offices can be places in which differently situated parties can come to listen to one another. Scholars know how to listen when it's for the construction of their research, but are not often made to listen when others perceive that they've done something wrong. Community members who feel disenfranchised by faculty have very little recourse, despite the existence of exhaustive ethical review. We propose that scholars invest more in the spirit than the letter of ethics, building practices of accountability that fall outside of the purview of professional obligation. The goal is to create more dialogical spaces of learning in the research process and to reawaken what we might think of as research conscience.

Author(s): *Ali Greey, University of Toronto; Judith Taylor, University of Toronto*

## Resisting Racism and Colonialism in Sociology

Session Code: REM3

Theme: Research Methods

In alignment with the theme of Congress 2020 – Bridging Divides: Confronting Colonialism and Anti-Black Racism – the theme of this year's Canadian Sociological Association Conference is Resisting Racism and Colonialism. Organized by the CSA Research Advisory Subcommittee, this panel will examine the role of the CSA and its members in confronting and challenging racism and colonialism, both in sociology and in the academic community more broadly. This panel brings together panelists with varying expertise and experience to consider how the CSA has played a role in racial inequality and colonialism, and to develop goals and strategies for moving forward to confront and bridge divides.

This session is sponsored by the Canadian Sociological Association Research Advisory Subcommittee.

Organizer(s): *Kristyn Franks, Statistics Canada; Abdie Kazemipur, University of Calgary; Allyson Stokes, Memorial University*

Panelists:

- Jeffrey Denis, McMaster University
- Enakshi Dua, York University
- Carl James, York University
- Irene Shankar, Mount Royal University

## Digital Data Management and Open Access: Implications for research and publishing

Session Code: REM4

Theme: Research Methods

The environment surrounding academic research and publishing is undergoing transformation. SSHRC (along with NSERC and CIHR) is putting in place a policy on research data management that will have significant

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implications for the way sociologists manage their research and knowledge making practices. At the same time, the transition to open access publishing models is the subject of ongoing debate among academics, universities, publishers, librarians, and governments. This panel will consider important questions that are emerging from these shifts. What new opportunities and challenges will present themselves to individual researchers and the sociological community? How will data management practices change and how will different groups of researchers be impacted differently? How will the new publishing model work and what impacts will it have on the CSA/SCS and the CRA/RCS? How can the association and journal archive a smooth transition to the open access publishing model? Organized by the CSA Research Advisory subcommittee, this panel will bring together panelists with varying expertise on academic publishing, open access, and data management to consider these and other relevant questions from a variety of perspectives.

This session is sponsored by the Canadian Sociological Association Research Advisory Subcommittee.

Organizer(s): *Kristyn Franks, Statistics Canada; Abdie Kazemipur, University of Calgary; Allyson Stokes, Memorial University*

### Panelists:

- Tracey L. Adams, Western University
- Jenny Godley, Chair of the Conjoint Faculties Research Ethics Board, University of Calgary
- Vincent Larivière, Université de Montréal
- Karen Stanbridge, Memorial University of Newfoundland

## Power and politics through relational lenses

Session Code: RES1

Research Cluster Affiliation: Relational Sociology

Relational sociology seeks to re-examine social life by stressing live relations as dynamic processes. It therefore rejects conventional approaches like determinism and voluntarism while re-interrogating familiar concepts like agency and structure. However, this emphasis placed on relations does not presume anything about the evenness between actors. This leads to the question of power and politics in both their institutional and non-institutional forms. How can relational sociology contribute to our understanding of these important issues? What difference does a relational perspective make under the circumstances? Conversely, how do issues of power and politics influence or shape the project of relational sociology?

Organizer(s): *Jean-Sebastien Guy, Dalhousie University*

### Presentations:

#### **1. Towards a Relational Ethnography: Tracing Relations of Power and Practice within the Online Far-Right**

This paper combines relational sociological theory with key ethnographic concepts to develop new methodological approaches for examining the online contemporary far-right. As groups like the Alt-Right continue to fascinate journalists and academics alike, analyses have become increasingly similar. Popular examinations of the Alt-Right or far-right internet spaces have methodologically come from variations of ethnography (Nagle, 2017; Phillips 2015), discourse mapping (Wendling 2018), or ideological historiographies (Hawley, 2017; Neiwart 2017). These methodologies produce important work; they delineate the cultural and historical logics of far-right beliefs and rhetorical practices. However, we lack work that treats the contemporary far-right as the output of dynamic, relational processes produced within varying material sites at micro and macro levels of existence. Non-relational methodological techniques tend to emphasize cultural and discursive content as composing worldviews, implicating online far-right communities as segmented, anti-mainstream factions. This, however, does not account for the unequal but consistently transactional relations between human, non-human, and institutional actants that compose far-right political figurations beyond the level of ideological content. In response, I use a relational



perspective while drawing from fieldwork and a reflexive inquiry of ethnography to propose that a relationally informed methodology can better elucidate the processes that make real North American contemporary far-right worldviews.

Author(s): *Melody Devries, Ryerson University*

## **2. The Cross-fertilization between Anti-Jewish and Anti-Muslim Attitudes: Lessons for a Relational Understanding of Racisms**

Students of racism would do well to heed Elisabeth Noelle-Neumanns cautioning against the difficulties of inquiring into attitudes the voicing of which carries risks. Public perceptions of racism are more likely to be triggered by racist attitudes that are costly, not by mere displays of racism per se. Debates on an alleged resurgence of anti-Semitism against the backdrop of increased Muslim migration indicate that mismeasurement of racism often stems from disregarding these interconnections. The findings from this study of anti-Jewish and anti-Muslim attitudes among Hungarian adults involving experimental design unpack layers of racism that would remain hidden in a questionnaire survey ignoring contextual effects. Anti-Semitic responses are significantly more prevalent when the question on the political response to late-19th century Jewish migration is placed in the context of early-21st century Muslim migration. On the other hand, anti-Muslim responses are less frequent (albeit still modal) when respondents are treated with references to earlier Jewish migration. Multivariate analysis shows that wherever anti-Muslim responses coexist with non-racist attitudes toward Jews and non-whites, and acceptance of LGBT people, it is typically because Muslims, unlike the former groups, are perceived as similar in standing as the Roma, open bias against whom carries the least social cost.

Author(s): *Zoltan Lakatos, Budapest University of Technology and Economics*

## **3. Cosmopolitanism as a Relational/Trans-actional Approach to Politics in Diverse Societies**

In this paper, I propose that multiculturalism is inter-actional, while cosmopolitanism is trans-actional. The Deweyan notions of inter-action and trans-action are useful in describing the differences between multicultural approaches to social diversity (as existing either among discrete and well defined groups and nations) or my cosmopolitan approach (embedded in complex relationships between people and their porous groupings beyond national borders who share meanings, languages and practices). I review why inter-actional multiculturalism is doomed to fail in conveying the complex issues embedded in the accompanying processes of equity, inclusion and social justice. A trans-actional approach to politics is essentially relational as it thinks of social processes as fluid and dynamic, and not in terms of defined groups that comprise certain human bodies. Cosmopolitanism in the sense that I propose here, relies on reflexive politics that entails the revisability of political meanings as based on self-referentiality, contingency and "constituent power" located in the present moment of time. I propose that this trans-actional conception of relational and reflexive politics can be the basis to insert compassion - located in the present moment - into a theory of cosmopolitan politics that takes into account the dynamic and fluid relationships between democratic politics, equity, inclusion and social justice.

Author(s): *Monica Judith Sanchez-Flores, Thompson Rivers University*

## **4. A Processual-Relational Approach to Studying and Governing Wicked Problems.**

This interdisciplinary and thoroughly theoretical and conceptual dissertation takes lessons from relational sociology, governance, and international relations and develops an approach to study and govern wicked problems. The starting point is the inability of mainstream approaches to study and govern wicked problems. Based on the ontological setup of these problems, a processual-relational approach has been identified as the best fit to make sense of their constitution. This consideration also led to the need to focus on a constitutive type of inquiry to enable the production of useful results. Equipped with the matching research agenda, the dissertation moves on to explore possible methodological approaches that derive from processual-relationalism. Most prominently, it features the use of a cognitive-frames based methodology to study wicked problems. After showing that a relational approach is useful to study wicked problems, its abilities to govern wicked problems are explored. The main lesson here is the re-focus of governance failure to the embrace of 'Failure-Governance'. By presenting the above, the dissertation advances the ontological and methodological debate of relational sociology by clearly linking wicked problems with relationalism and introducing lessons from international relations to the discipline. The dissertation further introduces the usefulness of this marriage to the broader discipline of international relations by showing that many wicked problems are found among the typical subjects of the discipline. Lastly, it makes smaller contributions to the field of governance by presenting the ontological basis to "Failure Governance" and strengthening its potential.

Author(s): *Benjamin Klasche, Tallinn University*

## 5. Political Semiotics as a Relational Theory and Method of Political Analysis

Based on the forthcoming book *Political Semiotics as a Theory and Method: An Introduction to Relational Political Analysis* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2020, co-author Andreas Ventsel), the author discusses political semiotics as an approach to the political which is based on the synthesis of relational sociology and cultural semiotics. The crucial contribution of cultural semiotics is that it is explicitly processual relational (or trans-actional) approach to explaining the mechanisms of meaning-making. Yet there are various perspectives in semiotics which should not be conflated with cultural semiotics - most notably structuralism and post-structuralism. The author also demonstrates how crucial categories for political analysis - power, governance and democracy - can be conceptualized in terms of meaning-making processes that are constitutive of social action and make semiotic analysis crucial for their explanation. Several brief examples of empirical analyses based on political semiotics are also sketched.

Author(s): *Peeter Selg, Tallinn University*

## Conceptualizing and applying relational sociology

Session Code: RES2

Research Cluster Affiliation: Relational sociology

Relational sociology is a research field that has been on the rise in recent years as demonstrated by the works of Crossely, Donati, Emirbayer and Dépelteau. This is an exciting moment since the field is still in the making. This marks a great opportunity for researchers coming from different theoretical backgrounds and studying different empirical objects to engage in a dialog with each other to explore the dynamic and processual aspects of social life.

Organizer(s): *Jean-Sebastien Guy, Dalhousie University*

Presentations:

### 1. Creativity and dementia: New directions from embodiment, relationality and citizenship discourse

There have been important advances in research on creativity that have provided a more inclusive view of everyday and ordinary creativity, including that of persons living with dementia. However, these developments are limited by a lack of engagement with scholarship on embodiment, relationality, and citizenship. We address these limitations by drawing on a relational model of citizenship that offers a critical rethinking of the nature of creativity and the imperative that these be supported in long-term dementia care. We draw on transcribed video-recorded interactions between elder-clowns and residents living with dementia in one long-term care home in central Canada. These are analyzed with reference to key theoretical tenets of the relational model of citizenship. Embodied selfhood (i.e., the primordial and socio-cultural dispositions of the body that are fundamental sources of self-expression and relationality), are identified as key to the creativity of persons living with dementia. We argue that creativity is not an individual cognitive trait but rather emerges from the complex intersection of enabling environments and the embodied intentionality of all involved. We conclude that creativity must be supported in everyday life through organizational practices and socio-political institutions that more fully support the relational, interpersonal, and affective dimensions of care.

Author(s): *Pia Kontos, Toronto Rehab Institute - UHN; Alisa Grigorovich, Toronto Rehab Institute - UHN*

### 2. Towards a relational understanding of creativity: intra-action and becoming

In this presentation I will argue for a relational understanding of creativity and outline a relational theory of creation developed as part of my doctoral dissertation research. Using Barad's concept of intra-action (Barad, 2007), I will argue for a reconceptualization of creative processes that foregrounds the mutual constitution (co-creation) of human and nonhuman actants. Working from a new materialist and posthuman perspective I will argue that the conventional view of creativity which situates creativity as a property of individual humans, distorts the actual relational processes that are at the heart of creation and broader processes of becoming. Central to this relational approach to creativity is a commitment to an animate ontology (Ingold, 2006, Sheets-Johnstone, 2009) that foregrounds processes of becoming over the conventional commitment to being. Understanding animacy as a central property of reality permits a radical reconceptualization of creativity as a central property of becoming and worldmaking (Goodman, 1978). In outlining this radical reconceptualization, I will engage with central

debates in new materialism and posthumanism to argue for an ontological approach to creativity that displaces the human as the central progenitors of creative processes instead arguing for an understanding of creativity as a process of affective attunement implicating both human and nonhuman actants as forceful participants in the creative process. Repositioning creativity as a relational-affective process helps us to better understand its prevalence in everyday life and offers a challenge to the generally accepted understanding of creativity as a form of individualized giftedness or talent.

Author(s): *Kevin Naimi, OISE, University of Toronto*

### **3. Assembling Relations; Deleuze's Sociology of Immanence**

Although many champion the diversity in methodological approaches that can be included under the big tent of relational sociology, there is a risk that too many fundamentally different approaches under one rubric makes one ask whether its worth talking about something called relational sociology at all. This paper proposes that a close reading of Deleuze's immanent philosophy of the virtual-actual is a good candidate for a theoretically rigorous deployment of relational sociology and takes assemblage theory as the obvious methodological approach. My reading of assemblage theory begins with the assertion that the fundamental structures of Western thought and by extension social science -namely the concept of difference itself -is a hurdle in understanding a complex and emergent social world. To remedy this Deleuze proposes a univocal or so-called "flat" ontology that accounts for both structure and stratification, as well as change and emergence. Rather than relying on external (equivocal, transcendental) starting points, assemblage theory treats phenomena as immanent systems that function through the dynamism of their own elements. More specifically, assemblages consist of what Deleuze, drawing on Michel Foucault and Louis Hjelmslev, refers to as forms of content and forms of expression. The former are the material elements interacting with one another; the latter the kinds of social expression that this material interaction (or "affectation") produces. The two forms are mutually implicating in the sense that forms of content imply specific forms of expression, which in turn coalesce in further forms of content and so on. In effect, without external causal starting points, assemblage theory analysis is a pure science of relations themselves. The argument will be illustrated by a brief analysis of social credit systems in the Peoples Republic of China.

Author(s): *Peter Lenco, Saint Francis Xavier University*

### **4. Post-structuralism as Trickster, Digital Self Tracking and Representation**

In recent years, self-tracking technologies have proliferated in sport, health, and fitness. Self-tracking practices involve people voluntarily tracking and recording certain features of their everyday lives, often using digital technologies (Lupton, 2014a). This recorded personal data is commonly used to inform an individual's behaviour, particularly health-related behaviours. Given neoliberal forces that frame health and fitness as a personal responsibility (McDermott, 2011), it is unsurprising that research on self-tracking technologies largely focus on how they can be used in health and fitness interventions. Yet, little research exists that examines digital self-tracking from sociocultural perspectives (Lupton 2014b). My research focuses on the self-tracking application and social networking site, Strava, which is currently rated as the #1 app for runners and cyclists. Drawing on the work of Bruno Latour and Deleuze and Guattari, my study conceives Strava as a space in which complex social relationships exist amongst individuals, between individuals and technology, as well as individuals and physical landscapes. As part of a larger body of work on Strava user's understandings of self and surveillance, in this paper, I position online spaces and post-structuralist research as Trickster archetype to explore the merits (and institutional hurdles) of arts-based representation in academic research.

Author(s): *Erin Ratelle, University of Alberta*

### **5. The dark side of relational sociology: on the concept of social disorder**

In sociology, we heard about the dark side of democracy or the dark side of modernity. We use the word dark to convey something psychologically chilling or morally upsetting (say, mass murder). In physics however, we speak of dark matter to designate something considered as real albeit undetectable. When talking about the dark side of relational sociology, what I have in mind is closer to this second kind of darkness. My main contention is that the various social orders emerging out of contingent relational processes must be placed in opposition with the total absence of any order, that is, in contrast with conditions of social disorder. Disorder is to sociology what dark matter is to physics : we have to admit that it is real even though we might be at pain to uncover it. Disorder does not have to be normatively charged. We are not necessarily referring to cases of political violence or civil unrest (situations for which we have in fact a clear vision). Rather we can think of disorder in a more formal sense: as the absence of patterns -which is not to be confused with the absence of matter. Disorder is a state of matter. Relational processes turn this disorder into order, except that this result does not exhaust what matter can do. For this

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presentation, I gather conceptual resources for operationalizing disorder. I discuss the ideas of Bruno Latour (magma), Harrison White (chaos, turbulence, ambiguity, ambage) and Niklas Luhmann (complexity, contingency, selectivity).

Author(s): *Jean-Sebastien Guy, Dalhousie University*

### Recent developments in relation sociology

Session Code: RES3

Research Cluster Affiliation: Relational sociology

The purpose of this panel is to recognize and discuss four recent or upcoming major publications in the field of relational sociology: *Beyond Leadership: A Relational Approach to Organizational Theory in Education* (by Scott Eacott), *Theory Beyond Structure and Agency: Introducing the Metric/Nonmetric Distinction* (by Jean-Sébastien Guy), *John Dewey and the Notion of Trans-action: A sociological Reply on Rethinking Relations and Social Processes* (by Christian Morgner, editor) and *Political Semiotics as Theory and Method: An Introduction to Relational Political Analysis* (by Peeter Selg and Andreas Ventsel). This will be an opportunity to collectively reflect and debate on the ways relational sociology as a whole has been growing and evolving and what the future might look like for it.

Organizer(s): *Jean-Sebastien Guy, Dalhousie University*

Panelists:

- Jean-Sebastien Guy, Dalhousie University
- Peeter Selg, Tallinn University
- Monica Sanchez-Flores, Thompson Rivers University

### Resilient Indigenous Communities in the Era of 21st Century Reconciliation

Session Code: RUS1

Research Cluster Affiliation: Rural Sociology

This session contributes to the burgeoning sociological discussions on the complex intersection between Indigenous peoples' right to self-determination and government reconciliation efforts. Presenters will highlight the diverse ways by which Indigenous communities in Arctic Canada, British Columbia, and northwestern Ontario are developing new strategies to adapt to the realities of the 21st Century. Presenters will discuss issues related to governance, health, natural resources management, economic development, land use, culture, self-determination, and free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC).

Organizer(s): *Satenia Zimmermann, Lakehead University; Jennifer Jarman, Lakehead University*

Presentations:

#### **1. Reclaiming First Nations' Lands and Forests: A Northern Ontario Case Study**

Throughout the 21st century federal, provincial and territorial courts have increasingly ruled in favour of First Nations who have sought the courts' assistance in their fight to protect their traditional lands and natural resources. As a result, governments, corporations and ENGOs have been forced to amend legislation, policies, and practices related to natural resource management. First Nations have responded by implementing their own local land and resource management policies, establishing Indigenous-owned businesses and forging new partnerships with corporations and ENGOs. Ontario is no exception. First Nations, who a decade ago existed on the periphery of the forest sector, are now key players in sustainable forest management. This paper examines the role of the Nawiinginokima Forest Management Corporation (NPMC), the first provincially owned Local Forest Management Corporation established in 2014 under the Ontario Forest Tenure Modernization Act, 2011, to ensure local First

Nations' involvement in sustainable forest management. Using semi-structured interviews, a northern Ontario case study was developed with information gathered from representatives from BiigtigongNishnaabegFirst Nation, NetmizaaggamigNishnaabegFirst Nation, NFMC, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, industry, ENGOs, and consultants. Participants discuss First Nations' involvement in the development of the NFMC; the impact the NFMC has had on local First Nations; Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification on the Big Pic, Pic River, and White River forests; the implications of obtaining free, prior and informed consent in forestry; the role of First Nations in forest management planning; and the ways in which BiigtigongNishnaabegFirst Nation and NetmizaaggamigNishnaabegFirst Nation are reclaiming their lands and resources through sustainable forest management.

Author(s): *Satenia Zimmermann, Lakehead University; Peggy (M.A.) Smith, Lakehead University*

## **2. Gulu Wamukulu: Dancing Healthy Masculinities into Being**

Indigenous feminist research demonstrates linkages between Indigenous men's poor health and the health disparities that Indigenous women and children experience. In this presentation, I will look to ceremony as an under-valued but vital way to promote Indigenous men's participation in community health and governance. A case example of this is in the Gule Wamukulu (performative spiritual mask dance) as an Indigenous community response from Malawi that centers men's roles to relational, political, spiritual health through traditional methods of public education. The performative spiritual mask dance highlights the importance of healthy gender relations and community actions for addressing disease prevention and colonial toxic masculinities. This research will start in Malawi and will explore the work accomplished through Gule Wamukulu with the intent of engaging Indigenous performative spiritual mask dancers of some Coasts Salish Nations. The objectives of this research are twofold 1) To center how local Indigenous men through Gule Wamukulu engage in actions of regenerated political, gender, spiritual, mental and relational wellness through an Indigenous decolonial framework of disease prevention. 2) To determine how Nyau dancers of Gula Wamukulu and Indigenous performative spiritual mask dancers of the Coasts Salish Nations could engage in an Indigenous cross-cultural exchange around gender and governance through ceremony. 3) This dialogue would explore how performative spiritual mask dancing engages Indigenous men to think about how they can contribute to the health of their communities using Indigenous observational ethnography.

Author(s): *Devi Dee Mucina, University of Victoria*

## **3. Extractive Resource Development: What are Canada's Arctic Communities Concerned About**

Over the past 20 years, Canada's Arctic communities have faced an increased interest in extractive resource development in their region. These developments face a different environment from that of the Berger Inquiry of the 1970s. The presence of Modern Land Claim Agreements and other instruments of decolonization has reduced opposition to these projects, but concerns remain. This paper uses the new metadata sources of environmental assessment consultations and other sources to isolate the main concerns of Arctic communities surrounding these projects.

Author(s): *Chris Southcott, Lakehead University*

## **4. Healing Place: Resilience and the Ongoing Presence of a Demolished Residential School**

Decades after their closure, the ruins of residential schools are physical reminders of the colonial violence committed through the residential schools program. Even demolished, these schools remain focal points within ongoing reconciliation. Although the Alberni Residential School on Vancouver Island has been demolished, the site remains a socially and politically fraught space for the Tseshaht First Nation. The Tseshaht First Nation has spearheaded numerous community based healing projects, directly utilizing and acknowledging the site of the demolished residential school. By engaging in community based healing on the very site of devastating colonial violence, the band demonstrates their resilience and commitment to reinscribing new meaning into the space of the school. Even demolished, the space of the school remains powerful in the band's ongoing resilience and opposition to colonialism and intergenerational trauma. By locating the social meaning-making of the materiality of the demolished residential school, this collaborative project serves to demonstrate the resilience of the Indigenous community in engaging in the work of healing, commemorating and memorializing experiences of trauma within the residential school.

Author(s): *Katherine Morton, Memorial University*

## The Right to be Rural

Session Code: RUS2

Research Cluster Affiliation: Rural Sociology

Many rural communities are currently facing a complex array of demographic, social, economic, environmental, and political challenges. This session explores the nature and consequences of some of these changes both in terms of consideration for the ways researchers of the rural should be designing their research, and in terms of exploring some of the most critical research areas such as out-migration, the creation of rural capital of various types, access of rural farmers to resources, the social consequences of different rural food procurement strategies, and the socio-economic consequences of disease on patients and families in rural areas.

Organizer(s): *Jennifer Jarman, Lakehead University; Karen Foster, Dalhousie University; Satenia Zimmermann, Lakehead University*

Presentations:

### 1. Personal Debt and Community Out-Migration

This paper examines personal debt as a possible factor in young peoples' decisions to stay in or leave their current communities, considering debt as a motivation to migrate - to earn more money to repay debts - or as a barrier to mobility. Despite considerable scholarly focus on the economic predictors of youth out-migration - such as employment opportunities, labour markets, and socioeconomic status - there is little to no research that examines the role of personal debt therein. This is surprising given the prevalence of personal debt in contemporary societies, and growing sociological inquiry into this topic. In this paper, we present quantitative data from an Atlantic Canadian survey on work and community life conducted in the spring of 2019. The Atlantic region is characterized by persistent youth out-migration, low-wages, high unemployment and high tuition fees. Work in the region is also often precarious and seasonal. A total of 1277 respondents in both rural and urban Atlantic Canadian communities were asked a series of questions about personal debt (e.g. types of personal debt, main source of debt, amount owed, and estimated time of repayment), as well as questions about their plans to leave their current community (e.g. do you think you will move away from your current community?). Using basic cross-tabular analysis and logistic regression, this paper offers insight into the role of personal debt in plans to stay or leave local communities in the region, beginning to fill a neglected area of study in the field of community out-migration and rural studies, as well as contributing to the growing body of sociological literature on debt. Additionally, this paper has the potential to inform policy decision-making and discussions on youth retention and integration into declining regions and communities.

Author(s): *Alyssa K Gerhardt, Dalhousie University; Karen Foster, Dalhousie University*

### 2. The Right to a Rural Wellbeing Network in Ontario: Connecting Through a Rural Lens to Make Measures Matter

Measuring the value of social capital in rural areas of Ontario has always been a challenge due to geography, expertise and understanding of the general parameters of theories of social change. In a recently published Canadian article, Buck-Mcfayden et al., used elements of social capital accumulation -social networks, civic participation and sense of belonging and trust -to understand differences between social capital accumulation in the lives of citizens in rural and urban areas in Ontario (Buck-Mcfayden, 2019). They concluded that even though the capacities for social capital accumulation were similar, more research needs to be done to determine the appropriate policy options for communities struggling with low or moderate production of social capital. Given the significance of their rural-urban comparison, it is important to drill deeper into rural experiences to understand the nature of social capital formation and accumulation as observed through the practice of social service and health delivery in rural areas of Ontario. Rural residents and agencies continue to struggle for attention of regionally specific and sometimes highly urbanized policy communities (Tiwari, 2019). Through the creation of a new physical and virtual rural wellbeing network, RURAL CAN COMPARE WITH RURAL and avoid the sometimes unfair [unhelpful?] Comparison with urban environments that occupy the bulk of community-based research and planning in Ontario. We argue that this will lead to "place-based policy" alternatives that will more easily address the needs of building social capital and wellbeing in rural communities. Regarding the accurate evaluation of community and individual rural wellbeing our research questions are: How do we connect rural to rural and discover unique and useful experiences in various communities? What are the most important and appropriate



questions to explore when designing comparative rural-to-rural research? How do we sustain a focus on community and individual wellbeing as a directive for place-based policy making?

Author(s): *Douglas Alan West, Lakehead University; Gary Machan, Chigamik Health Centre*

### **3. Rural Canadian Craft Breweries: An Investigation of Impact and Role Within the Host Community**

There has been an explosion in the prevalence of rural Canadian craft breweries. As these breweries continue to emerge and develop, there is an obvious need for an in-depth investigation of a brewery's holistic impact on its community, including its role in local economic development, community and food system sustainability, and contribution to rural community revivalism. For the purposes of this investigation, the researcher will employ a nested mixed-methods approach, which will utilize survey data to provide insight regarding the demographics of rural craft beer drinkers and identify possible trends of influence. This will be complemented by semi-structured one-on-one interviews with select participants to gain a deeper understanding of the brewery's impact on emerging themes, which may include but is certainly not limited to rural resiliency, community identity, youth retention, local tourism, gentrification, industrialization, and the participant/community's relationship with alcohol. Additionally, the researcher will reference the Community Capitals Framework (see Emery and Flora, 2006) to analyze possible developments within each of the identified forms of capital. It is expected that the findings from this research will prove beneficial to a multitude of people, including rural community members, craft brewers, policymakers, and rural researchers.

Author(s): *Brad Ross, University of Guelph*

### **4. Who am I eating and why does it matter?**

As a global Indigenous woman of Amami origin, I focus on the Indigenous food sovereignty (IFS) movement, making reference to the emerging argument that Indigenous knowledges and traditions are needed to ensure human food security and survival in the face of the climate emergency. Starting from the idea put forward by Mayes (2018) that "the distraction of the central foundations of life of a national group themselves is genocide, meaning the eradication of Indigenous food as well as creating a dependency on European flour, sugar and alcohol, breaking down social frameworks as well as causing chronic illness, is genocide" (p.156), I first define and describe IFS in relation to capitalism. Because a common thread in the IFS literature is community, I next identify emergent themes of success and frustration in relation to the idea of community. I explore how preindustrial (mechanical) and industrial (organic) societies, both aspects of the "paradox of individualism," allow for, or do not allow for, freedom in foodways and how the level of social integration in a community changes (or does not change) the foodways of its members. In order to create a life in accordance with the principles and practices of IFS, Indigenous communities must specifically dedicate significant time to food procurement and production. Therefore, I compare emerging themes from the articles to Durkheim's framework for the paradox of individualism: "Why does the individual, while becoming more autonomous, depend more upon society?" (Durkheim, 1967;208). While living within the commons of IFS can feel not so much as belonging as binding to a community and the land, I suggest that living in the capitalist labour market system is more constricting and limiting than living within the ties to a community (often perceived as suffocating by individualist Westerners). I cite examples from IFS case studies.

Author(s): *Hanika Nakagawa, University of Manitoba*

### **5. How does tuberculosis influence patients and their families? A study of rural areas in district Multan, Pakistan.**

Tuberculosis (TB) is a deadliest and communicable disease but in fact it is curable and preventable. Being contagious in nature and having a long term treatment duration, it has destructive effects on the society. The objective of the study was to know the socio-economic impacts of TB on patients and their families in rural areas of district Multan, Pakistan. It was a qualitative research conducted during June and August 2018. The data was collected through In-depth Interviews (IDIs) with 30 TB patients (aged > 16 years) using open-ended interview guide and 5 focus group discussions with their family members. Thematic analysis was carried out to analyze data. Present study resulted that majority TB patients and their family members were illiterate and less educated along with poor level of knowledge about the disease. Being unfamiliar with TB, its prevention and treatment protocol, majority respondents were under a great stress. They were facing various socio-economic issues like deaths, denial in marriage proposals, divorce/separation, hatred, social isolation, social stigma and increased economic burden. The society should be made well aware that it support the patients to come out of such challenges and complete their treatment adequately.

Author(s): *Syed Zuhaib Aziz, University of Peshawar; Kamran Ishfaq, Bahauddin Zakariya University Multan, Pakistan*

## Capitalism, Environmental Degradation and Dispossession in Rural Areas

Session Code: RUS3

Research Cluster Affiliation: Rural Sociology

Rural areas are an important space for capital accumulation all over the world. Due to capitalist expansion and privatization, the poor in these areas are increasingly subsisting in degraded environments and are also losing access to many of these spaces. The right to access natural resources, both qualitatively and quantitatively, and have control over them is particularly critical for the poor, small producers. In this session, papers from different parts of the world examine the challenges that small producers face and also investigate how small producers react to the unfolding crisis.

Organizer(s): *Jennifer Jarman, Lakehead University; Pallavi Das, Lakehead University; Satenia Zimmermann, Lakehead University*

Presentations:

### **1. Dispossession, Environmental Degradation and the Right to be Rural: The Case of Small-Scale Fishers in Chilika Lagoon, India**

A large proportion of populations in South Asia and Africa, like a larger proportion of aboriginal people in many advanced countries, live in rural areas, and rural areas are an important space for capital accumulation. Due to capitalist expansion and privatization, the poor are losing access to many of these spaces. In this paper my main argument is that small-scale producers such as fishers who depend directly on nature for their subsistence are the ones that suffer first and foremost due to the curtailment of their rights to access natural resources. This is because, unlike other rural producers, the fishers are impacted not only by market forces directly but also indirectly when the natural resources such as fishing grounds are degraded and/or depleted, thanks to the mechanisms of competitive market economy. I will illustrate their loss of rights by briefly examining a coastal fishing community of small-scale fishers in Chilika lagoon located in Odisha, one of the poorest provinces of India. Through an analysis of interviews, scientific reports and government publications, this paper discusses the challenges facing the small-scale fisher communities as their rights to their means of livelihood is being curtailed and their response to the unfolding crisis in their lives.

Author(s): *Pallavi Das, Lakehead University*

### **2. Violence and Land Dispossession in Honduras**

Latin America is the world's most dangerous region for environmental and land-rights defenders. More than 60 percent of defender deaths take place here even though the region represents just over eight percent of the world's population. According to Global Witness, Honduras is the deadliest country for land activists. Here, rural areas have become sources of forced out-migration as small-scale agricultural producers, peasant cooperatives, and indigenous and Afro-descendant communities with collective territorial rights, are uprooted from the land through a combination of economic and violent coercive mechanisms to make way for agribusiness, mining, tourism, and infrastructure megaprojects. This paper focuses on agrarian violence by state and non-state actors against: (a) communities engaged in collective action to oppose the appropriation or contamination of their land by corporate projects; (b) groups of formerly displaced victims carrying out land recovery actions; and (c) non-peasant individuals who work to support the struggles of peasant movements (e.g. lawyers, journalists). The paper demonstrates that violence has enabled processes of resource appropriation and rural proletarianization (or de-peasantization), through land dispossession and repression of land movements in the neoliberal era, by focusing on examples from the palm oil, mining, tourism and energy sectors.

Author(s): *Jasmin Hristov, University of British Columbia*

### **3. Decolonizing Environmental Conservation Research**

This paper challenges colonial impositions in environmental conservation research conducted by western scholars in Costa Rica. Specifically, it addresses conservation efforts in Volcan de Buenos Aires, a rural town in the southern zone of the country, and the tensions created by the presence of multinational giant, Pineapple Development Corporation (PINDECO). The paper draws on (1) 20 semi-structured voice recorded interviews, (2) 10 video recorded interviews conducted by the author, (3) 20 video recorded interviews edited by the author, and

(4) in-depth participant observation, conducted by the author in intermittent periods over nine years. Although the case of PINDECO in Volcan may be perceived as evidence of the exploitation of both land and people for economic profit, neglecting to acknowledge the perspective of local actors and the complexities of their relationship with the company, may lead to detrimental colonial impositions on the community. The paper challenges conservation research that fails to acknowledge the unique circumstances of their subject communities, simultaneously failing to acknowledge the agency of local actors. In demonstrating grassroots efforts toward environmental conservation in Volcan, the author presents existing internal systems of action and knowledge production within the community, as local actors work within the structures imposed by social and economic restrictions, thus challenging assumptions of apathy and helplessness among locals and highlighting instead their ability and agency.

Author(s): *Afshan Golriz, Concordia University*

#### **4. How much water is enough: Political ecology of rice cultivation in Northern Bangladesh**

After the introduction of High Yielding Varieties (HYVs), Bangladesh has sought to increase rice production to overcome famine and seasonal starvation. However, the Green Revolution requires intensive irrigation and other external inputs such as seeds, chemical fertilizers and pesticides. Since then, ensuring agricultural input supplies - especially diesel and later electricity supply for irrigation - remains a significant challenge. Irrigation became the most critical factor in the Green Revolution in Bangladesh from the 1980s, and the crisis of procuring water came with it (Alauddin and Hossain 2001; Koppen and Hussain 2007; Biggs, Justice and Lewis 2011). However, most of the policy literature still focus on "supply solutions to deal with increased water demand" (Mehta 2007:655) and universally suggest adopting bore wells across rural South Asia as a 'technological fix' that may make water more accessible and create sustainable livelihoods for small farmers (Dubash 2002; Shah et al. 2005; Biggs et al. 2007; Taylor 2015). Hence, the leading policy suggestions are: adopt bore wells, provide subsidy on diesel or electricity to run bore wells. This macro-level policy supports acts and impacts the local level very differently. Although the purpose of these supports is to help the rice farmers, it does not benefit them equally. Following the political ecology perspective, this paper aims to challenge the one blanket fits all policy by bringing first-hand qualitative data collected from the small rice farmers in a Northern Bangladeshi village.

Author(s): *Atm Shaifullah Mehedi, Queen's University*

#### **5. Climate Change Experience, Vulnerability, and Adaptation: Struggles and Agency in Rural Saskatchewan**

Climate change is among the most-cited global threats to environmental and social sustainability. The frequency of climate events in rural Saskatchewan - a region with one of the world's most variable climates - has increased people's vulnerability while also informing their adaptive capacity. Although rural people are considerably adapted to climate change in this context, the frequency and severity of projected future risks from drought, wildfire, and flooding will test individual and community responses and resilience, and will put pressure on both public and private support systems. This research is based on an in-depth qualitative case study with approximately 30 residents of Maple Creek and surrounding area. The study identifies and assesses the extent of vulnerability and climate change experience, drivers of past adaptation, and needs for future adaptation. Coping with future challenges requires a rigorous application of expertise informed by both research and lived experience. Lessons from community-based research can help inform more inclusive climate adaptation policies, which are based on the experiences and struggles in these rural communities already facing multiple climate hazards.

Author(s): *Mbuli Shei Clodine, University of Regina; Amber Fletcher, University of Regina; Angela Culham, University of Regina; Brenden LaHaye, University of Regina*

### **Culture and Inequality I**

Session Code: SCL1A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Culture

This session examines the role of inequality in shaping culture and of culture in shaping inequality. How do social, political or economic hierarchies shape cultural repertoires and identities? How is culture a resource or barrier to social mobility? How do we value or devalue cultural practices or strategies associated with particular groups? This panel brings together case studies that explore the many facets of culture and inequality, with presenters

## 2020 Canadian Sociological Association Conference: Resisting Racism and Colonialism

analyzing key questions around the maintenance of privilege, the complexity of identity formation, the persistence of racism, and the dynamics of political conflict.

Organizer(s): *Allyson Stokes, Memorial University; Athena Elafros, University of Lethbridge; Saara Liinamaa, University of Guelph*

Presentations:

### **1. The struggle for a school: When white privilege encounters weapons of the weak**

Although international education is often seen as cultivating international understanding, some institutions are rife with racial and gender prejudice and discrimination. This is especially so in Asian countries where gender and color prejudice is deeply embedded in everyday life, public policy, cultural practices. This study investigates such practices and resistance to it in an international school in Thailand. It begins by explaining how the cultural structure of attitude and reference (Said, 1992) called white privilege (McIntosh, 1989) works in the school in terms of recruitment, promotion, pay and recognition before taking a close up look at the everyday forms of resistance to it by Asian teachers. It uses James Scott's (1985) metaphor of "weapons of the weak" to offer a close up documentation and analysis of how lunchroom practices involving food, songs, humor and voice were used to undermine the racial and cultural discrimination and marginalization experienced by migrant Asian teachers. The study is based on research using a participant-observer methodology.

Author(s): *Walter Harnanan Persaud, Mahidol University International College*

### **2. Polite Racism in English Canada & the American South: Sub-national Repertoires in Comparison**

The cunning of politeness, as an interactional form or style, lies in its ability to obscure a set of underlying unequal relations through its pleasant veneer. But not all forms of politeness are the same. By drawing upon sub-national repertoires (Lamont and Thévenot), we can identify the distinct cultural formations of white civility in English Canada and Southern courtesy in the American South. While the former is a modification of a deferential, British gentlemanly code (Coleman), the latter develops out of an honour-based, aristocratic tradition steeped in the history of slavery (Patterson). Both, when put into use, do the symbolic boundary work that aligns race with one's capacity for 'civilized' self-restraint. However, placed in comparison at the points where they converge (e.g., anti-Black racism), the Canadian repertoire proves to be all the more insidious: while purporting equality it obscures and reproduces unequal relations. Drawing on testimonials, literary discourse, news media, and opinion polls, this paper both elucidates the undertheorized sub-national repertoire of English Canadian politeness in particular and clarifies the connections between politeness and racial inequality in general.

Author(s): *Mike Follert, University of Guelph*

### **3. The Role of Antiziganism in Brexit**

It is axiomatic that, in addition to the material factors underpinning British voter support for leaving the European union, a crucial component of the leave campaign has been its focus on migration control. Scholars have demonstrated that this campaign has been fueled by the UK media and political institution, resulting in significant increases in anti-migrant rhetoric and violence throughout the United Kingdom. However, this research has tended to neglect analyses of anti-Ziganism, or anti-Romani racism, which has kept hidden the continued demonisation of both resident and migrant roma as well as failed to analyse the use of this demonisation to fuel support for the leave campaign. My paper seeks to redress this absence in literature by offering a critical analysis of the anti-migrant policies of the British government, and through critical discourse analysis of the British press and popular media my paper will address the role that the British media played in normalising anti-Ziganism and how the xenophobic policies in the united kingdom enabled and enforced anti-Ziganism before and after the vote to leave the European union. In doing so, it will contribute towards a better understanding of the scope of anti-migrant rhetoric that characterised the leave campaign, as well as contemporary anti-Ziganism in general.

Author(s): *Brandon John Eby, University of Calgary*

### **4. Culture and State: Understanding Chinese Identity in Taiwan, 1992-2015**

Is China a civilization state? Since the early 1900s prominent scholars and public intellectuals have fiercely debated on this issue, which has radical political implications. This research argues that much of the longstanding debate stems from an equivocal understanding of culture, civilization and their comparative relationship. By situating the debate in its territorial context, this research elucidates the meanings of culture and civilization rooted in different philosophical traditions, synthesizes the comparative culture-civilization relationship, and then

examines the civilization-state argument based on six waves of the Taiwan Social Change Survey from 1992 to 2015. Results from cross-classified random-effects models lend little support to the argument: 1. Despite a significant cohort effect, the sharp decline of Chinese identity in Taiwan is largely driven by a period effect; 2. There is virtually no socio-economic gradient in the temporal decline of Chinese identity; 3. The Chinese identity reported by individuals maintaining family connections with mainland China unexpectedly shows a more salient decline. The implications of these research findings are then discussed.

Author(s): *Qiang Fu, University of British Columbia; Jiaxin Gu, University of British Columbia*

### **5. Hauling Hierarchies: Long Haul Trucking Cultures and Industrial Politics of Inequality, Exploitation, and Blame**

This paper provides a locally specific exploration of how normative gender dynamics and local occupational cultures interact with neoliberal regimes to (re)produce industrial hierarchies of inequality, exploitation, and blame. It is derived from my ethnography of the British Columbia-based long haul trucking industry. Researchers in Canada and the United States have found that deregulation and the neoliberalisation of the industry have resulted in stagnating and declining wages (Dubé and Pilon, 2006), increasing competition (Belzer, 2000; Li, 2003, p. 78; Viscelli, 2016), and markedly worse working conditions (Belman, Monaco, and Brooks, 2004; Belzer, 2000; Conyngham, 2005; Viscelli, 2016). In the context of heightened competition, increasing labour precarity, and an expanding reliance on immigrant labour, I found that some white male truck drivers seek to reconstitute their work identities through strategic appeals to cultural associations between white masculinity and embodied capacities for skilled trucking labour. In contrast, women truckers are broadly constructed as technically proficient but less skilled than their masculine counterparts. This is especially evident in assumptions concerning women's embodied incapacities for specific forms of trucking work. The truckers I engaged with for this study also predominantly imagined South Asian truckers in association with inferior cultures of automobility, and broadly denied their capacities for safe, skilled trucking labour. My research suggests that gendered and racialised hierarchies of exploitation in the industry may reinforce patriarchal white supremacist beliefs concerning differential cultures of automobility and embodied capacities for trucking labour.

Author(s): *Amie McLean, Thompson Rivers University*

## **Culture and Inequality II**

Session Code: SCL1B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Culture

Culture shapes social inequality and inequality shapes culture. This session brings together a variety of case studies that explore this relationship, examining the following questions: How does class shape emotional experiences of preparing family meals? How do gendered micro-aggressions shape women's experiences in music recording studios? How do lifestyle migrants use culture to situate themselves within global social inequalities? How are self-transformation and social change connected through the music of a Canadian rapper?

Organizer(s): *Allyson Stokes, Memorial University; Athena Elafros, University of Lethbridge; Saara Liinamaa, University of Guelph*

Presentations:

### **1. Expanding the joys of cooking: How class shapes the emotional work of preparing family meals**

The emotional experience of cooking is often considered along a continuum, where pleasure exists in opposition to labour, and where class inequalities restrict pleasure. Analyzing qualitative interviews, recall conversations and cooking observations with 34 primary cooks in families, this article explores how diverse parents experience joy through family foodwork. Doing so reveals five conditions facilitating cooking pleasure: time, choice, aesthetic freedom, connection and appreciation. It then analyzes how access to these conditions is shaped by class, while being attentive to its intersections with gender and race/ethnicity. This analysis reveals how socio-economic inequalities fashion negative emotional relationships to cooking by imposing disproportionate stressors on low-income home cooks, but do not necessarily predict cooking pleasure. This research contributes to theoretical

understandings of labour, pleasure and inequality in domestic foodwork while offering an analysis of low-income cooking that is shaped but not determined by class status and its intersections with other social positions.

Author(s): *Merin Oleschuk, University of Guelph*

## **2. Narrating Global Social Position in Transnational Contexts of Inequality: French and Italian Lifestyle Migration in Morocco**

This paper explores how French-European and Italian lifestyle migrants narrate their global social positions in reference to regimes of global inequality and global mobility. These migrants are aware of global inequalities, and they also demonstrate awareness of their privileged positions in global hierarchies, yet in their understanding of their own place in post-colonial Morocco, these positions are often naturalized and detached from colonial histories, which they inherit. The paper demonstrates common ways that global inequalities are justified or elided. French-Europeans distinguish themselves from colonials in Morocco and dismiss the oppressiveness of the French Protectorate, evoking the apparently peaceful transition to independence in Morocco relative to Algeria. They understand global inequalities not in terms of histories of dispossession and unequal political economies, but rather in cultural terms, in reference to work habits that reproduce hierarchical interpretations of race and ethno-cultural difference. These narratives, which often evoke European debates about multiculturalism, affect their incorporation into Moroccan society, particularly with respect to the ways that material differences are often explained in terms of religious and cultural differences. These everyday interpretations of inequality which reference religion and culture and elide unequal social relations have detrimental effects on their abilities to create solidaristic and horizontal relations with others.

Author(s): *Matthew Hayes, St. Thomas University*

## **3. "It is as if women are supposed to know everything or nothing" Gendered Experiences of Microaggressions in the Recording Studio**

According to Alison Wenham (MBE), Chair of AIM (The Association of Independent Music), the popular music industry remains "one of the most white-male-dominated industries in the world" (Wolfe, 2012). Recording studios are overwhelmingly masculine social spaces. Women comprise less than 5 % of sound engineers according to the Women's Audio Mission (Bell, 2015), and between 5 and 10% of sound engineers according to the Audio Engineering Society (AES) (Mathew et al., 2016). The open-ended qualitative data from this study are drawn from our online survey entitled "Sound Engineers' and Producers' Experiences of Micro-Aggressions in the Recording Studio" (n=387 respondents: 275 cis-men, 26 transgender/nonbinary people, and 86 cis-women, from 46 countries) which was conducted in partnership with the Audio Engineering Society (AES) from October 31, 2019-February 2, 2020. Using a grounded theory approach to code the data, our paper discusses gendered experiences of microaggressions in the recording studio. In our survey, we provided a two-step identification process for gender (sex assigned at birth + gender identity), where respondents selected gender from predetermined categories and open-ended responses. Initial coding results indicate that gendered microaggressions are pervasive in audio engineering. In this presentation, we focus on the preliminary results from the qualitative portion of our survey. Specifically, we will discuss the following themes, as noted by cisgender women: 1) the discounting/challenging of their authority and ability, 2) persistent sexual objectification and comments on physical appearance, 3) not being taken seriously by colleagues, and 4) enduring experiences of gaslighting.

Author(s): *Athena Elafros, University of Lethbridge; Monica Lockett, University of Lethbridge; Amandine Pras, University of Lethbridge*

## **Cultural Production and Cultural Consumption**

Session Code: SCL2

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Culture

How are cultural goods created, circulated, and received in society? Through what social processes are art and culture understood and evaluated? What are the relationships between art and commerce? Exploring these questions, this session brings together papers that examine Japanese animation fandom, fountain pen enthusiasts, North American fiction, poetry, and the relationship between region and cultural practice.

Organizer(s): *Allyson Stokes, Memorial University; Athena Elafros, University of Lethbridge; Saara Liinamaa, University of Guelph*



Presentations:

**1. Pratiques et offres culturelles : perspectives territoriales**

Les pratiques culturelles sont parfois appréhendées sous l'angle du territoire (Lapointe, 2016). Pour les comparer d'une région à une autre, le ministère de la Culture et des Communications du Québec (MCCQ) et d'autres acteurs culturels utilisent une catégorisation des régions administratives qui s'inspire de la typologie des espaces culturels régionaux, développée par Harvey et Fortin (1995) et basée sur l'offre culturelle. Nous avons voulu voir si les régions se regroupent conformément à cette typologie lorsqu'elles sont étudiées sous l'angle des pratiques culturelles. Pour ce faire, nous avons analysé les données de l'Enquête sur les pratiques culturelles au Québec auxquelles nous avons appliqué des techniques d'analyses multivariées (analyse en composantes principales et analyse de correspondances multiples). Les résultats montrent que selon les pratiques culturelles à l'étude, les regroupements ne sont pas toujours conformes à ceux de la typologie de Harvey et Fortin. Ils montrent également une grande hétérogénéité des pratiques, ce qui dessert la préservation d'une constance dans les regroupements de régions. En somme, bien qu'il y ait une relation entre l'offre culturelle et les pratiques adoptées par les citoyens, notre analyse questionne la pertinence d'utiliser une typologie conçue sur la base de l'offre pour comprendre des pratiques et consommations culturelles.

Author(s): *Marie-Claude Lapointe, Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières; Luckerhoff Jason, Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières*

**2. The Many Faces of Fan Consumption: Japanese Animation Fandom as a space of Cultural Consumption**

The study of media fandom has emphasized the subcultural and productive nature of fans' practices and relationships. In particular, research on media fans has focused in their cultural production. While undoubtedly, fans take part in many creative practices such as writing fan fiction, drawing fan art or engaging with costume play, that is, making and wearing costumes of their favorite characters, this is only part of the story. The current paper explores fans' consumption practices by focusing on Japanese animation fans and their practices of cultural consumption. Through ethnographic research on Japanese animation fans in Mexico and Canada, I propose that this fandom finds at its center consumer practices through which its members construct identifications and symbolic boundaries that define the cultural hierarchy of taste that guides both their appropriation and creation of cultural goods. From this perspective, fandom is more complex than implied by the fandom-as-creative-subculture paradigm. To approach this complexity, this paper discusses knowledges, practices, localities and objects that are appropriated and circulated by Japanese animation fans in order to be closer to their favorite narratives and characters. In doing so, fans' tastes and consumption practices become the core of a new approach to the study of media fandom.

Author(s): *Nazario Robles Bastida, University of Calgary*

**3. Discourses of Homosexuality in the Unpublished Poetry of Richard Brooks Hendrickson (1925-2019)**

Popular ideas about homosexuality in the 20th century might be understood as consisting of two opposing discourses and two eras: stigma versus equality. Throughout the 20th century, the former was the dominant discourse; however, beginning in the 1970s gay activists (influenced in part by the sociologist Donald Webster Cory) popularized the discourse of equality with such success that it might be the dominant perspective in North America today. The value of the unpublished writings of Richard Brooks Hendrickson is that he wrote poetry during both eras: the early 1950s, the late 1960s, and the late 1990s. Mid-century authors tended to present homosexuality as an open secret. Portrayals required readers who took pride in their subtle interpretive skills. The main literary devices were vagueness and implicature. Writers like Hendrickson, coming to maturity before the 1970s, were inconsistent because they were not able to free themselves from the lingering impact of the homophobia they had experienced in childhood. This presentation, based on two years of interviews, questions the emphasis on suffering and pain rather than pleasure and happiness in early research by queer theorists. It suggests that poetry can be considered a valid source of sociological data.

Author(s): *Stephen Harold Riggins, Memorial University*

**4. Culture Rift: An exploration of cultural through ideological production, consumption, and management in fiction and North America**

Is there a fissure between how we consume culture, and how we perceive the consumption of culture in our minds? How does ideology, in its circulation, consumption, and performance, create the underpinnings or boundaries of culture? By exploring George Orwell's classic dystopian novel 1984, I will highlight how ideology becomes culture through the circulation of texts and symbols, and how these inform mental interpretations of ideological

production and consumption; which affords the texts cultural capital. An example to illustrate this is the spike in sales of 1984 after the election of Trump which raise questions such as: How has a text critical of Soviet Communism become a popular critical text in a global Capitalist era? How is the same text used by right, left, and/or counterculture narratives? Through a narrative analysis I underline how ideology and culture are produced and managed within 1984, how the text circulates through the material, post-Trump, world; and how mental interpretations and material instantiations of competing ideological production and management systems are formulated and regulated.

Author(s): *Matty Peters, Carleton University*

### **5. What's your daily driver? The Evaluation of Material Affordances by Fountain Pen Enthusiasts**

As research on the relationship between symbolic culture and the materiality of objects continues to grow, addressing the precise role and impact of the perception of material qualities has led to the expansion of affordance theory. Investigating the relationship between the material composition of objects and the formation and maintenance of consumption behaviour, affordance theory grounds the perception of material qualities by connecting materiality directly to social action. Affordance theorists have long argued for an improved understanding of how material qualities are perceived, yet restrict the model of perception to the identification of affordances, preventing a thorough examination of how objects are evaluated in relation to preferences of use. This paper uses a netnographic analysis of fountain pen enthusiasts to expand the cognitive model of perception to include the evaluation of what fountain pens afford in action, providing a richer understanding of how the perceptual judgment of material qualities impacts consumption behavior. This paper reveals how enthusiast preferences are reflected in the evaluation of the material qualities of fountain pens, demonstrating the necessity of including the evaluation of affordances in understanding the relationship between materiality and social action.

Author(s): *Lance Stewart, University of Toronto*

## **Cultural Forms of Resistance in the City, on Reserves, and In-Between**

Session Code: SCL3

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Culture

An encouraging response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission "Calls for Action" has been widespread support from the grass-roots to Canada's federal level of government. However, as theories of cultural change warn, there is a risk that widespread acceptance may give way to saturation and a diminished sense of importance, in this case, of the value of reconciliation. One way to keep the interest in reconciliation alive is to look for real transformation in the form of empirical research, whether field-, participatory, or activist in methodology. This round-table session aims not only to keep the conciliatory spirit alive but also to encourage further strategies for critical analysis through the presentation of early-stage research having to do with cultural forms of resistance in urban spaces, on reserves, and in-between these spaces.

Organizer(s): *Aaron Klassen, Booth University College*

Presentations:

### **1. Musical Self-Transformation as Social Change: A post-Bourdieuian case study of Rob "Fresh I.E." Wilson in Winnipeg's post-colonial context**

With the recent expansion of social inequalities due to the complex relations of globalization, changes in global and regional ecological climates and immigration patterns, and the development of digital technologies, various scholars have called for new interdisciplinary understandings of "the social" (Latour 2005) and musical subjectivity (Born 2013), including a broader focus on musical and sonic engagement (Prior 2011), as well as greater methodological flexibility (de Boise 2016). Such conditioning factors have brought into question Bourdieu's paradigmatic social theory which has dominated the social scientific approach to social inequality in Anglophone countries since the English translation of his *Distinction* (1984). Following various calls to adapt musical and cultural research to the new conditions (Lamont 2011; Born 2013; Prior 2011) the Canadian hip-hoppper, Rob "Fresh I.E." Wilson, offers an instructive case for study. The complexity of Wilson's musical practice throughout his life, including the popular high of his Grammy nominations in 2003 and 2005 and private lows of racialization and suicidal ideation, draws our attention to music's multiple co-mediation of the self and its potential

for change, good and bad. This paper draws on my dissertation research conducted from 2014-16, including fieldwork with Wilson as he toured prairie-based reserves as part of his professional practice and which coincided with the release of the TRC Summary Findings (2015). In taking a critical practice-based approach to understand and explain his musical self-transformation, I will add to the literature consideration of music's transformative role throughout the life of the musical self; a theory of the "musical self," including how the social, including inequalities having to do with race and ethnicity, poverty, gender, and sexuality, "get into" music, and vice versa; and, an account of how his musical practice stems such inequalities through distinctions between gradual and sudden transformation, and transformative strategies and techniques.

Author(s): *Aaron Klassen, Booth University College*

## **2. Indigenous resilience as resistance in print media: the case of Saskatchewan's Eagle Feather News**

Currently, there is a great deal of research that analyses the mainstream media's representations of Indigenous peoples. However, there is very little research that addresses the activities of functioning of Indigenous newspapers and the importance of particular discourses used by them. Drawing on the concepts of resilience and resistance in the form of counter-discourse, this study will examine and describe how a Saskatchewan newspaper, Eagle Feather News has functioned and aimed to decolonize the representation of Indigenous peoples. Thus, using qualitative methods, semi-structured interviews with key stakeholders at Eagle Feather news and thematic analysis, this study will analyze how the concepts of resistance as resilience are reflected in the writing and activities of Indigenous authors, and those who have appeared in the newspaper. More specifically, it will address discourses in the domains of treaty education in order to understand how power/knowledge and resilience as resistance are embodied in the opportunities and barriers facing the development and continuity of Indigenous newspapers. In turn, this research seeks to strengthen the inclusion of Indigenous voices into the public sphere.

Author(s): *Luz Gomez, University of Saskatchewan*

## **3. Indigenous Feminist Media Activism: Addressing the MMIWG crisis in Canada**

Numerous scholars have critiqued the Canadian media's failure to report, or to report in non-stereotyped ways, on the nation's missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls (MMIWG) crisis (Jiwani and Young, 2006; Gilchrist, 2010; Jiwani, 2006, 2009). This media bias -- which repeatedly suggests these women led risky lives, laying fault on their shoulders for the violence they face -- has contributed to both a shocking and normalized loss of Indigenous women's lives (Jiwani and Young, 2006; Holmes et al. 2015). While media studies to date explore this dearth, or bias, of reporting on MMIWG; hegemonic representations of MMIWG in social media (Moeke-Pickering et al., 2018); activists' responses to MMIWG using social media (Hunt, 2014; Saramo, 2016; Wilson et al., 2017); and some arts-based activist projects aimed at raising awareness (Brady and Kelly, 2017; Hargreaves, 2017; Saramo), scholarship on the topic of MMIWG-related media activism is largely absent. My research narrows this scholarly gap by exploring two highly visible Indigenous arts-based media interventions that have emerged in response to our institutions' and mainstream media's failure to adequately respond to MMIWG: notably, Jaime Black's REDress Project and Destin Running Rabbits Disposable Red Woman installation. My work is situated primarily within the feminist media and cultural studies fields, envisioning all cultural and counter-cultural products as valuable for study (Kellner, 2011). Through semi-structured interviews with Black and Running Rabbit, as well as audience members who have walked amongst the ghostly, empty, hanging red dresses or come across Running Rabbits "corpse" and through a discursive textual analysis of mainstream news articles about these two installations, I explore ways Black and Running Rabbit use the ghostly dresses and "corpse" as signifiers of absence and presence -set against institutional settler-dominated spaces that act as meaningful backdrops -to call attention to and critique the MMIWG crisis; intervene in highly gendered, racialized and classed settler-colonial discourses about Indigenous women; and confront neoliberalist tendencies within both Canadian media and society (Strega et al., 2016) by pointing out the systemic nature of MMIWG-related violence.

Author(s): *Nicolette Little, University of Calgary*

## **Cultural Theory**

Session Code: SCL4

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Culture; Social Theory

How is cultural theory defined? What is the contemporary status of cultural theory in sociology? This session brings together theoretically informed case studies to answer these questions. How do actors that occupy "the

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middle” in supply food chains operate as cultural intermediaries and “translators” of practice? What might cultural theory learn from an analysis of Benjamin Disraeli’s 19th century novels? How do arts programmers in Canada reinforce inequalities within arts organizations and how are art world activists challenging these inequalities? What might a sociology of uncertainty look like? How might a cultural sociology of mundane encounters provide critical insights into moral discourse?

Organizer(s): *Saara Liinamaa, University of Guelph; Athena Elafros, University of Lethbridge*

Presentations:

### **1. Market Shapers and Food “Translators:” The cultural intermediary roles of a regionally focused food distributor in Toronto, Ontario**

Although often maligned as a problematic link in conventional food chains, the actors that occupy “the middle” are essential for scaling up and scaling out regionally oriented, short food supply chains. This paper utilizes interview, observational and document data, from the case study of a small-scale food distributor in Toronto, Ontario, to analyze the various roles that an organization in “the middle” can play in shaping the way that regional food systems are envisioned and realized. By shaping market conditions, acting as “translators,” and building communities of practice, I argue that this organization is not merely a cog in a food distribution chain, but rather acts as a cultural intermediary for the food chains they help to create. The roles they play as a cultural intermediary reach beyond merely handling the logistics of product distribution by helping to shape the ways that farmers, chefs and other actors along the food chain think about food and each other.

Author(s): *Paul Nelson, University of Toronto*

### **2. That's a Novel Theory: Disraeli's Conservatism as Expressed in his Fiction**

Benjamin Disraeli (1804 - 1881) is a unique and interesting figure, but little studied by sociologists. He had a long political career in a transformative period of Great Britain’s history and is credited with a key role in organizing and creating the modern Conservative Party with his part in the “Young Conservatism” movement. He entered politics in the 1830s during the debates over the Corn Laws and the Reform Acts, was an influential Chancellor to the Exchequer during Lord Derby’s Prime Ministership, and ended his political career with six years as Prime Minister, before losing an election in the last year of his life. His speech at the Crystal Palace in 1872 is credited by Schumpeter as marking the birth of British imperialism as the “catch phrase of domestic policy.” In this paper, however, I examine the cultural and political theories developed in his novels, from *Vivian Grey* (1826) to *Endymion* (1880). The questions I seek to answer in the paper are the following: 1) how did Disraeli express and alter his cultural and political theories in the course of writing his novels? 2) do peculiarly novelistic forms of theorizing appear in his works of fiction (as opposed to his other writing or his public speaking and political organizing)? 3) can cultural theory learn anything from Disraeli’s fiction concerning how creative writing in the form of the 19th century novel, expressed, theorized, and affected the material conditions and human relations of 19th century life?

Author(s): *Jesse Carlson, Acadia University*

### **3. Diversity, Representation, and Programmers in Canada's Publicly-Funded Arts Organizations**

Canadian arts funding councils frequently use the language of diversity and equity in defining their mandates, and the same is true of many of the arts organizations that rely on these public funding sources. The development of these statements has paralleled and addressed growing public interest in the representation of marginalized artists in arts programming. The question of who decides which marginalized artists will be programmed by these organizations has drawn less attention. Data from the 2016 Canadian Census suggests that highly-educated white men are significantly overrepresented among arts programmers. This paper addresses the reasons that this issue of overrepresentation constitutes a serious problem in the field of cultural production. I draw on literature from cultural studies and the sociology of culture to explain the consequences of this issue, as well as to contextualize the work of art world activists who are attempting to draw attention to it. I also advance a theoretical argument derived from Alexander’s (2006) civil sphere theory and Boltanski’s (2011) pragmatic sociology of critique in order to explain why issues of representation among programmers generate less attention from arts funding councils and the general public than do issues of representation among artists.

Author(s): *Chris Worden, University of Guelph*

### **4. A Cultural Sociology of Mundane Encounters**

Cultural sociology and sociologies of mundane encounters are rarely theorized together. Studies of mundane encounters are too often siloed into symbolic interactionism or left to curious coterie of conversation analysts, while cultural sociologists attend to big questions of discourse, morality and solidarity. This is a lost opportunity for sociologically grounded cultural theory; the points where cultural sociology meets the sociology of mundane encounters share foundations in a conception of collective life as centrally organized around a stable but floating binary classificatory scheme of sacred and profane. While cultural sociology has advanced our understanding of how moral discourse organizes action on the big stages of politics and collective mobilization, there has been little sustained focus on how moral discourse figures in mundane goings-on. To outline a sociology at the murky corner where cultural sociology and studies of mundane encounters might meet, I take advantage of both to show how a cultural sociology of mundane encounters is “analytically possible but not currently in use” (Krause 2013: 149). Most encounters that we experience, enjoy, and/or endure are banal. This paper is concerned with encounters, and in particular, mundane encounters between strangers that go awry. If cultural structures are indeed a structuring force in our society, then they must be in some way tethered to ordinary encounters. Thus, a cultural sociology of encounters treats mundane encounters as key sites for the enlivenment of moral discourse.

Author(s): *Mervyn Horgan, University of Guelph*

### **5. Cultural theory for the sociology of uncertainty**

A tour of the daily news indicates a troubling landscape of contemporary issues - climate disaster, political extremism, work and employment upheavals, identity-driven violence. Both popular and academic discourse alike is struggling to make sense of dispiriting indicators of the future to come. While crisis discourse is a regular news cycle; at the same time, growing evidence suggests that the reach and texture of unknowns is compounding. Given this context, all signals point to a renewed place for the sociology of uncertainty. Accordingly, this paper will sketch out contemporary sociology's ability to theorize the social production of uncertainty. While bridging approaches in critical and cultural theory, this paper will underscore uncertainty as a condition produced at the level of experience, interaction, and discourse.

Author(s): *Saara Liinamaa, University of Guelph*

## **Exploring the Complexities of Child and Youth Participation I**

Session Code: SCY1A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Children and Youth

Research shows that young people excel when they have opportunities to engage in leadership, responsibility, initiative, and agency through quality participation. It is therefore increasingly important for decision-makers to collaborate with young people whose feedback should inform practice, legislation, policies and initiatives that relate to children and youth. However, difficulties in achieving effective quality child and youth participation exist, including negative conceptualizations of childhood, misunderstandings about competency and youth interest, power imbalances, and poor implementation. Papers in this session explore various examples, benefits and complexities of youth participation.

Organizer(s): *Daniella Bendo, Carleton University; Christine Goodwin De Faria, Trent University*

Presentations:

### **1. A Human Capability Approach for the Participation of Immigrant Youth in Settlement Service Delivery: A Case Study of Services Providers in Ottawa, Windsor, and the Greater Toronto Area (GTA).**

Immigrant youth have been the focus of numerous studies in the area of settlement which vary from educational and health services to studies on marginalization and criminality. Less frequently however does academic research focus on the capacity of immigrant youth to overcome systemic and personal barriers by actively influencing the type of services they receive. This presentation aims to shed light and provide examples of the inclusion of immigrant youth voices and perspectives in the delivery of settlement services. Specifically, this presentation aims to highlight the capacity of immigrant youth and settlement workers to participate and overcome barriers in the context of economic and social adversity. This presentation concludes by proposing a human capability approach for the development and implementation of settlement services to immigrant youth.

The data for this presentation is based on a field research conducted with immigrant youth, service providers, and key informants in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA), Ottawa, and Windsor between November 2018 and August 2019.

Author(s): *Omar Lujan, Trent University*

## **2. Participation of Children with Disabilities in a Rights-Based Advocacy Group**

The exclusion of children and young people with disabilities from collective decision-making processes - as evidenced in Runswick-Cole, Curran, and Liddiard (2018), among others - denies policy-makers, service providers, and practitioners the unique and valuable insight these young people can provide into their own lives. Moreover, it constitutes a failure to protect rights enshrined in the UNCRC and UNCRPD. This study explores the experiences of three members of an advocacy group in Northern Ireland aiming to address this issue. Both the group and the research adopt a children's rights-based approach, informed by the Lundy model of participation (Lundy, 2007). A qualitative multi-method approach was used, including capacity building and creative activities. Two participants were also involved in interpretation of data. The findings suggest that membership in the group provided a conducive environment for participation and helped build individual advocacy skills. However, the young people's views on participation focused largely on direct representation, influence, and outcomes; there was less evidence of these elements in their experiences. Key findings are examined using the Lundy model and existing literature on the participation of children with disabilities, to highlight examples of good practice and potential areas for improvement.

Author(s): *Alexina Cossette, Queen's University Belfast*

## **3. Consultation or Participation? Learning from Experiences Facilitating Youth-led Research with Homeless Youth**

While we may see an increase in the will to include youth in active roles in research and advocacy, effective practices for how to implement and equitably engage young people are still emergent. Drawing from Smith's work as a graduate student, consultant and peer researcher in Ottawa, and Malenfant's involvement both as a someone who has participated in consultations and advisories, as well as co-director of a youth participatory research project in Tiohtià:ke/Montreal, this paper will explore effective strategies for engaging, supporting and learning from youth with lived experience of homelessness. While involvement of youth is often framed as an opportunity to empower young people, we argue that a lack of understanding and considerations around youths' lived experiences, a reluctance to reflect on power relations, and institutional bureaucracy create persistent barriers to safe and meaningful participation. We ask how accountability mechanisms, levelling of knowledge hierarchies, and a dedication to action and equity can benefit attempts at meaningful youth involvement. Particularly in line with the conference theme, we will specifically focus on the rigidity of exclusionary power dynamics, and what tangible shifts could be made to disrupt these power structures.

Author(s): *Jayne Malenfant, McGill University; Charlotte Smith, Carleton University*

## **4. "Honestly, anywhere that I have wifi" : A posthuman approach to young women's activist blogging**

Although young women's online social justice activism has been at the center of many research projects (e.g. Mendes et al., 2019), there is a gap in the literature on the importance of materiality in their online political participation. Overlooking the importance of materiality fails to account for the entangled and shifting material-discursive contexts that generate the possibilities for young women's online activism. Drawing on analysis of young women's activist blogs and interviews with some of the bloggers, we use Karen Barad's approach to posthumanism to highlight the complexity of young women's online social justice activism. We reflect on three emerging themes in our presentation. First, the dynamic, entangled intra-active process of activist blogging challenges online/offline binary approaches to young people's activism. Second, bloggers' activism varies across online spaces and audiences. Third, intersections of gender, race, class, disability and age are part of the intra-activity of activist blogging, shaping young women's access to and experiences with blogging. Overall, we argue that a posthuman approach works to challenge limiting framings of young women's online activism and political participation, including those that diminish the value and complexity of their work.

Author(s): *Lindsay C. Sheppard, Brock University; Rebecca Raby, Brock University*



## Exploring the Complexities of Child and Youth Participation II

Session Code: SCY1B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Children and Youth

Research shows that young people excel when they have opportunities to engage in leadership, responsibility, initiative, and agency through quality participation. It is therefore increasingly important for decision-makers to collaborate with young people whose feedback should inform practice, legislation, policies and initiatives that relate to children and youth. However, difficulties in achieving effective quality child and youth participation exist, including negative conceptualizations of childhood, misunderstandings about competency and youth interest, power imbalances, and poor implementation. Papers in this session explore various examples, benefits and complexities of youth participation.

Organizer(s): *Daniella Bendo, Carleton University; Christine Goodwin De Faria, Trent University*

Presentations:

### **1. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and Global Childhoods: Transdisciplinary reflections from Nepal**

Globally, humans face innumerable socioeconomic, cultural, and environmental problems while being threatened by ever more interconnected and complex geopolitical concerns. In this planetary context, uni-disciplinary research and related teaching approaches often work to constrain our ability to move beyond institutional and bureaucratic mindsets to become agents of social change within local systems impacting children. During its 40-year evolution from a sub-discipline of psychology, the international field of child and youth studies has sought common ground for interpreting these pedagogical and professional issues. Many authors now argue for transdisciplinary approaches to address and overcome these tensions in the effort to re-integrate epistemologies of the global South within more dominant global North knowledge production systems. Such approaches have been posited to add new analytical and methodological tools to achieve praxis - the Greek word for translating theory into practice. Transdisciplinary research transcends the usual gap between academia and the broader public by acknowledging the value of knowledge obtained from diverse, nonacademic stakeholders in the community, government, and business. In addition, these approaches in child and youth studies offer us new possibilities for translating and understanding the local and global implications of implementing the 1989 United Nations Convention on the Rights of Child, and the vast differences in the experiences of childhood amongst and between various socioeconomic, cultural, and political contexts in recognizing their own rights in situ. Moving beyond adult-focused and Eurocentric understanding of the childhood literature (and of children's human rights), this paper reflects our experiences working with young people affiliated with the Lalitpur Metropolitan City Child Clubs in Nepal, and observing their participatory planning processes for annual budgets. In response to increasing complexity throughout all regions of the world, we consider historical, political, and cultural experiences in Nepal through this transdisciplinary approach to child-centered research and activism.

Author(s): *Richard C. Mitchell, Brock University; Nabin Maharjan, Brock University*

### **2. What is participation? Bringing together developmental and sociocultural perspectives**

Children are participating or 'taking part' in different domains throughout their days. However, much of this participation gets overlooked with restricted views of what children's participation should look like. Discourses about children's participation from sociocultural perspectives have focused on aspects such as voice and agency. However, participation goes beyond this. Developmental perspectives about participation may have more to add to this discussion. In this paper, I will explore both sociocultural and developmental perspectives on children's participation. I will argue that we need to go beyond simply looking at voice and agency, and refocus on balance (Tuck, 2008). Through a transdisciplinary lens, I will explore the concepts of relationality, interdependence, and balance to bridge together these different theoretical positions on participation. Refocusing on the ways children take part in their communities and families could help us develop more holistic perspectives on children's participation.

Author(s): *Abneet Atwal, Brock University*

**3. Child and Youth Advocacy, Rights, and Meaningful Participation: An Exploration of Organizational Practices in Child and Youth Advocate Offices**

Since the late 20th century, child and youth advocate offices across Canada and internationally have emerged with legal mandates to implement and promote the human rights of children and youth. My research draws upon individual semi-structured interviews with Provincial and Territorial Child and Youth Advocates from across Canada known as the Canadian Council of Child and Youth Advocates to explore how advocacy and childhood is understood in advocate offices, how rights are operationalized in these contexts and how conceptions of childhood impact how young people are treated in these social institutions. Findings reveal that the concept of advocacy is complex. Effective advocacy centres on changing and challenging decision-making processes by partnering with young people to elevate their informed perspectives and adopting a rights-based approach to working with children and youth. At the provincial and territorial level, it is important for advocates to navigate the historical, cultural and political factors that govern and inform discourses surrounding children, childhood, and youth, as these factors impact the way advocacy is carried out. At the organizational level, collaborative relationships with community organizations, interdisciplinary advocate teams, as well as technology-based resources help to operationalize rights in child and youth advocate offices. Findings also highlight that as a best practice, advocacy is most effective when offices learn from the perspectives of young people who act as meaning-makers in their own lives and have lived experiences that can help to combat social justice issues.

Author(s): *Daniella Bendo, Carleton University*

**4. Building Adult Allyship: Reflections from Case Studies of Child and Youth Participatory Research Projects**

The world is slowly opening to the critical insight offered by youth voices in articulating their realities, highlighting systemic assumptions and blind sights and offering alternative innovations to programs and policies impacting them. While participation, as envisioned in Article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, is still a long way off from being met and examples of poor participation persist, there are increasing examples of effective youth-led and meaningful child participation processes that illustrate both paradigmatic and more nuanced advances in child participation. This has been amplified by the high-profile youth leaders pushing for social and environmental justice across a range of disparate issues around the world. Drawing on several case examples, this paper provides insights into the ways that adults can be better allies to child activists and agents of change. In collaboration with the International Institute for Child Rights and Development, the authors share their reflections on the challenges, successes, and outcomes of several arts, sport, and play-based participatory research projects focused on surfacing the innate wisdom of children and young people to effect change in their local environments in Canada, Europe, Africa, and the Middle East alongside their adult allies.

Author(s): *Heather K. Manion, Royal Roads University; Laura Lee, University of British Columbia; Laura Wright, University of Edinburgh; Vanessa Currie, International Institute for Child Rights and Development*

**5. “More-than-human” and Rights-respecting Approaches for Climate Change: Revisioning Shaking the Movers as a model for transformative climate pedagogies**

In an era of accelerating climate change, ‘common worlds’ researchers direct our attention to young people’s entangled relationships in the world and urge us to move beyond individual agency and human-centric concerns. Their critiques aim to disrupt white-settler grand narratives and to think outside of neoliberal discourses in refining a lens of connectivity (Pacini-Ketchabaw and Khattar, 2018). This paper explores human, nonhuman entanglements from the perspective of children whose experiences have been, until recently, largely left out. The paper attempts to bring into dialogue two discourses, namely, children’s rights and a common worlds or ‘more-than-human’ discourse, to understand what, if any, commonalities lie in these two projects and how or whether they can be productively leveraged in envisaging a climate pedagogy. I introduce the Landon Pearson Centre’s model for engaging children and youth called ‘Shaking the Movers’ as a way to locate this dialogue. The model employs a ‘rights-respecting approach’ designed to enable children and young people to have a say in matters that affect their lives. The examples cited in the paper are drawn from the outcome reports written by young people who attended the Shaking the Movers workshop including in William’s Lake, British Columbia, the site of a disastrous forest fire. These examples are presented here as a way to consider the broader question of whether, or which elements of, the Shaking the Movers model might contribute to creating a climate pedagogy that responds to “the complex more-than-human places and spaces we inherit with children”.

Author(s): *Virginia Caputo, Carleton University*

## Intersectionality and the Discursive Constructions of Children and Youth

Session Code: SCY2

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Children and Youth

What does it mean to be a child and/or youth? How do intersecting forms of inequality and power shape understandings and experiences of childhood and youth? How do children and youth challenge, navigate, rework and embody discourses of childhood and youth? In this session, we work to unravel singular understandings of childhood and youth. Papers in this session discuss children, youth and intersectionality, as well as what it means to be young within various institutions. Overall, we consider how ideas and discourses of childhood and youth are shaped by intersecting social identities, power and inequality, within and across various contexts.

Organizer(s): *Amber-Lee Varadi, York University; Lindsay C. Sheppard, Brock University*

Presentations:

### **1. Exploring gender differences in teacher-student interactions during an adapted robotics program for children with disabilities**

Children with disabilities are pervasively under-represented in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education and careers. At the intersection of disability and gender is a particularly concerning dearth of women and girls with disabilities participating in STEM fields. Compared to boys with disabilities, girls with disabilities are less likely to express interest, strengths, or career goals in STEM. To identify potential gender differences in STEM engagement, we examined the interactions between teachers and children with disabilities enrolled in adapted robotics program, specifically comparing the interaction styles of boys and girls. We coded video recordings from an adapted LEGO robotics program for children and youth with disabilities held at a pediatric rehabilitation hospital. We coded videos from four separate single-gender workshops (two all-girls, and two all-boys) involving 22 children with disabilities, aged 6 to 8 years-old. Results revealed that boys and girls displayed different styles of engagement during the robotics lessons, and teachers' interactions were functionally responsive to these differences. The differences in the engagement styles of boys and girls identified in this study may contribute to gender differences in students' perceived STEM competence, and ultimately their interest in pursuing STEM education or careers.

Author(s): *Kendall Kolne, Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital; Sally Lindsay, Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital*

### **2. Backward Feelings: LGBTQ Youth Negotiating and Creating Community in the 'American South'**

Within the 'American South' there are no specific policies protecting the rights and freedoms of LGBTQ peoples, despite South Carolina's school-based anti-bullying policies. Below the bible belt, the City of Atlanta continues to be propped up as a urban haven and mecca for queer life. This qualitative research project makes use of the scholarship of Raby (2007) and Mills and Lefrancois (2018) who understand children and youth to be products of their social and cultural environment, whereby they are actively responding to the adultist inequalities they are required to endure. Interviews with LGBTQ youth (ages 18 -21) across Metro Atlanta shed light on the ways they resist ideological constructions of the 'proper' Southerner as they make space for their own understandings and renditions of queerness. Findings highlight that LGBTQ youth seek out all forms of media to validate their critiques of the climate they live within, form community with like-minded young people, and offer counter-cultural narratives to the dominant hegemony in the 'American South.' In its entirety, this paper addresses the ways young people are produced through and resist the Southern discourses that make living as and negotiating being LGBTQ trying.

Author(s): *Cameron Greensmith, Kennesaw State University*

### **3. Reassessing the 'transactional' dynamic of adolescent romantic relationships in sub-Saharan Africa: A qualitative analysis from Ghana**

Modern romantic sexual relationships among heterosexual youth in sub-Saharan Africa are routinely characterized as being 'transactional' in nature, whereby boys provide girls money or material goods in exchange for sex. Many contend that this contemporary dating pattern reflects and perpetuates power inequalities between the genders. Drawing on 99 interviews with Ghanaian adolescents, parents, and key stakeholders this paper offers

important nuances to popular conceptions about the dating experiences of contemporary youth living in resource-poor settings like Ghana. I argue that 1) moral obligation, not simply sexual gain, motivates financial provision between youth, 2) transaction is not unique to modern adolescent romantic sexual relationships, but rather has long been rooted in African courtship and marriage practices, and 3) socioeconomic status dictates a transactional dynamic, regardless of gender, lending to bidirectional wealth flows between adolescent boys and girls. Drawing upon the lived experiences of Ghanaian youth, these findings destabilize, contextualize, and even invert common discourses about transaction and gender inequality in African adolescent romantic relationships.

Author(s): *Madeleine Henderson, McGill University*

#### **4. The surveillance of gender: Trans youths' navigation of gender at school**

Recent discussions in the media about trans youth highlight their increased visibility. Educators strive to create supportive environments for trans students and yet often enact practices that restrict how they move through the school (Payne and Smith, 2014). Young trans people often pose challenges to some of the normative structures within schools, making gender practices and systems of power more apparent. In this paper, I draw on my research with trans youth in Canada and Australia about their naming practices to explore how they navigate the surveillance of their gender at school. I interviewed ten racially diverse young trans people in each site, using an in-depth semi-structured life history framework. Participants were between 15-25 years old and self-identified as falling along a spectrum of trans experiences. I engage with trans studies (Gill-Peterson, 2018; Stanley, 2015), surveillance studies (Beauchamp, 2019; Spade, 2003; Stanley, 2015) and child studies (Farley, 2018; Payne and Smith, 2014) to critique the management of gender in schools. I draw on stories from three trans youth to discuss the complex ways they navigate surveillance and to argue that an insistence on trans visibility to ensure rights, maintains systems of oppression that impacts all young gendered people. The surveillance of gender in schools enacts a form of protectionism of young people, constructing some as innocence and vulnerable and yet others as dangerous and monstrous. The management of gender is not limited to trans identified folks, but rather all children are scrutinized and face consequences when they do not adhere to gender norms. This paper calls on educators to reconsider how they position the role of visibility in the lives of trans youth and the ways we draw on constructions of young people to conceptualize gender.

Author(s): *Julia Sinclair-Palm, Carleton University*

#### **5. Queer Arab Youth**

What does it mean to be a queer young identity in an Arab country like Lebanon? This paper discusses the cultural material queer Arab youth use to develop their identity vis-a-vis notions of toxic masculinity, patriarchy and shame with a focus on Lebanon as a case study, while drawing on other regional and local knowledge on queer Arab behavior from other Arab countries. The paper also focuses on Arab youth's early experiences of oppression that exist systematically through a number of social stakeholders and cultural institutions. What is the gendered and social framework through which queer incidents might occur and what is their effect on the youth's identity formation? How are gendered rituals, public spaces, and social institution prohibiting and sanctioning queerness while simultaneously creating the grounds for its development? Queer Youth exists in a culture that enforces binary and polarized gender identities. More over, social rituals for mourning and celebrations are strictly gendered, as are social institutions like public schools. Maintaining the hierarchy of gender and sexuality is maintaining the power of patriarchy and male dominance: youth that appear to be a threat to this patriarchy are silenced in a number of ways, which will be discussed in the paper. In terms of gender dynamics, mothers also get "blamed" for queer youth, and hence become major stakeholders in oppressing their own children's identities. The paper will draw on these notions using collected Qualitative data from both my published papers and workshops, supplemented with a scoping review of academic articles and grey literature that pertains to queer Arab youth from around the Arab MENA region from the years 2010-2020.

Author(s): *Jad Jaber, European Graduate School*

### **Childhood, Youth, and Colonialism**

Session Code: SCY3

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Children and Youth; Indigenous-Settler Relations and Decolonization

This panel features research that examines a range of ways that children and youth feature as central subjects and objects of contestation in colonial projects in Canada and elsewhere. The foci of research include but are not

limited to the following: how colonial actors and those resisting colonialism produce ideas and practices around childhood and youth, i.e. the categories, character, needs and interests of children and youth, and their implications to how lives should be organized at home and family, in school, on the street and in community, territory and nation; colonial rule and its connections with institutions centred around children and youth such as schools and modern families; how children and youth respond in colonial situations, in other words, how children live with colonialism in their everyday lives.

Organizer(s): *Val Johnson, Saint Mary's University; Xiaobei Chen, Carleton University*

Presentations:

**1. Children's interpretations of settler colonialism and resistance**

This paper examines children's interpretations of both settler colonialism and their roles as political agents pursuing decolonisation. My analysis emerges from research combining participant observation and interviews undertaken with children in an elementary school class in the National Capital Region. The makeup of this class was strikingly diverse, including white, racialized and Indigenous children, including some Indigenous children who had relocated South because there were no schools in their northern home communities. After unpacking the Project of Heart, which is (among other things) a pedagogical method of teaching about residential schools, I explore how the children in this class interpreted residential schools as part of a larger colonial project, and how they engaged the problem of settler colonialism. In doing so, I examine how children construct and critique settler colonialism through various lenses such as justice/injustice, harm or hurt, and personalism or connection among peers in their classroom community. I will, then, consider how children define responses to settler colonialism. Finally, this paper considers how children give meaning to their actions challenging settler colonialism both within and outside of the school setting.

Author(s): *Augustine Park, Carleton University*

**2. Avenging the Humiliation Resulting from the Wan Xian Massacre (Wan An Xue Chi): West China Union University Students' Resistance Actions against Western Powers, 1926**

This paper is part of a research project that examines Canadian Christian missionaries' work with Chinese children and youth in semi-colonized China in the decades spanning from the late 19th century to the beginning of the 1950s. The project seeks to understand how, both before decolonization and after, the close relationships between missionaries and Chinese children and youth and the institutions that these relationships constituted were variedly understood, experienced, reacted to, and reshaped in four key historical moments. In this paper, I focus on organized actions of students of West China Union University and several associated schools in 1926 against western powers, especially the British Empire, and their extension in the form of church educational institutions and missionary teaching staff. A number of analytical concerns are highlighted: First, how the child and the youth were conceptualized in connections with colonial rule and subject making. Second, how colonial power relations were produced and maintained through educational institutions. Third, how contradictory rationalities of universality and exclusion (Cooper and Stoler 1997), along with their associated categories and imperatives, were interpreted, appropriated, circumvented, or resisted by the Chinese students.

Author(s): *Xiaobei Chen, Carleton University*

**3. Revisioning Settler-Inuit Histories and Relations through Anti-Colonial and Community-Engaged Research on Residential Schools**

This paper emerges from archival and multi-faceted community-engaged research on Anglican church residential schools and related missionary projects in what is now called the Inuvialuit settlement region. Drawing on 1930s Anglican archival and related documentation surrounding the "eskimo" residential school at shingle point (tapqaaq in Inuvialuit), Inuvialuit community collaboration and knowledge, and critical scholarship on colonialism and imperialism, this white settler researcher will explore how Inuit children and childhood, including children's future capacities, have been impacted and appropriated by, as well as forged and recuperated through resistance to, colonization in the Canadian context. The paper will examine how, in this particular residential school, despite racist perceptions of indigenous (here Inuit) peoples' perpetual childhood, white colonial actors used and colonized Inuit childhood in multiple ways: by appropriating diverse Inuit children's, and Inuvialuit adults' labour and skills to care for the school's children and staff; and by disrupting Inuit lifeways, and family and community knowledge and relations, including through family and community disruption, deadly diseases, and the teaching of white supremacy. I will also explore anti-colonial and Inuit resistance: by analyzing archival

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evidence of Inuit children's, and Inupiat and Inuvialuit adult staff's, resistance and cultural persistence at Shingle Point school, and evidence of adult recollections of childhood there; and by considering practices engaged in by this settler researcher and her Inuvialuit community collaborators in multi-faceted work with archival documentation on Shingle Point school and related missions, through researcher-community materials sharing, cultural repatriation of documentation, collaborative presentation and publication, and correction and deep enhancement of the historical record.

Author(s): *Val Johnson, Saint Mary's University*

### Rethorizing Racism Experienced by Racialized Minority Children and Youth: Multiple and Transdisciplinary Perspectives I

Session Code: SCY4A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Children and Youth

Despite decades of social justice research and social movements, social inequality and racial hierarchies have been maintained, reproduced, and reinforced in the North American contexts. In this session, we look for new theoretical understanding of racism experienced by racialized minority children and youth through their everyday lives in major social institutions such as school, law, social media, etc. Critical approaches to examining racism have been divided and isolated by disciplinary boundaries, theoretical frameworks, and even "research topics". In this panel, we invited speakers from Canada and the United States to address the issues of racism and anti-racism education from diverse theoretical perspectives.

Organizer(s): *Dan Cui, Brock University; Xiaobei Chen, Carleton University*

Presentations:

#### 1. Teaching Race: Reflections on anti-racism education

Canadian universities are adopting mission statements and strategic plans committed to advancing equity and social justice. Yet how do institutions steeped in histories and practices of patriarchy, racism and colonization lead in the formation of the just society these mission statements commit to? In particular, what is the role of Canadian Faculties of Education and teacher education programs in advancing what Dei (1996) has called 'an integrative anti-racism education'? The discourse of multiculturalism serves to promote the notion of racial harmony, and minimize, and even erase the impact of colonial violence, and structural and systemic racism that is experienced daily by racially minoritized peoples, children and youth specifically. I would argue that the issues are hardly new, but are reproduced in new ways. In this paper, I use my experience on teaching race, critical multiculturalism, anti-racism education and decolonization in a Canadian university, as a basis to discuss how research and theories on race are taken up (and not) by teacher candidates and teachers in their practice. Informed by current research on race and teacher education, I discuss how theories and research on race and racialization can inform the important work that teachers could carry out in schools and educational institutions, to interrupt oppressive school practices.

Author(s): *Kumari Beck, Simon Fraser University*

#### 2. Chinese Transnational Youth Negotiating "the Asian Fail" in the New Land: An Asian Critical Race (AsianCrit) Perspective

There is a prevalent perception that Asian students are high achievers who perform better than students of other ethnic backgrounds especially in core subject areas such as math and STEM. As a result, any performance (e.g., a score of B vs. a straight A in some subjects) that does not meet this expectation is considered "an Asian fail" (McGee, 2018). The detrimental effects of such stereotypes affect not only college students but also college-bound Asian youth. Based on interviews with 15 Chinese middle and high school students who were studying in Canada and being accompanied by one of their parents, this presentation will highlight how they negotiate the high expectations imposed by their parents and their sociocultural context. Through an Asian critical race theory lens (Museus and Iftikar, 2014), the analysis found that the new-coming Chinese youth are caught in the struggle against the dominant stereotypes due to their families' transnational educational investment and the racial climate in their communities. While some students managed to resist the stereotypes, others are subscribing to them, resulting in increased psychosocial stress.

Author(s): *Guofang Li, University of British Columbia*



### **3. Refugees in Urban Space: Identities, Belonging, Place**

It is estimated that approximately 3 million refugees have settled in the U.S. since Congress passed the Refugee Act of 1980. During the fiscal year of 2016, over sixty percent of all refugees admitted to the United States came from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Syria, Burma (Myanmar) and Iraq. Studies show that refugees have often preferred to settle in cities as they are more likely to be diverse with less social stigma, provide work opportunities, connect with co-ethnic network. However, there is limited studies on how “urban” refugees may contribute to changing inter-group relations and how this process may be structured and evolve through different time and urban space in the U.S. This case study examines New Jersey - Elizabeth. We investigate how particularities of these “urban spaces” with their own distinctive migration histories, local politics, and changing demographics serve as important sites of interaction and integration of refugee families and their children. As these host cities negotiate with humanitarian and local agencies to resettle refugees, it is impossible to avoid the geopolitics of refugees in relation to other residents in the city who may be long-time migrants and/or citizens co-ethnics. Rather than focusing on experiences of one specific ethnic or racial group, this study investigates under what urban contexts do “origin-based” categories (ie, ethnicity and/or race) become salient. And how are these categories used for drawing both practical and symbolic boundaries in a changing urban schools, housing, workforce?

Author(s): *Jamie Lew, Rutgers University*

### **4. 'Racialized Habitus' and Symbolic Violence: Racialized Minority Youth in Canada and the United States**

Despite decades of social justice research and social movements, social inequality and racial hierarchies have been maintained, reproduced, and reinforced in the North American contexts. In this paper, we examine various forms of racism and symbolic violence experienced by racialized minority youth in the fields of school and media. Drawing on Bourdieu, we construct and elaborate on a theoretical concept of ‘racialized habitus’ which challenges the dichotomy of the subjective and the objective, the structure and the individual, and the past with the present. We argue that racism has not only been reproduced at systemic and institutional levels, but also within individuals as internalized social structures that further frame their ways of thinking, doing and being.

Author(s): *Dan Cui, Brock University; Frank C. Worrell, University of California Berkeley*

### **5. Academic Apartheid and the Criminalization of Failure**

Previous research in middle-class school districts has focused on within-school segregation but not between-school segregation. Drawing on two years of ethnographic fieldwork and 122 in-depth interviews with students, parents, and faculty in an affluent California school district, I find that students who struggle academically at prestigious “Pinnacle High School” are pressured by administrators to transfer to nearby “Crossroads High School.” These students are disproportionately black, Latinx, and working-class. Though students transfer due to academic struggles and not behavioral issues, Crossroads features an austere, prison-like appearance, constant surveillance of students by staff and local police, and a curriculum that disqualifies graduates from matriculating at a four-year college. I argue that the transfer policy and process disproportionately affects lower-income, black, and Latinx students, stigmatizes students who struggle as deviant “failures,” and is largely punitive rather than rehabilitative. Concentrating struggling students in a school such as Crossroads facilitates an institutional culture of academic apathy that runs counter to the school’s stated purpose as an academic rehabilitation center, and Crossroads serves the interests of academically elite schools like Pinnacle by providing those schools with a place to “dump” students who suffer academic setbacks. I refer to this form of segregation as academic apartheid.

Author(s): *Sean Drake, New York University*

## **Retheorizing Racism Experienced by Racialized Minority Children and Youth: Multiple and Transdisciplinary Perspectives II**

Session Code: SCY4B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Children and Youth

Despite decades of social justice research and social movements, social inequality and racial hierarchies have been maintained, reproduced, and reinforced in the North American contexts. In this session, we look for new theoretical understanding of racism experienced by racialized minority children and youth through their everyday lives in major social institutions such as school, law, social media, etc. Critical approaches to examining racism have been divided and isolated by disciplinary boundaries, theoretical frameworks, and even “research topics”. In

this panel, we invited speakers from Canada and the United States to address the issues of racism and anti-racism education from diverse theoretical perspectives.

Organizer(s): *Dan Cui, Brock University; Xiaobei Chen, Carleton University*

Presentations:

**1. Retheorizing Racism for Minority Singaporean youth: Navigating Microaggressions and Discrimination in Job Seeking and Employment**

In his 2017 Identities paper, Selvaraj Velayutham critiques the Singapore nation-state for proclaiming a multiculturalism that includes racial equality and protection for minority groups, categorised as Malay, Indian and Other Singaporeans, yet fails to deliver. These minority groups constitute 25.9% of the citizenship while 79.1% are Chinese Singaporeans (Singapore Census 2010) and they face a range of racial microaggressions. Far from engaging in critical race theory debates the Singapore Government (dominated by Chinese Singaporeans) uses race as a normative category and identity marker; this translates in diverse ways for different groups in everyday spaces. Race is ubiquitous and normalised racial hierarchies impact everyday life including education, access to employment, housing options, religious practices, and other resources. Young people learn early on that there are racialised structures that impact upon their intersectional identities in terms of racial majority privilege vis-a-vis minority inequalities. This paper examines the ways in which young Singaporeans articulate their experiences, understandings and concerns about racialised differentiations and how these translate into everyday realities in the realm of job hunting and securing employment. This paper is based on data generated through 24 ethnic- and gender-based focus groups conducted with Singaporean Chinese, Malay and Indian young people, who are aged 16-29 and in, or seeking jobs. We explore how racialised practices related to employment exist and are narrated, analysed and resisted by youth. From their experiences of microaggressions and other discriminations we work to re-theorise racism from an Asian perspective -a region where we are far from post-racism/racialisation.

Author(s): *Tracey Skelton, National University of Singapore; Kiran Mirchandani, University of Toronto*

**2. Youth, R\*ce and the Colourblind Ideology in Educational Space**

This paper is part of a larger research project that focuses on how students experience and form racial subjectivities in high-school settings. My research and in-depth interviews with 14 British Columbian students revealed that they were consistently hesitant to engage in conversations about race, racism, or racial identity. Statements that contained racial delineations were often prefaced with pre-cursive apologies or cautious declarations such as, "I'm not sure if I can say this". Race language was delayed, paced or avoided altogether by participants. Existing research shows that racialized students in educational settings are often socially invisible or hyper-visible. This paper supports this conclusion and ascertains that the ideology of institutionalized colourblindness causes students to become uncomfortable and apprehensive when using race language in an institution that praises inclusivity and diversity. This apprehension is exacerbated in students who self-identified as white or Caucasian. This phenomenon closes avenues for youth to engage in productive conversation surrounding race, inequalities and racism. This paper also examines how students of different races and ethnicities theorize and work through thinking about their own placement in the social groupings and hierarchies of their high schools.

Author(s): *Erica Fae Thomson, University of British Columbia*

**3. "Why are they coming?" : Turkish and Refugee children's perspectives on sharing the same school**

The civil war in Syria has caused major changes for Syrian people, often dispersing them to other countries. Since the beginning of the war eight years ago, more than half of Syria's population of 22 million people has been uprooted and more than 1/4 of the population has been forced beyond national borders. Neighboring countries - especially Turkey, Iraq, Lebanon, Egypt, and Jordan - have opened their borders for refugee people (Culbertson, and Constant, 2015). Unfortunately, children remain the most vulnerable in this shifting, put at risk for exposure to physical, cultural, and emotional displacements and dangers in the new society. The presence of the refugee children in schools creates important challenges to Syrian and Turkish societies. This paper reports on a study undertaken at a rural school in the district of Izmir in Turkey. I conducted the study using a phenomenological design and semi-structured face-to-face interviews with 18 Syrian children and 18 local (Turkish) children, ages 9 to 11. The phenomenological design focuses on the meaning for individuals of their lived experiences of a concept to develop a "composite description of the essence of the experience" (Creswell, 2007, p.58). The data was analyzed using the phenomenological analysis method in order to develop "clusters of meaning" reaching the

essence that turns different experiences into commonalities (p. 61). Indeed, though local children having different ethnicity -Kurdish and Turkish-, the individual identity of local children is in the form of a dominant version of a national identity, which is reconstructed as marginalization of everything to correspond to refugee belongings. As a result of analysis two main themes emerged: 1) how local children constructed their individual and social identities in relation to national identity ; 2) how Syrian refugee children did and did not construct feelings of belonging.

Author(s): *Muge Olgun Baytas, Pennsylvania State University*

#### **4. “Whiz Kids” : Examining the Model Minority Stereotype and the Racialization of Asian Youth**

Asians are typically described as a highly successful racial group, especially in terms of employment and education. Given their perceived success and intelligence, it is common to hear Asians referred to and praised as “model minorities”. Though the model minority stereotype is commonly reiterated in society, it is a falsehood. When repeated by parents, teachers, and the media, the stereotype results in detrimental consequences, including false representations of Asians in the media, (academic) pressure to live up to the stereotype, and strain on racial identity. Using Asian Critical Theory (AsianCrit), the effects of the model minority stereotype on East and Southeast Asian youth are examined through existing literature. The strategies that youth use to challenge and accept this stereotype are also discussed.

Author(s): *Janice Phonepraseuth, York University*

#### **5. Exploring Latino/a Radicalized Identities within Transnational Spaces**

The effects of transnationalism on identity construction in second generation immigrant Latino/a youth are not well understood. Transnational spaces are those that form networks which can be marked by patterns of communication or exchange of resources and information along with active engagement in socio-cultural and political activities across borders. This phenomenon is widely studied in terms of migration and first-generation immigrant citizens. However, little is to be said about how second-generation immigrant youth engage in transnational spaces, and furthermore, how this relationship shapes their ability to self-identify. This study thus aims to determine how second-generation Latino/a youth build and interact within transnational spaces and what this means in term of forming their racialized identities. Building on existing literature on second generation youth, it asks three fundamental questions; (1) What type of transnational practices are second generation Latino/a-Canadian youth engaged in? Particularly, what tools (such as social media apps and travel) do they use to help them engage in transnational practices with their parents’ home countries?; (2) How do their transnational practices affect Latino/a-Canadian youth’s identity construction?; (3) What role do migrant parents play in influencing their children’s transnational practices? Bourdieu’s theoretical concept of the social field (1990) coupled with a feminist and critical race theory theoretical lens was used to guide this research. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with 20 Latino/a- Canadian youth and 10 Latino/a- Canadian migrant parents. Analysis of transcribed interviews showed a strong relationship between engagement of transnational practices and perceived self-identity construction. It can thus be concluded that transnational practices have an impact on how second-generation Latino/a-Canadian youth view themselves in relation to others in a Canadian context, but also how they view themselves in relation to others within their Latino/a communities.

Author(s): *Marianna Monteiro Andrade, Brock University*

### **Conducting Research on and with Children and Youth**

Session Code: SCY5

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Children and Youth

In this session, presenters will unpack a number of unique methods they've used in research on or with children. Innovative methods to be explored include: feminist dance/performance ethnography with “tween” girls in Toronto, Narrative Inquiry combined with F/Pilipino ways of knowing carried out with Filipino youth in Vancouver, focus groups with grade nine students in Southern Ontario that broaden typical focus group boundaries, a listening methodology that utilizes techniques and approaches from comics-research to generate visual and narrative data with young children in Toronto, and data from an interview schedule with children in Pakistan used to generate quantitative data.

Organizer(s): *Rebecca Raby, Brock University; Rachel Berman, Ryerson University*

Presentations:

**1. Re-Girling the Girl: Amplifying Girls' Voices through Feminist Dance/Performance Ethnography**

Contemporary discursive constructions of pre-adolescent children tend to assume children lack the capacity to comprehend the material conditions of their lives, articulate their perspectives, or exert agency (Lenzer 2001; James 2009; Tisdall 2014; Woodhead 2009). Girls, in particular, are often categorized as passive recipients of education and culture or as innocent and in need of protection (Giroux 2000; Walkerdine 1997). In this paper, I argue that research studies should be designed to amplify the voices of "tween" girls through their active participation. Re-Girling the Girl, a project I facilitated in 2014 with fifteen pre-adolescent female dance students illustrates how participatory research is not only conducive to eliciting girls diverse opinions but also how it can encourage them to engage in more active forms of citizenship. Re-Girling the Girl utilized feminist dance/performance ethnography, a method of developing original, collaborative choreography to investigate a research topic. Initially, dance improvisation allowed participants in my study (ages 12 and 13) to explore the powerful, pervasive, and contradictory signals girls often receive about how they should look, behave, and interact in the world. Structured dance explorations encouraged the girls to discover their individual perspectives about issues of imposed femininity and sexualization and follow-up discussions identified shared and differing viewpoints within the group. Dance/performance ethnography allowed me to overcome some of the challenges researchers typically encounter when studying pre-adolescent girls (for example, the tentativeness of some girls in voicing their opinions, the influence of peer pressure, a desire for parental approval, or saying what they think the researcher wants to hear in an effort to be agreeable or "right"). Dissemination of the research was accomplished, in part, through culminating performances of the choreography, encouraging rich dialogue with audiences and demonstrating the value of embodied performance to empower girls as they forge a path for "re-girling" themselves.

Author(s): *Lisa Sandlos, York University*

**2. One-and-a-half Generation Filipino Youth in Metro Vancouver: Narratives of Negotiating identities**

The demographics in Canada continue to shift as the number of recent immigrants increased in the last five years, January 1, 2011 to May 10, 2016 (Statistics Canada, 2017). The total number of recent immigrants exceeds 1.2 million, with the top three countries of birth from the Philippines, India, and China. These recent immigrants settle in five metropolitan areas: Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver, Calgary, and Edmonton, with the Western Metropolitan areas receiving an increasing migration of young immigrants (Statistics Canada, 2017). Moreover, 74% of first or second-generation children in Canada trace their ancestry to Asia, Africa, the Caribbean, Central and South America. These non-European countries, particularly China, India and the Philippines have faced exclusionary Canadian immigration laws, and policies, e.g., 1885 Chinese Head Tax (Wong, 2006), 1908 Continuous Journey Regulation (Husser, 2016). Scholars argue that from the 1960s, overt discriminatory laws shifted to embedding racialization processes in non-recognition of foreign credentials and increasing temporary workers in low-paying and seasonal jobs (McElhinny, Davidson, Catungal, Tungohan, and Sintos-Coloma, 2012). In this narrative inquiry (Clandinin and Connelly, 2000), I, as a Filipino-Canadian researcher facilitates processes of unravelling the stories of one-and-a-half generation (1.5G) Filipino youth in Metro Vancouver as they negotiate their identities in various contexts. The 1.5G Filipino youth refers to those ages 6 to 17 who migrated with their parents or sponsored by a parent(s) to Canada (Rumbaut, 2004). Using open-ended interview questions and other expressions such as art, photo, song or dance, the youth are invited to tell/re-tell their stories at their level of readiness. I hope to uncover the impact of migration and racialization on their identity development situated within the context of Filipino ways of knowing: pakiramdam, kapwa, kasama, loob (Pe-Pua, and Protacio-Marcelino, 2000; Plaza-Galigao, 2014). Key questions to ponder: How will the 1.5G Filipino youth respond this study? What types of challenges will I, as researcher/narrator/adult gate-keeper face?

Author(s): *Maria Socorro Mangila-Nguyen, University of Calgary*

**3. Off track or on point? Side comments in focus groups with teens**

Although side comments and conversations by participants in focus groups can pose challenges for facilitators, we argue that when transcribed, they can add to and deepen analyses. Drawing on focus group data with grade nine students from a study on early work, we reflect on three patterns. First, side conversations and asides have offered us insight into where participants required clarification, as well as providing information about participants' views and questions about the research process. Second, asides added to our analysis by providing new data, including personal reflections, connections to others' comments, and indicating participants' uncertainties about the topics of the focus group discussion. Third, aside comments offered valuable insight into peer relations and dynamics,

including how participants deployed gender and age in relation to the focus group topics. Further, we noticed in asides that participants' attempts to debate, jockey for participation, and offer silly and sarcastic comments were connected to broader constructions of gender and early work. We conclude by reflecting on the ethics of analyzing asides in focus groups. Overall, we argue that asides should not be overlooked, especially as they are linked to peer dynamics and adult-teen hierarchies that shape teens' participation in focus groups.

Author(s): *Lindsay C. Sheppard, Brock University; Rebecca Raby, Brock University*

#### **4. Listening with our hands and eyes - Visual and narrative data generation as embodied listening**

Listening to children is a central tenet of social research in childhood studies. Originally understood as focusing on children's voices, attending to children's perspectives and stories brought profound insight to their lived experiences, and at the same time helped us methodologically trouble notions of authenticity and explore the constructed nature of voice in childhood research (James, 2007; Spyrou, 2007). New perspectives push us out of understanding listening as focusing on audible data and into a broader imagining of listening as an emergent, embodied, and multi-modal way of attending to and with others. Inspired by scholars working with this model of listening (Clark, 2017; Davies, 2011, 2014; Rinaldi, 2001, 2004; Clark and Moss, 2011), I designed a listening methodology for my dissertation research. As an arts-based researcher, I worked with techniques and approaches from comics-research (Barry, 2014, 2019; Flowers, 2017; Kuttner, Sousanis, and Weaver-Hightower, 2017) to generate visual and narrative data with children as a way of listening to and with each other to investigate ideas about childhood, parenthood and home. In this presentation, I will outline my listening methodology and explore some ideas regarding its potential for researching with children.

Author(s): *Noah Kenneally, OISE, University of Toronto*

#### **5. Causes and Consequences of Child Labour: A study of children's working in auto-workshops of district Multan, Pakistan**

Pakistan is suffering from extremely tender socio-economic and political chaos; there are many reasons that child labor is increasing such as poverty large family size, social attitudes and low literacy rate, worst economic crisis, symmetry of natural disaster, and large increase of unemployment. Human right commission Pakistan estimated that there are 10 million underage children linked to labor in Pakistan. The present study was conducted to know the major causes and consequences of child labor, their families' financial conditions which were responsible for forcing children to work in stage of their lives that needed great attention, love and care from their parents as well as the society. The study was conducted at District Multan, Pakistan and total numbers of 150 children were interviewed who were working at automobile workshops through convenient sampling. Interview schedule was used as a tool for data collection because majority of the respondents were illiterate. The collected data was analyzed through Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS). The major findings showed that the lower social and economic conditions were the leading factors in the involvement of children in work i.e. poverty, parents illiteracy, occupation, family low income, large family size. Though children were not well paid, but they still served as major contributors of family income. They study recommended that the State should provide free education to every child and motivational publicity, campaign should be increased so that the parents of the children realize better future of their children then to engage their child in work.

Author(s): *Kamran Ishfaq, Bahauddin Zakariya University Multan, Pakistan; Obaidullah Nabeel Awan, Bahauddin Zakariya University Multan, Pakistan; Malik Muhammad Mairaj Rasool, Bahauddin Zakariya University Multan, Pakistan; Bareera Fayyaz, University of Peshawar, Pakistan*

### **Institutions and the Production of Western Childhoods**

Session Code: SCY6

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Children and Youth

Papers in this session reflect on how institutions in the lives of young people, from mental health services to alternative schools, participate in children's governance, and the related production of Western, colonial, neo-liberal childhoods.

Organizer(s): *Rebecca Raby, Brock University*

Presentations:

**1. Reproducing or resisting neocolonialism? Moral regulation of children and youth in 'trauma-informed' organizations**

The mental health service sector has a long history of coercive practices which have been used to regulate the behaviours of 'troublesome' segments of the population. Despite social movements which have fought against dehumanizing practices, mental health professionals still play a pivotal role in regulating the behaviours of others -particularly those considered 'immoral.' As state funded bodies, organizations responding to the social and emotional challenges of children and youth are implicated in the reproduction of neocolonial discourses created by the Canadian state. Consequently, children and families receiving support enter into relationships (consensual or otherwise) with service providers that may be both helpful and harmful to varying degrees. In a service context which increasingly focuses on the implementation of 'trauma-informed care' to address the needs and experiences of youth experiencing mental or emotional distress, this Master's thesis research explores how both popular and biomedical conceptions of 'trauma' are used to do moral work by service providers. In particular, this project explores how ideas about 'trauma' are employed to both challenge and reproduce colonial discourses and relations. Grounded in postcolonial theory, moral regulation scholarship, and both sociological and anthropological theorizations of trauma, this research will employ a critical discourse analysis (CDA) of interviews with service providers and participant observation in professional spaces to answer the above research questions. The implications for mental health workers, educators, and policy makers will be explored.

Author(s): *Brooke Thomas, Dalhousie University*

**2. Where a child naturally belongs: Waldorf kindergartens and colonial constructions of childhood**

How do beliefs about natural childhood reinforce colonial productions of the human? In this paper, I present preliminary findings from a larger study examining the ways in which Waldorf educators' understandings of childhood reveal the entanglement between colonialism and Western discourses of childhood. Waldorf schools follow an alternative educational model based on the philosophy of Rudolf Steiner, and Waldorf educators pride themselves on protecting children's childhood through an emphasis on the arts, play, and nature. In this paper, I introduce moments from my study when Waldorf educators spoke about how Waldorf kindergartens, with their emphasis on family, home, and nature, feel like the intuitive right place for childhood. I argue that this sense of rightness highlights how felt truths about childhood can rest on constructions that tie early human development to the nuclear family, property, and indigeneity. These constructions build towards, and are inextricable from, a colonial understanding of the human as an individualistic, rational explorer. In reinforcing this construction of childhood, Waldorf educators ultimately have to negotiate the racism and prejudice embedded within it, illustrating larger implications for others who navigate dominant Western discourses of the human in understanding what it means to be a child.

Author(s): *Hunter Knight, OISE, University of Toronto*

**3. Disrupting Neoliberal & Colonial Governmental Logics of Youth Inclusion: A Genealogy of Racialized Youth Participation in Ontario's Youth Sector**

As Coulthard (2014) and Ahmed (2012) attest, while new relations, rights and identities are negotiated for colonial and racial subjects, they often remain within the confines of white colonial power. This paper considers how current models of social justice, such as recognition and redistribution, authorize the celebration of racialized youth inclusion and participation in the youth non-profit sector and interrogates how strategies of participation potentially contribute to the veiling of Canada's colonial governance and the entrenchment of western neoliberal subjectivities. Over the last 25 years, young people are increasingly recognized as agentic beings who need to have a greater voice in their well-being. Nevertheless, youth also remain categorized as underdeveloped and in need of governing through state-funded educational, health, justice and non-profit institutions. Efforts to govern youth include the criminalization of non-conforming youth, which often disproportionately affects poor and racialized youth from black and indigenous communities. There is also a simultaneous increase in efforts to govern youth through inclusionary measures, resulting in the amplification of discourses and practices of youth participation, engagement, and empowerment. Over the last fifteen years, a notable relationship has been etched in Canada between discourses of youth participation and that of racial and social justice. This has resulted in the intensification of racialized youth participation in the youth serving sector in varying, often thorny, capacities. The examination of inclusionary strategies will be positioned alongside exclusions (Ong, 2006) and the growing states of exceptions that racialized youth are subjected to, such as police carding, surveillance, and criminalization.

Author(s): *Maria Bernard, York University*



## 2020 Canadian Sociological Association Conference: Resisting Racism and Colonialism

### The Academic Job Market

Session Code: SCS3

Theme: Student Professional Development

Graduate programs provide students with the rigorous training they need to succeed on the job, but the process of applying to academic positions is often shrouded in mystery. A lack of information around how to navigate the job search process coupled with the competitive nature of the market has left many students wondering what to expect. This panel is intended to demystify the application process and provide students with information that can help improve their chances of success. Panelists will describe their pathways into academia, share advice on the essentials of the application process, instruct students on best and worst practices, and discuss their experiences on hiring committees.

This session is sponsored by the Canadian Sociological Association Student Concerns Subcommittee.

Organizer(s): *Awish Aslam, Western University; Emma Kay, Dalhousie University; Nicole Malette, University of British Columbia*

Panelists:

- Sean Waite, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Western University
- Naomi Lightman, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Calgary
- Rima Wilkes, Professor, Department of Sociology, University of British Columbia
- Johanne Jean-Pierre, Assistant Professor; School of Child and Youth Care, Ryerson University

### From Presentation to Publication

Session Code: SCS3

Theme: Student Professional Development

Conference presentations are often the first opportunity to share your ideas with an academic audience. These presentations showcase the “highlight reel” of your research, but how do you turn your presentation into a publication? Transforming your arguments and evidence into an academic publication can seem daunting, especially in your first attempt. This session will provide students with information on choosing a journal/publisher, revising your work for publication, incorporating feedback, and navigating the publication process more generally. Panelists will discuss how to transform a conference presentation to a publication in an academic journal as well as how to convert a dissertation into a book.

This session is sponsored by the Canadian Sociological Association Student Concerns Subcommittee.

Organizer(s): *Awish Aslam, Western University; Emma Kay, Dalhousie University; Nicole Malette, University of British Columbia*

Panelists:

- Dr. Tracey Adams  
Professor, Department of Sociology, Western University  
Editor – Canadian Review of Sociology
- Jodi Lewchuk  
Acquisitions Editor, University of Toronto Press
- Dr. Lori Wilkinson  
Professor, Department of Sociology and Criminology, University of Manitoba  
Editor in Chief – Journal of International Migration and Integration

## Inequality, Gender, Work and Mental Health

Session Code: SMH1

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Mental Health

This session highlights recent research on stressors and mental health outcomes across social statuses, with a specific focus on dynamics between paid work and gender. Presentations will address both real and perceived experiences of inequality, including institutional barriers to women's labour market participation and pay; gender differences in fathers' mental health in parenting practices; and, the mental health impact of perceived social injustices on both a local and national level. The presenters draw upon novel datasets and use advanced quantitative approaches to demonstrate their contributory findings.

Organizer(s): *Marisa Young, McMaster University; Julia Woodhall-Melnik, University of New Brunswick*

Presentations:

### 1. Psychological Distress & Fathering Behaviour: The Importance of Social Context

Prior research has highlighted the significance of fathers for child outcomes, the wellbeing of co-parents, and family functioning. The substantial positive benefits of positive fathering behaviours are underscored by contemporary fathering expectations that include caregiving, emotional availability, and increased co-parenting. While work on the facilitators of and barriers to positive father involvement is emerging, mental health has been identified as an important predictor of paternal behaviour. Research in this area suggests that fathers experiencing psychological distress are less likely to engage in positive parenting and more likely to use harsh techniques. Yet, little work has focused on variation across national context, despite the fact that there is significant variability in rates of and the gendered nature of distress across contexts. Using data from the Fathering Across Contexts study, I consider the relationship between distress and six measures of fathering behaviour across five countries: the US, Canada, Sweden, the UK, and Germany. Overall, the results suggest that fathers experiencing psychological distress decrease their involvement in emotional parenting, but that the relationship between distress and instrumental parenting, like caregiving, varies according to measures of country-level gender egalitarianism. Implications of these results for the sociological study of mental health in families and social policy will be discussed.

Author(s): *Kevin Shafer, Bringham Young University*

### 2. Women's Labor Force Participation and the Gender Gap in Depression

A common finding in the mental health literature is that women have higher than average levels of depression than men. Although evidence suggests the gender gap in depression has narrowed in some country contexts over time i.e. the United States, the gender gap nevertheless consistently found across country contexts. One determinant of the narrowing of the gap in the within country context has been the increase in women's labor force participation. This paper extends previous research by generalizing this finding to the cross-country context and exploring if the contextual level determinants of increased women's labor market participation reduce the gender gap in depression. Contextual determinants of women's labor force participation including flexible work arrangements and the provision of public childcare are estimated to clarify the potential mechanisms that drive the overall finding. Results demonstrate that overall women's labor force participation and its determinants reduce the gender gap in depression, but are dependent upon certain statuses and roles such as SES, being partnered, and having children.

Author(s): *Matthew Parbst, University of Toronto*

### 3. Access Restricted: The Role of Institutional Barriers Regarding Women and the Gender Gap of Distress

This study examined the existing gender gap regarding distress among Canadians. Specifically, whether a lack of information, medication, or counseling/therapy sheds light on why women feel more distress than men. Survey data was taken from the Canadian Community Health Survey: Mental Health Component which was collected in 2012. Four control variables were used reflecting literature on the existing gender gap. The discrepancy between men and women regarding their perceived access to mental health care services such as counseling and pharmaceutical treatments was analyzed to further establish a gender gap. The results of the preliminary control variables replicate effectively the literature that discusses the gender gap in mental illness. However, when utilizing the data that represents an individual's perceived access to health care there was less significance.

Between genders significance only existed where women preferred to not manage mental illness on their own, having more confidence in the mental health care system, and are more likely to not have ongoing counseling for mental illness. These findings shed light on the intricate relationship between men and women regarding mental health care. An obvious gap exists between men and women regarding education, income, age, and race when looking at distress levels, but no significant gap exists when analyzing their access to health care. The results implicate inconsistent findings and are counter to current arguments about a greater lack of assistance for women who suffer from mental illness.

Author(s): *Ben Michael Blaney, York University*

#### **4. A Higher Rung on the Ladder? How Perceptions of Local and Societal Inequality Shape the Relationship between Subjective Social Status and Mental Health in Canada**

Standing on a higher rung of the social ladder - subjective social status (SSS) - has been linked with better overall psychological well-being. But how does local social contact with others of higher or lower socioeconomic status alter that positive association? And, does the perception of broader socioeconomic inequality in Canadian society also function as a contingency? Using data from a large nationally representative sample - the 2019 Canadian Quality of Work and Economic Life (CQWEL) - we find support for both of these moderating effects on four different mental health outcomes: distress, loneliness, trust, and feelings of guilt. We discover that Canadians with higher SSS report more favorable levels of each of these indicators. Those patterns are amplified among individuals who experience more frequent local social contact with individuals perceived to be financially better off; however, the same pattern does not hold for frequent contact with poorer people. We also find similar moderating effects among individuals who perceive Canadian society as collectively sharing more wealth and prosperity in Canada - as opposed to those who perceive it as a society with starker socioeconomic inequalities (i.e., few at the top, more at the bottom). We situate our findings in the growing literature on SSS and mental health - emphasizing the importance of status-based social contact in local contexts, social comparison processes, and perceptions of broader societal-level inequality.

Author(s): *Scott Schieman, University of Toronto; Atsushi Narisada, Saint Mary's University; Philip Badawy, University of Toronto*

### **Advanced Approaches to Research on Mental Health**

Session Code: SMH2

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Mental Health

Research on the Sociology of Mental Health has changed over the past few years. These changes are largely related to theoretical and methodological advances in the discipline. This session exhibits researchers doing just that and considers innovations in understanding the differential exposure and vulnerability to stressors in all areas of life. Examples include novel approaches to studying Indigenous elders; contextual advances to understanding the impact of community on mental health; and, social capital approaches to understanding the complex mechanisms informing mental health outcomes.

Organizer(s): *Marisa Young, McMaster University; Julia Woodhall-Melnik, University of New Brunswick*

Presentations:

#### **1. Community-based respite care: Training caregivers and family to provide in-home care for Indigenous older adults living with dementia**

Caregivers play an important role in improving the quality of life for older adults living with dementia that are aging in place. The lack of training and culturally appropriate resources available for caregivers of Indigenous people living with dementia contributes to the gap in community-based respite care. Although modules currently exist for respite care workers, there are few training modules designed for caregivers and family members which aim to increase knowledge around dementia, caring for people with dementia, and building capacity for community-based respite care. Developing an Indigenous, community-based caregiver toolkit for dementia fills the gap by creating culturally safe, accessible resources for community respite care. Morning Star Lodge in partnership with File Hills Qu'Appelle Tribal Council (FHQTC) at the request of their Community Research

Advisory Committee (CRAC) aimed to promote Indigenous community-based models of support and to develop a toolkit for caregivers of people living with dementia and their families. The toolkit includes information such as: understanding dementia, strategies for care, resources available to caregivers and links to caregiver training videos, and resources specific to Indigenous cultures and communities. The goal is to increase caregivers' access to resources and supports through distribution of the toolkit and to build capacity for the provision of community-based respite care by creating an opportunity for education, training, and increasing awareness in Indigenous communities. Creating a caregiver toolkit will also help to relieve caregiver stress by providing education to family members about community-based respite care and services available.

Author(s): *Sebastien Lefebvre, University of Saskatchewan; Jen Billan, University of Saskatchewan; Mikayla Hagel, University of Saskatchewan; Miranda Keewatin, University of Saskatchewan; Danette Starblanket, University of Saskatchewan; Sadie Anderson, University of Saskatchewan*

## **2. Online Forums and Mental Health Outcomes Among Intended Mothers Using Donor Eggs**

In the last few decades, infertility has become a condition with increasing visibility. In addition to increased publicity surrounding infertility and developments in assisted reproduction, there are also a greater number of individuals seeking fertility services, more physicians working in this field, and greater availability of assisted reproductive technologies. However, a number of exemplary studies on women's experiences of infertility have documented the continued real and perceived stigma associated with infertility (e.g. Sandelowski 1993; Becker 2000). The need for donor gametes, in particular has implications for women's and men's identities, since sperm and eggs are cultural icons of gender and fertility. In this paper I examine the use of online fertility forums by intended mothers who have used, or are in the process of using, donor eggs to conceive. Through reference to data collected with 18 intended mothers I discuss the ways in which these women used these forums, and their views as to how these virtual communities helped, and continue to help with, with making the process of using donor eggs feel less isolated, less stigmatized, and ultimately improving their mental health.

Author(s): *Kathleen Hammond, McGill University*

## **3. Theorizing social capital: The anatomy of a controversy in the study of health in social context**

The promise of social capital theorizing for the sociology of mental health lies in its capacity to move the study of health determinants beyond atomistic approaches. Key to realizing this promise is resolving the persistent controversy about the proper referent of social capital in a way that aligns with foundational social capital theorizing on what social capital is (properties of collectives and properties of personal networks) and is not (attributes of individuals). I approach the controversy by shifting to the metatheoretical level to problematize the terms in which it is set and the succession of resolutions reached by working within terms set in a false atomism-holism dichotomy. The first resolution excludes social capital inhering in personal networks to theorize social capital too narrowly as properties of collectives. The second resolution expands the reach of the concept to attributes of individuals, the very thing it is not. The third and now dominant resolution further expands the reach of the concept to properties of personal networks. It recognizes two distinct schools of social capital - a social cohesion school studying both social capital that inheres in collectives and attributes of individuals that reference social cohesion and a network school using egocentric network instruments and indicators to study social capital that inheres in personal networks. I take the false dichotomy out of play by bringing in the relationist alternative to atomism and holism and construct a novel resolution that narrows the reach of the concept to properties of collectives and properties of personal networks. I suggest this resolution will prove productive for empirical research by moving efforts to integrate the social cohesion and network schools in a new direction.

Author(s): *Valerie A. Haines, University of Calgary*

## **4. Distressed Communities: Identifying and Explaining Regional Differences in Canadian's Mental Health**

Where you live impacts your mental health. This is also true across regions of Canada. Preliminary results from the Family-Friendly Community Resources for Better Balance, Health, and Well-Being study (FFCR) highlight variations in Canadian's distress levels based on one's residential region - above and beyond personal characteristics. Researchers tend to point to contextual disadvantage, deprivation, and segregation as the main culprits for these geographical differences. The socioeconomic basis of these arguments imply that more disadvantaged regions lack the resources necessary to support their residents, like adequate safety services, or nutritious food outlets, for example. Yet, due to data restrictions, the absence of resources is necessarily implied by traditional measures of regional disadvantage rather than actually measured and tested. In the current study we transcend these limitations and attempt to explain regional disparities in Canadian's mental health above and beyond traditional measures of residential disadvantage. We use data from the FFCR study - the first of its kind in

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Canada - which includes information on a variety of residential characteristics, including libraries, recreation facilities, religious organizations, education resources, food outlets, childcare, and protective services, for example. These context-level data are connected to individual-level data from the Canadian Work Stress and Health study, which comprises information on a national-based sample of respondents. Both datasets are longitudinal in nature and have been linked across five waves, based on the respondent's census division of residence (2011 to 2019 by 2 years). Our study first, demonstrates the aggregate differences in psychological distress across Canadian regions. Second, we use measures from the FFCR study to explain away these differences while accounting for disadvantage in the area. Third, we consider changes overtime and document the importance of measuring regional characteristics in addition to traditional measures of residential effects based on economic deprivation and social segregation.

Author(s): *Marisa Young, McMaster University; Diana Singh, McMaster University*

### Youth, Adolescence, and Mental Health

Session Code: SMH3

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Mental Health

Youth is an extremely important developmental time period that has substantial impacts on adult outcomes. Youth can be a particularly tumultuous period for populations who experience various forms of social, economic, and political marginalization. This session investigates youth inequality and its impacts on mental health. Presentations will address explore mental health in childhood and youth, with a specific focus on the role of social stress and housing adequacy, immigration status, social support, and interpersonal relationships. Resiliency, protective factors, post-traumatic growth, and service use will also be discussed. The presenters will present findings from qualitative and quantitative, primary and secondary analyses, as they collectively identify some of the most pressing concerns faced by youth today.

Organizer(s): *Marisa Young, McMaster University; Julia Woodhall-Melnik, University of New Brunswick*

Presentations:

#### **1. Reaching Out for Help: Investigating Canada/US Undergraduate Student Mental Health Service-Use**

The majority of undergraduate student mental health programming is based on American research. Few studies compare the rates of mental health service-use among Canadian university students or how they differ from their American counterparts. This research addresses this gap by investigating both the rates and influences for mental health service-use among 2,250 Canadian undergraduate students, comparing them to 1,908 American students. Findings from this research demonstrate that Canadian students overall are more likely to use services and that individual student identities are less likely to impact their service-use than American students. Influences such as knowledge for where to seek services also impacts service use for both groups, but campus levels of academic competition doesn't seem to affect either Canadian or American students' mental health service-use. This research demonstrates the necessity for greater investigation into how national contexts influence the service-use of undergraduate students.

Author(s): *Nicole Malette, University of British Columbia*

#### **2. "It made me who I am" : Post-traumatic growth among youth who have experienced bullying**

Bullying has, unequivocally, been identified as a source of trauma in the lives of a considerable number of youth and the negative consequences of bullying are well-documented. An international body of scholarship has identified a relationship between experiencing bullying and adverse somatic, psychological, social, and academic outcomes. Further, research has established that related adverse outcomes can be long lasting. However, as with other traumas, not all youth who are bullied experience negative outcomes across the life course. Although much is known about those who struggle in the aftermath of bullying, little is known about those who are able to move on from, or even grow as a result of, their experiences. In this paper, I explore perceptions and narratives of post-traumatic growth among a qualitative sample of 129 young adults who experienced bullying or cyberbullying in elementary, middle, or high school. In particular, the nature and extent of post-traumatic growth are considered within the context of individual, social, and community resources. Whether and how knowledge about post-

traumatic growth among youth who have been bullied can be applied to those who experience long-term negative outcomes is also discussed.

Author(s): *Ryan Broll, University of Guelph*

**3. Social support in adolescence and depressive symptoms in young adulthood: identifying interpersonal relationships with long-term protective effects**

Although sociological theory frames the development of health inequalities over time as being influenced by the accumulation of risk and available resources, a large and growing body of research continues to identify the sources of early adversity that predict mental health risk in young adulthood while largely overlooking the long-term protective effects of early-life resources. Social support is a resource hypothesized to protect the mental health of adolescents, but it is not clear whether this protection extends beyond adolescence into young adulthood or which sources and types of support are most protective. Using data from the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent to Adult Health, this research examines the protective capacity and potential reach of adolescents' parental and non-parental adult relationships for blunting the impact of early disadvantage on depression in young adulthood. Results from the preliminary analysis show that positive relationships with parents, older relatives, and community members in adolescence independently increase the odds of reporting no depressive symptoms in young adulthood, net of socioeconomic background. Family structure, however, conditions the protective effect of adolescents' relationships with important non-parental adults in that those from single-parent families benefit very little from these relationships relative to those from two-parent families. The accompanying analysis reveals somewhat of a paradox--that adolescents from single-parent families are more likely to receive the types of support from non-parental adults that are either unassociated or positively associated with depressive symptoms in young adulthood (instrumental support and acting like a parent), and less likely to receive the types of support that protect against depression in young adulthood (role modeling and advice giving).

Author(s): *Travis Hackshaw, Western University; Andrea Willson, Western University; Kim Shuey, Western University*

**4. Exploring the Mental Health of Immigrant and Non-Immigrant Children in Relation to Housing Inadequacy and Crowding**

Housing conditions such as inadequacy and crowding are important but underexplored aspects of social stress that might undermine children's mental health. Whereas housing inadequacy may expose children to hazards in their physical environment including mold and pests, crowding may be a source of chaos and disorder characterized by lack of privacy, unwanted social interactions, and high levels of ambient noise. Immigrant populations in Canada may be particularly susceptible to housing inadequacy and crowding but, to date, no studies have considered the extent to which the association between these housing conditions and children's mental health is moderated by immigrant status. The 2014 Ontario Child Health Study is a provincially representative survey of 10,500 children and youth between the ages of 4 and 17 nested in 6,537 families. Housing crowding (ratio of bedrooms to household members) and inadequacy (mold, pests, need for major repairs) are measured using standard criteria developed by Statistics Canada and the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, thereby increasing their policy relevance. Multilevel modeling is used to examine their association with children's emotional and behavioural problems and whether it is moderated by immigrant status. Results indicate that although the prevalence of housing inadequacy is similar among immigrant and non-immigrant households, proportionately more immigrant households experience crowding. Whereas housing inadequacy is associated with greater levels of mental health problems among immigrant and non-immigrant children, housing crowding is associated with greater levels of mental health problems among non-immigrant children only. Policies concerning access to safe and affordable housing and that facilitate resettlement in Canadian society post-migration will be discussed as mechanisms to promote optimal mental health among immigrant and non-immigrant children.

Author(s): *Jinette Comeau, King's University College at Western University*

**Mental Emerging Voices in Mental Health (Roundtable Session) Health in Social Context: The Role of Social Capital**

Session Code: SMH4

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Mental Health



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This roundtable session gathers a panel of emerging scholars and early career researchers who will advance the tradition of the Sociology of Mental Health through substantive, theoretical, and methodological innovations. Each panellist will briefly introduce their research and will respond to audience questions on their approaches, topics, and the future of mental health research in the Sociological context. Panelists' specific interests focus on racial inequities, drug involvement, rurality, and modern mothering. Methods include primary qualitative data collection and the analysis of secondary survey data. This session will be interactive, and attendees are encouraged to ask questions of the emerging scholars.

Organizer(s): *Marisa Young, McMaster University; Julia Woodhall-Melnik, University of New Brunswick*

Presentations:

### **1. Families Experiences with Drug-Involved Loved Ones in Ontario Cities**

Several cities in Canada are struggling with an opioid crisis, and in Ontario the cities of Hamilton and Brantford are two of the most vulnerable and understudied populations battling with opioid use or misuse and the social repercussions that come from that. This future study will focus on the opioid situation in these cities to explore how, if at all, families are connected with their drug-involved loved ones. Prior research in criminology and sociology has primarily focused on the experiences of individuals using substances during their reintegration process following incarceration. Studies have focused mainly on individuals' perceptions of their families' experiences; however very little research has looked specifically at family members direct accounts of their experiences. The scarcity of this kind of research brings to light the kind of attitude that the public has towards families of individuals using opioids. Using qualitative semi-structured interviews, I will address an important gap in the literature by focusing on families' perceptions of, and experiences with, loved ones using opioids. This important and timely research will provide a deeper understanding that promises to inform efforts aimed at dealing more effectively with the current opioid crisis. The goal of this presentation will be to highlight the existing literature on the topic, explore the importance of addressing the gaps in the current research, and lastly outline how I plan to conduct my own study.

Author(s): *Mina Hasanzada, Wilfrid Laurier University*

### **2. "Just to keep my thoughts good" : Digitally-mediated emotion management on Facebook**

Research over the last several decades has shown that mothers experience considerable pressure in carrying out the expectations of contemporary mothering. Scholars have identified that cultural ideals around "intensive mothering" (Hays, 1996) negatively impact mothers, even if they do not personally subscribe to them (Henderson et al., 2016; Rizzo et al., 2012). While we know that cultural ideals around intensive mothering produce negative psychological and emotional impacts, we know less about the tools mothers use to cope with these anxieties as they try to "do it right" (Hays 1996). In this article, I bridge the literature on intensive mothering, emotion work, and social media research to ask: How do mothers use Facebook groups to cope with the anxieties of mothering? Drawing from 18 months of digital ethnographic research, including participant observation, discourse analysis, and interviews with 29 mothers, I argue that mothers strategically seek out Facebook groups to ease anxieties related to the performance of their maternal role, while avoiding groups that challenge their idea of correct mothering. In these groups, mothers receive information that supports their version of mothering while also receiving validation for making the "right" choices. I therefore argue that in seeking out online groups that make them feel good and avoiding groups that make them feel bad, mothers engage in a form of technologically-mediated emotion management (Hochschild 1979), which not only alleviates some of the anxieties of intensive mothering, but also brings their feelings into alignment with dominant expectations about how mothering "ought" to feel. By carving out spaces where they can cultivate good feelings, mothers find solace in a sociopolitical context that may otherwise feel overwhelming or out of their control.

Author(s): *Darryn Anne Wellstead, University of Ottawa*

### **3. A New Perspective on Canadian Mental Health Disparities: The Role of Racial Discrimination on Unmet Mental Health Needs**

The frequent depoliticization of race in population health studies risks producing research devoid of a social context. As mental health disparities emerge along racial lines, it is imperative for health researchers to reconceptualize race from neutral, descriptive categories into sites of unequal structural power. This paper represents the first Canadian study to integrate critical race theory and empirical sociology in the field of mental health. It uses the nationally-representative Canadian community health survey 2013 to investigate the

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relationship between experiences of racial discrimination and unmet mental health needs for racialized and white populations in Canada. By examining experiences of racism in relation to impacted help-seeking behavior, my study challenges existing culture-based explanations for the underutilization of mental health services by racialized groups. It offers not only a unique theoretical contribution but also produces useful empirical findings that expose social inequalities in healthcare. This emerging research places race and racism at the center of discussions on mental health care utilization so that barriers to service use can be identified for racialized populations, granting the possibility of treatment and improved wellbeing.

Author(s): *Bertina Lou, Western University*

### The Social Roots of Adolescent Suicide

Session Code: SMH5

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Mental Health

Research suggests that suicide can socially diffuse through social relationships and social contexts; however, little is known about the mechanisms that facilitate this diffusion. Using data from an in-depth case study of a cohesive community with an enduring youth suicide problem (N = 118), I examine how, after repeated exposure to suicide, the community's and school's high levels of connectedness contributed to the community's rekeying of the dominant narrative for why kids die by suicide. Consequently, this rekeying has made suicide a more imaginable option for some community youth. In short, evidence is presented demonstrating that a series of sudden, shocking, suicide deaths of high-status youth may have triggered the formation of new locally generalized meanings for suicide that became available, taken-for-granted social facts. The new meanings reinterpreted broadly shared adolescent experiences (exposure to pressure) as a cause of suicide facilitating youth's ability to imagine suicide as something someone like them could do to escape. In addition to providing compelling evidence supporting these theoretical claims, implications for the scientific understanding of (1) suicide and suicide clusters, (2) social diffusion processes, and (3) suicide prevention are presented.

Organizer(s): *Marisa Young, McMaster University; Julia Woodhall-Melnik, University of New Brunswick*

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Seth Abrutyn, University of British Columbia

### Aging and Society I: Inclusion, Exclusion, and Isolation

Session Code: SOA1A

Theme: Sociology of Aging

Increased life expectancies and the overall aging of the population represent a significant demographic shift in Canada. Such a shift entails numerous social, political, and cultural changes and challenges, ones that have recently become the subject of increased sociological scrutiny. The papers in this session explore various correlates of social inclusion, exclusion, and isolation among older adults; they reveal the complexities surrounding questions of who is most visible, invisible, and vulnerable among this segment of the Canadian population.

Organizer(s): *Dana Sawchuk, Wilfrid Laurier University; Tina Fetner, McMaster University*

Presentations:

#### **1. 'Hiding in plain sight': Older adults who are reported missing in Canada**

Population aging is one of the most frequently discussed topics in Canada today (Chappell et al., 2003), yet hiding too often in plain sight is the case of missing older adults, who go missing for a variety of reasons, such as deteriorating health or insufficient social programming (Pettonito et al., 2013). This raises concerns as Canada's population ages and there is a steady increase in the number of older individuals who are reported missing (Statistics Canada 2015; 2016; 2017; 2018). Addressing this gap in the literature, this thesis examines the demographic and situational characteristics of a sample of 703 elderly missing person reports gathered from two

Canadian police agencies from 2014 to 2018. The purpose of this thesis is thus to construct a preliminary understanding of older adults who go missing in Canada, as well as a range of demographic and situational factors for going missing. In particular, I will examine which, if any, demographic and situational variables are associated with the: i) locations older adults are reported missing from, ii) length of time they are reported missing, and iii) frequency of repeat missing episodes.

Author(s): *Larissa Kowalski, Western University*

## **2. LGBTQ Aging: Navigating Discrimination and Exclusion**

Drawing on age relations theory and queer theory, the purpose of this study was to investigate older LGBTQ persons everyday experiences of aging, with a focus on how they had perceived and managed their changing bodies and social interactions and circumstances over the life course. I conducted in-depth interviews with 30 LGBTQ persons aged 65-84 (average age of 71). The study participants were recruited from across Canada and were each interviewed twice either in person, by telephone, or by Skype for between 2.5 and six hours (total of 113 interview hours). Fifteen participants identified as female and 15 identified as male, including five trans women and one trans man. There was diversity in the participants sexual orientation, ethnicity, race, education, income, partner status, and health and functional abilities. The interviews were transcribed verbatim and the data were analyzed thematically. Almost all of the participants described unsettling or traumatic incidents in which they had experienced discrimination or social stigmatization because of their gender identities and/or sexual orientations, both historically and/or more recently. Study participants frequently reported that their sense of social exclusion as LGBTQ individuals was underscored by other forms of oppression, including ableism, ageism, heterosexism, racism, sexism, and social classism. Although many participants felt that Canada was becoming more inclusive of LGBTQ individuals, they also feared that they would invariably face heightened vulnerability and a resultant, perceived need to go back into the closet as they got older (for example, if they had to go into a long-term care facility). Many participants further felt that they were simultaneously invisible and hyper-visible in Canadian society as they navigated intersecting forms of discrimination and social exclusion. I discuss the implications of these findings in light of the extant research and theorizing.

Author(s): *Laura Hurd, University of British Columbia*

## **3. Digital Media Use and Social Inclusion: A Case Study of East York Older Adults**

Much literature on the digital divide has identified older adults as one of the key vulnerable groups in contemporary society. The so called "grey divide" seems to be narrowing, with recent statistics showing that those aged 65+ are online in greater numbers and adopting a range of tools and apps, including dating apps. In Canada, for example, the percentage of older adults online has increased from 48% in 2012 to 71% in 2018. As the percentage of older adults who are online increases, learning more about their digital media adoption and use is important. This becomes particularly important as older adults have been identified as a population vulnerable to perceived loneliness. With shrinking social networks and often being retired from paid work, the opportunities for socialization also decrease. In addition, older adults confront unique challenges of declining health, reduced mobility, and often chronic illness, which all make active living and socialization more challenging. The goal of this chapter is to investigate digital media use and social inclusion in a group of older adults from East York, Toronto, Canada. This serves as a case study to uncover the barriers to digital inclusion these older adults experience to better understand how support systems can help overcome difficulties. The study also examines the social benefits obtained from digital media use by exploring how older adult East Yorkers use digital media in their everyday lives to maintain connections with diverse social ties, to coordinate active involvement in social groups, and to exchange social support. For our analysis, we draw on 41 interviews with East York older adults and 10 profile analysis of select respondents. We end the chapter with a set of conclusions and offer policy advice on how to provide training that targets the needs of older adults

Author(s): *Anabel Quan-Haase, Western University; Molly-Gloria Harper, Western University; Barry Wellman, NetLab*

## **4. Does Living Alone Mean Spending Time Differently? Time Use and Living Arrangements among Older Canadians**

Living alone is very common among older Canadians, where 25.8% of adults 65 and above lived alone in 2016. The rise of going solo around the world has prompted debate about whether living alone has negative implications for older adults' well-being, health and social integration. We contribute to this debate by examining whether older adults living alone has different patterns of time use and subjective evaluations of their time use. Using the Canadian General Social Survey (2015), we find that older adults living on their own do not seem to be socially isolated in our objective or subjective measures of time use. Those living alone spend more time communicating

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with others than older adults in other living arrangements and spend comparable amounts of time eating/drinking to most other groups. Older adults living alone had similar time on self-care to most other groups, and much less time on caregiving for others than those in all other living arrangements, and significantly less time on housework than those living with just a spouse. We find few differences in time spent on leisure by living arrangements. In terms of subjective time use, older adults living alone are no more likely than those living with others to feel like they don't spend enough time with family or friends. In addition, older adults living alone were much less likely than other groups to feel pressed for time, feel rushed, or feel stressed out about not having enough time.

Author(s): *Xiangnan Chai, Nanjing University; Rachel Margolis, Western University*

### Sociology of Aging II: Care, Health, and Well-Being

Session Code: SOA1B

Theme: Sociology of Aging

In light of increased life expectancies and an aging population in Canada overall, policy debates and public concerns frequently revolve around issues of care, health, and well-being for older adults. Within this context, sociologists have pressed for broader understandings of the factors that contribute to the quality and character of older adults' lives in various community, institutional, and everyday realms. Papers in this session contribute to these understandings by examining the variety of stresses, strains, and creative possibilities involved in providing care and in providing adequate housing for older Canadians.

Organizer(s): *Dana Sawchuk, Wilfrid Laurier University; Tina Fetner, McMaster University*

Presentations:

#### 1. Family Caregiving and Its Cost

More than eight million Canadians provide care to a family member who is disabled or chronically ill (National Institute on Ageing, 2018). Nearly 46% of Canadians aged 15 and older have provided care at some point in their lives. This number is expected to increase considerably since the proportion of Canadians who require care is forecasted to double over the next three decades. This upward trend is troubling given the extensive commitment of time, financial resources, psycho-emotional and physical investment that is required of caregivers. With respect to time commitment, it was found that 74% of caregivers spent under ten hours on caregiving duties per week, while 16% provided between 10 to 29 hours of care (Fast, 2015). With an increase in intensity of care, a greater impact is had on the caregiver's health. Therefore, caregivers experience higher than normal levels of stress. This includes depression, exhaustion, anxiety, guilt, and physical health issues. Stress on the caregiver can lead to mental, physical, emotional, and financial health costs (Turcotte, 2013). We must pay attention to the cost they are paying -their physical and mental health, and their quality of life in particular (Stall, 2019). My recent study in Toronto found that there are severe shortages of professional caregivers at long-term care facilities. This presentation will share how family caregivers took early retirement and/or find special arrangement in order to attend the needs of their elders, and family caregiving burden is particularly heavy on women. It shows that when adding informal caregivers' health and quality of life to their time off from work, the overall cost of informal caregiving is impossible to estimate.

Author(s): *Weizhen Dong, University of Waterloo*

#### 2. Who Cares for the Caregiver? Health and Well-being among Aging Caregivers

Increased life expectancy and overall aging of the population have led to a need for informal caregiving as the responsibility of care continues to shift from formal institutions to individuals and families within the community (Gee 2002). Over the last few decades, the rise in informal caregiving has prompted research on the relationship between informal care and caregiver health and well-being. Often, research demonstrates that informal caregiving can have negative consequences on caregiver health. There has been a particular focus on middle aged, 'sandwiched caregivers' as they must balance child rearing, employment, and informal care for an aging parent. More research is needed on senior caregivers as they comprise over 10 percent of informal caregivers and are more likely to provide longer hours of care (Sihna 2012). Senior caregivers also face unique challenges as they must negotiate their own aging and health needs while providing care to someone else. Using mixed methods and

a Life Course perspective, this paper will highlight recent data analysis on senior caregivers and their health using the 2018 GSS -Caregiving and Care Receiving Survey Cycle 32 (StatsCan 2020). Regression analysis will test if senior and middle-aged caregivers differ in physical and mental health. Varying caregiving contexts such as relationship of caregiver to care receiver, length and intensity of care, care tasks performed, social supports drawn upon, and demographic variables will be considered to determine if and under what conditions caregiving has a significant impact on senior's health and well-being. Preliminary interviews with senior caregivers will help explain the data analysis by providing individual level examples of how seniors experience their own challenges and triumphs of aging and health while being responsible for the care of a loved one.

Author(s): *Samantha A. Skinner, Western University*

### **3. Do our Values Change Over Time? A Growth Curve Analysis of Values from Adolescence to Late Adulthood**

Values have long been held to be an important source of motivation and self understanding but the questions of how we come to hold certain values, how values differ between groups, or how (and if) values change over the course of our lives are not well understood. This research draws upon the longest running cohort study in Canada, the Class of '73, which follows a sample of Ontario high school students over 45 years from adolescence to an average age of 63. This longitudinal study examines the importance that they attach to a number of commonly held values at different phases of their lives. Through the use of growth curve modelling, we explore the extent to which values change over the life course. We also explore how and why these values differ between and within groups. Our findings suggest a stability of values over the course of the study, but extensive variation in values between the individuals in our sample. These early findings point to the importance of intergenerational processes as a source of values, namely that we come to value certain things over others as a result of value socialization, and this process varies as a function of both our personal background and ascriptive characteristics.

Author(s): *Paul Anisef, York University; Erika McDonald, York University*

### **4. Housing Concerns of Older Seniors in Medium Size Cities of Ontario**

Population of seniors (65+) is expected to grow in Ontario from 14.3 million in 2018 to 19.8 million in 2046 (OMF, 2019). Ageing comfortably in their own community demands appropriate housing and other support for seniors. This study aims to understand housing concerns of older seniors living in mid-sized cities of Ontario, with special focus on Greater Sudbury. Data for this study are taken from the Canadian Income Survey (CIS) 2017, a qualitative study of older seniors (80+) in Sudbury conducted in 2018-19, and Seniors' Summit organized by the City of Greater Sudbury in 2019. According to CIS, 6% of the older seniors in mid-sized cities in Ontario live below poverty line, 13% live in dwellings that have core housing need and 7% in residences that are not suitable for living. In Sudbury, older seniors feel that the city lacks affordable housing; retirement homes have a long waitlist, government run homes lack resources and private homes are too expensive. Sudbury is developing a seniors' strategy by bringing together various stake holders. Through community discussion city plans to develop an 'age friendly city' with special group homes for seniors, shared housing, and tax reduction for seniors living in their own home. The present study aims to examine income and housing related issues of older seniors and looks for feasible solutions to the existing housing problems.

Author(s): *Parveen Nangia, Laurentian University; Kelly Gingrich, University of Toronto*

### **5. Using Arts-Making and Exhibiting to Cultivate Artful Interactions and Pedagogic Spaces in Long-Term Care**

This presentation shares results from an interpretive analysis of in-depth interviews with leaders in disability and dementia arts in long-term care that were conducted as part of a collaborative, interdisciplinary arts-informed project that examines the meaning and praxis of quality mental health and dementia care. We discuss the following five themes as they relate to quality through creative arts making and public exhibiting within long-term care: spatiality of the exhibit, validation, fostering community, a means of engagement, vulnerability/resilience. Drawing on cultural sociology (Bourdieu, 1993, 1984) and aging studies theory (Basting, 2018), we consider how arts making and exhibiting contributes to definitions and experiences of the long-term care environment as a communicative, performative and pedagogic space. We conclude by reflecting on the implications for long-term care policy and practice.

Author(s): *Laura Blinn, St. Francis Xavier University; Katie Aubrecht, St. Francis Xavier University; Kelly O'Neil, St. Francis Xavier University; Marco Redden, Mount Saint Vincent University; Christine Kelly, University of Manitoba; Eliza Chandler, Ryerson University; Emily MacEachern, St. Francis Xavier University*

## Diasporic Reflections and Resistance in a Post-Colonial World I

Session Code: SOM3A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Migration

Contemporary diasporic activities/identities may serve as an effective platform from which to oppose postcolonial inequalities. This session includes theoretical and empirical papers which discuss the relationship between diasporic discrimination and resistance in Canada and abroad. Some papers investigate the ways in which diasporic groups are formed. Others explore how diasporas influence, or are influenced by race, gender, and class inequalities. Papers in the session discuss also the ways in which experiences of transnational migration and refugees' dislocation challenge modern assumptions of the nation-state. They demonstrate how the diasporic experience is exemplified in cultural and sociopolitical actions.

Organizer(s): *Rina Cohen, York University; Tahseen Shams, University of Toronto*

Presentations:

### 1. Transnational Blackness, Indigeneity, and Solidarity

This paper is concerned with experiences of blackness, Indigeneity and solidarity in the inner-city suburbs of Sydney, Australia. The author, an Indigenous Ethiopian woman and migrant to Australia from the United States, examines the nexus of blackness and Indigeneity by relaying examples of solidarity between African-Americans, Black immigrants and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Examining the expanding relations between Indigenous to elsewhere and Black people in Australia, experiences of colonialism, dispossession and diaspora illuminate shared recognition amongst black identified people. As an African-American queer woman, the author embarks upon an examination of blackness and Indigeneity in transnational Black Power movements. There is a shared history of Civil Rights and Black Power movements between the USA and Australia. This connection continues in current links between contemporary activist movements such as Black Lives Matter and abolitionism. The author explores being Black, Indigenous, and an immigrant in Australia. She asks: What does it mean to be Black and Indigenous, on your own land or elsewhere? What is the potential for global solidarity? And how can the links between Black and land-based activism be strengthened?

Author(s): *Sarah Demekech Graham, University of Sydney*

### 2. The Politics of Genocide: Analyzing Collective Memory through Armenian Grassroots Activism in Canada and the United States

Memory shapes diasporic groups in crucial ways as it allows individuals to understand the historical and political struggles of their communities. I argue in this paper that Armenian interest groups have utilized powerful strategies to shape the memory of the Armenian genocide in Canadian and American public and policy-making communities. My research analyzes two prominent Armenian-American interest groups: the Armenian National Committee of America (ANCA) and the Armenian Assembly of America (AAA), as well as one prominent Armenian-Canadian interest group: the Armenian National Committee of Canada (ANCC). Drawing on qualitative analysis of websites, position papers, newspapers, and congressional action alerts, this paper examines different lobbying methods used by the three interest groups in shaping the memory of the Armenian genocide in Canada and the US during the 2004-2018 period. The analysis relies on Milton J. Esman's theoretical framework on ethnic mobilization in order to test the hypothesis that interest group strategies are essential components of shaping collective memory. The paper concludes that Armenian political and cultural social movements have influenced and continue to influence the collective memory of the Armenian genocide outside the Armenian state.

Author(s): *Ani Yedigaryan, York University*

### 3. The Refusal to be Silenced: Canadian Tamils' Contested Practices of Plural Nationalism and Participation on the Streets of Toronto

The often messy circumstances of leaving, moving, and arriving, the process Appadurai (1996) identifies as deterritorialization, disturbs existing forms of being. This cultural politics of deterritorialization produces plural patriotism as national allegiances dispersed across the globe re-combine with other narratives and pose a problem to the singular Western colonial conceptions of nationhood (Appadurai, 1996). In the spring of 2009, the diasporic Tamil community witnessed in shock the violent end of a twenty-five-year nationalist struggle for a separate Tamil



homeland in Sri Lanka. During the height of the final months of the violent conflict there were countless reports of human casualty and significant concerns over human rights violations that were largely ignored by the mainstream media. As a result, the large Tamil diasporic community came together to hold regular mass protests and demonstrations in the Toronto's downtown streets and across the world. The demands of the Tamil community to be heard from a plural nationalist position tested Canada's discourses of multiculturalism and civic engagement. The paper examines the case of the Toronto Tamil's plural nationalist participation alongside the concept of global multiculturalism and draws attention to the importance of understanding the construction of localities from a global perspective. I emphasize Nederveen Pieterse's (2007) and others' argument that conflict is global and cannot be governed within the borders of the nation. The Tamil community refused the Othering practices activated by mainstream institutions and pushed for the acceptance of complex plural nationalist identities and understanding of global violence as also being local issues to be engaged with critical openness.

Author(s): *Maria Bernard, York University*

#### **4. The Anglicization of Names Amongst the 2nd Generation of Sri Lankan Canadian Tamils in Toronto: An Autoethnographic Inquiry**

The formation of a diasporic identity is unique and possesses the ability to oppose postcolonial inequalities. These forms of resistance can enable diasporic communities to negotiate their belonging. A simple example of resistance comes from my experience in opposing the anglicization of my own ethnic name. This paper presents an autoethnographic analysis of experiences related to the Anglicization of my name as well as those whom I have encountered within the Sri Lankan Tamil community in Toronto. Through an in-depth analysis of articles related to the historical Anglicization of immigrant names as well as an analysis of the autoethnographic piece, I argue that the Anglicization of Tamils names amongst the 2nd generation of Sri Lankan Tamils living in Toronto is due to an internalization of deficiency in their name (Y. Guo, 2015) and is done to maintain one's habitus. This deficiency internalization is experienced through socialization in various social fields such as academia and the labour market where it can be understood that members of the 2nd generation, as well as immigrants in general, are taught early on that their cultural dispositions are inferior (S. Guo, 2015, p.11). These will be explored in greater depth throughout this study.

Author(s): *Archana Sivakumaran, York University*

#### **5. Perceptions of Discrimination Across Immigrant Generations: Variation by Education**

In high immigrant destinations like Canada, immigrants play a fundamental role in the country's demography. Since the latter half of the 20th Century, as changes in Canadian immigration policy led to a growing immigrant population originating from Asian countries, the percent of visible minorities has grown dramatically. Despite efforts by the federal government to embrace the increasingly diverse Canadian population, discrimination based on ethnicity, culture, and visible minority status remains a pressing concern. Discrimination exacts a heavy toll on visible minorities, as experiencing discrimination is not only associated with a number of negative health outcomes, such as emotional/behavioral problems and psychological distress, but the experience also contributes to the "othering" of visible minorities who can feel relegated to "perpetual foreigner" status. These effects can continue for multiple generations, despite immigrants and visible minorities achieving upward mobility and high levels of social integration. In this paper, we examine how the perceptions of discrimination across immigrant generation vary by educational attainment. Using the 2013 General Social Survey on Social Identity and Social Participation and regression methods, we find that among Canadian immigrants who are visible minorities, the perceptions of discrimination are higher among those with more education, regardless of immigrant generation. Whereas, less-educated immigrant's perceptions of discrimination vary by immigrant generation, with first-generation immigrants perceiving the least discrimination. These results suggest that while educational attainment can be a tool for upward mobility and social integration, in Canada, education may also be associated with a more acute awareness of the persistent discriminatory facets of Canadian society, or lead to new encounters with discrimination as educated visible minority immigrants navigate professional occupational structures that have historically been occupied by white Canadians.

Author(s): *Jonathan A. Jarvis, Brigham Young University*

## Diasporic Reflections and Resistance in a Post-Colonial World II

Session Code: SOM3B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Migration

Contemporary diasporic activities/identities may serve as an effective platform from which to oppose postcolonial inequalities. This session includes theoretical and empirical papers which discuss the relationship between diasporic discrimination and resistance in Canada and abroad. Some papers investigate the ways in which diasporic groups are formed. Others explore how diasporas influence, or are influenced by race, gender, and class inequalities. Papers in the session discuss also the ways in which experiences of transnational migration and refugees' dislocation challenge modern assumptions of the nation-state. They demonstrate how the diasporic experience is exemplified in cultural and sociopolitical actions.

Organizer(s): *Rina Cohen, York University; Tahseen Shams, University of Toronto*

Presentations:

### **1. The Sisterhood of the Travelling Hijabs: A Question of Reactive Ethnicity in the Face of Islamophobia for Second Generation Muslim Women in Quebec**

Muslim women in Quebec face gendered Islamophobia through a secularizing discourse that deems their veiled bodies as oppressed and Othered (Selby 2014). Drawing on 23 interviews with Muslim women who wear and who do not wear hijab, I illustrate how second generation university women, in reaction to the negative racialization they experience, turn to the Muslim Student Association (MSA) for community and support. In contrast to the original conceptualization of reactive ethnicity (Portes and Rumbaut 2001) whereby racialized ethnic minorities turn inwards to their community for support, Muslim women part of the MSA turn outwards, which I argue works to form a pan-ethnic hijabi sisterhood. From this, I find that the pan-ethnic sisterhood creates what I call a subculture of positive affirmation, which works to mutually support each other's decision to wear hijab and create a positive lifestyle around their hijabs. From within the MSA, hijab and non-hijab wearers alike use Western values of individualism, freedom of choice and feminism to describe their hijabs. This subculture of celebrating hijab serves to juxtapose the negative stereotypes associated with their Muslim identities. I conclude with how the concept of 'reactive ethnicity' can be extended to 'reactive identity' when accounting for the role of organizational spaces in fostering a collective reactive identity outside of ethnic grouping.

Author(s): *Jessica Stallone, University of Toronto*

### **2. "An Exploration of Gendered Discourses: Veiling and Unveiling in Western Muslim Diasporas"**

This article explores the gendered and racialized dimensions of veiling in the West. It offers important insights into the multifaceted and complex narratives of Muslim women's veiling and unveiling practices and critically examines representations of the veil in feminist literature in order to interrupt western absolutist ways of thinking about Muslim women's identities and experiences. I examine interdisciplinary literature about gender performance and Muslim women to challenge Western misrepresentations of Islam and to create new possibilities for thinking critically about the homogeneity of thought that currently surrounds Muslim women, levels their intersectional experiences, and diminishes their agency. This paper highlights the ways in which some Muslim women practice the veil as a form of resistance against White imperialist and colonialist discourse. However, an analysis of these women's narratives also illuminates the under-representation of unveiled Muslim women with respect to how they navigate belonging in Muslim communities and in the West.

Author(s): *Dhouha Triki, York University*

### **3. "Cut Your Turban Off To Look Like A Canadian" : A Case Study of South Asian Participation in the 43rd Federal Election of Canada**

The increasing success of Desi candidates in Federal elections has contributed to a narrative that South Asians are not subjected to inequalities in Canada, which is fundamentally untrue. This paper presents a case study of South Asian participation in the 43rd Federal election of Canada, in order to determine the extent to which Desi diasporic candidates can participate in electoral politics. More specifically, it examines the ability of South Asian candidates to win a seat, the amount of support a candidate receives in relation to their expression of ethnic identity, as well as the strategic performance of candidates' plural identities. Through this examination, it is argued

that the electoral success of South Asian candidates is contingent upon their ability to assimilate to Western-normative scripts, in order to prove their loyalty to Canada and thereby achieve substantive citizenship. It is further argued that awarding substantive citizenship to South Asians who best reproduce Eurocentric narratives is a political strategy utilized to - intentionally or otherwise - maintain the exclusion of Desis from the Canadian imagined community. Ultimately, this paper demonstrates that the electoral success of Desi diaspora is determined by colonial structures, which continue to exclude the authentic performance of South Asian identity unless it can be exploited (i.e. used as a political strategy) to win a seat in demographically representative constituencies. The findings of this paper call to question the integration of South Asian immigrants in contemporary Canadian society.

Author(s): *Sonali Patel, University of Ottawa*

#### **4. Resisting anti-Black Racism and Colonialism: The role of diaspora communities in redressing charged identity questions**

Contemporary migrants live dual and multiple lives either as individuals or diasporic communities that they create through transnational migration activities. Although Refugees equally engage in such initiatives, only few studies focus on this population and the impacts of transnational migration on them. However, the social and cultural capital, both during and after migration, of forced migrants may differ from that of other categories of migrants. Therefore, this paper analyses how transnationalism enables refugees to contest anti-Black racism and colonialism in the form of structural barriers and inequalities that hinder their identification and sense of belonging to Canada. In particular, they are asked the charged identity question "Where do you come from?" that pushes them outside the spaces of belongingness. Using 26 in-depth qualitative interviews conducted with South Sudanese refugees in Alberta, and transnational migration framework and critical race theory, we posit that South Sudanese refugees are actively and regularly engaging in transnational activities. By belonging to transnational communities they were able to construct unique multiple identities - South Sudanese and Canadian affiliations - enabling them to decolonize dominant identity construction and associated anti-Black racism to better integrate into the Canadian society.

Author(s): *Amal Madibbo, University of Calgary; Mabel Teyekau, University of Calgary*

### **Assembling Differential Inclusion through Immigration**

Session Code: SOM4

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Migration

This panel features papers that examine how the differential inclusion of noncitizens is assembled through precarious legal status trajectories and pathways in Canada, with a focus on people who arrive in Canada without permanent residence. The overarching concern is with theorizing social inequality through the lens of differential inclusion in the realm of immigration related policies.

Organizer(s): *Luin Goldring, York University*

Presentations:

#### **1. Women's Negotiations over Citizenship rights in Mixed Status Families in Canada: the case of Iranian and Afghan women**

This study brings into conversation the scholarship on non-citizenship with the literature on gender and migration by considering how non-citizenship, a dynamic, relational process (Blomeraad 2018; Landolt and Goldring 2015), interacts with gender to shape immigrant women's inclusion in Canada. The paper specifically asks, what are the gendered negotiations that precarious non-citizen women engage in, with multiple actors (including other family members, service providers, and employers), over securing presence in Canada? And what are the gendered negotiations they engage in with other family members over the division of paid and unpaid work in the home, at the work place, and in the community? My analysis draws from semi-structured, in-depth interviews with 40 precarious non-citizen Iranian and Afghan women who have immigrated to Canada within the past three years and are members of mixed status families. I conceptualize the mixed status family as a site consisting of tensions and solidarities through which migrants can negotiate rights yet also experience constraints (Luibheid, et al., 2018;

Rodriguez, 2016; Schueths 2012). The study shows how members of mixed status families engage in negotiations and develop strategies, sometimes as individuals in conflict with one another and sometimes as a unit, to access citizenship rights including the right to work. My interviewees have moved between a range of precarious legal status trajectories throughout their lives in Canada (as sponsored spouses, tourist visa over stayers, international students, asylum seekers, and on work permits). The study shows how gender relations intersect with a gradation of (non)citizenship to shape conditions of access and presence for immigrant women in Canada.

Author(s): *Bahar Hashemi, University of Toronto*

## **2. Differential Inclusion of Asylum Seekers: The cases of Italy and Turkey**

This paper provides an empirically grounded analysis of differential inclusion of asylum seekers, refugees, and undocumented migrants using Turkey and Italy as case studies. It argues the asylum and migration law serve as the main instrument in differential inclusion of non-citizens and benefit capitalist economies by creating a vulnerable precarious working class consisting of refugees, asylum seekers, and undocumented migrants. The legal regulation of rights and access to residency, work, social assistance, health care, and education represents a significant sphere of differentiation and stratification in the society. By granting varying degrees of rights for immigrants, refugees, temporary protected (asylum seekers or guests), or undocumented migrants; the law segments the foreign population within its borders and places each group in the social hierarchy system, the undocumented having the least power and filling the lowest positions. An analysis of Italian and Turkish immigration law and experiences of asylum seekers showed that the legal framework in those countries create high levels of vulnerability and precarity by entitling asylum seekers and refugees to none-to-limited rights, instead of the rights designated by the 1951 Geneva Convention.

Author(s): *Secil E. Ertorer, Canisius College; Anita Butera, Canisius College*

## **3. A Differential Inclusion/Exclusion Approach to the Economic Incorporation of Racialized Temporary Migrant Workers**

In Canada, temporary migrant workers (TMWs) are an integral part of the labour market. Since 1996, the number of migrant workers increased from 52,000 to 310,000 in 2015 (Statistics Canada 2018). The growing number of TMWs in Canada is relevant to discussions around migration, labour market, and settlement policies in the country. Temporary migrant workers are incorporated into various aspects of the social and institutional spheres of the host countries despite a lack of formal citizenship. The goal of this presentation is two-fold. First, using the 2016 Census, I will highlight how racialized temporary migrant workers are more vulnerable to lower economic outcomes compared to their non-racialized counterparts. Second, to highlight the importance of a differential inclusion/exclusion approach to the economic incorporation of migrants. This framework captures the “varying degrees of subordination, rule, discrimination, and segmentation” experience of migrants in the receiving country (Mezzadra and Neilson 2013:159). It allows us to examine how legal status intersects with other social locations to shape the labour market experience of migrants. In particular, differential inclusion/exclusion allows us to examine how legal status and race intersect to shape the precarious experience of racialized migrant workers in the Canadian labour market.

Author(s): *Jana Borrás, York University*

## **Refugee and Immigrant Women in Canada: Post-resettlement challenges**

Session Code: SOM5

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Migration

Refugee and immigrant women's resettlement in Canada is far from being an easy process. From language barriers and unemployment to health-related issues and discrimination, these post-migration challenges hinder women's integration process into the host society and can trickle down onto other members in the family. This session examines the different issues that newcomer women face after moving to Canada.

Organizer(s): *Laila Omar, University of Toronto*

Presentations:

### **1. The Fragile Obligation: Gratitude, Discontent, and Dissent with Syrian Refugees in Canada**

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Since November 2015, 60,000 Syrian refugees have been resettled in Canada, and while findings from English-language research with Canadian actors (e.g. private citizen-sponsors) have begun to disseminate, less is known about this cohort of Syrian newcomers' early experiences. Drawing on interviews in Arabic with 41 Syrian mothers in the first 0-6 months following their landing, we present and analyse Syrian mothers' simultaneous expressions of gratitude, discontent, and dissent in the initial phase of resettlement in Canada. Such multiplex expressions point to a "fragile obligation" beneath refugee-host relations, which we argue are shaped in part by Canada's unique position in the current field of refugee sponsorship. Although the "gift of freedom" and resultant "refugee nationalism" theorized from the case of Vietnamese in the U.S. hold explanatory power for our case, Syrians in present-day Canada contend with (1) a different set of imperial and military relations structuring the conditions of their forced migration, and (2) the contradictions and failures of 50 years of official multicultural policy and liberal humanitarianism in a still-overwhelmingly settler-colonial host country. In this way, refugee mothers resettled in Canada express not only gratitude but also concern, disappointment, and critique in early days, suggesting room for further theorization in the area of refugee studies, especially vis-a-vis theories generated from the dominant European and U.S. cases.

Author(s): *Maleeha Iqbal, University of Toronto; Laila Omar, University of Toronto; Neda Maghbouleh, University of Toronto*

### **2. Iranian Muslim women in Canada: Experiences and challenges**

When discussing Muslim diaspora, it is limiting to assume there is one overarching Muslim experience. Muslim identity is racially and ethnically diverse. The Muslim diaspora entails people from different global regions and different socio-cultural backgrounds. In this paper, I am revisiting the experience of the Iranian Muslim community with the focus on the experience of Iranian women, who publicly practice their religious identity. Iranian Muslim women are fragile and isolated because their religious beliefs lack acceptability from the host society and their diasporic community. The Iranian women who choose to practice Islam publicly by wearing the hijab become segregated and alienated. These women encounter aggression from the dominant host nation and their Iranian diasporic community. The hijabed Iranian Muslim women experience sexual harassment, verbal abuse, and damage to their properties by the members of their ethnic group. They also experience the host nation's direct and indirect Islamophobia, which limits their sense of citizenship and national belonging in Canadian society. This paper will explore and analyze the experience of Iranian Muslim women and their challenges in Canada. The paper further explores the challenges of agency and belonging for Iranian Muslim women, when their experience is challenged and limited both historically and environmentally.

Author(s): *Shirin Khayambashi, McMaster University*

### **3. Refugee and Immigrant Women: Prior and Post Migration Emotions**

Many factors hinder immigrant and refugee women's adjustment and resettlement into new homes. In this paper I highlight one such factor: women's emotional state pre- and post-migration. I discuss how women's post-migration emotional state impacts their mental and physical health and can become a barrier against their integration process. Through personal narratives from recently-conducted interviews with Syrian newcomer mothers in the GTA (n=49), I highlight some of the emotions that influence their post-migration adjustment, with special attention to shame as a strong influence upon migrant women's integration. I make a distinction between immigrant and refugee women's sense of shame that brings forth different post-migration challenges for each group. I recommend the importance of emotional learning for refugee and immigrant women through which overwhelming feelings of shame and other related emotions, like fear, guilt, and longing, can become a reflective force for a smoother integration into the host country.

Author(s): *Rula Kahil, University of Toronto*

## **Embodied Migration I**

Session Code: SOM6A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Migration

Migration is fundamentally about the movement of physical bodies of people, yet most research on or about migration has largely overlooked the body and embodied experiences of moving across borders. The body as a site and medium through which of societal regulation as well as cultural ideas are embodied, is crucial to better

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understand migration patterns and processes. Studies of migration needs to consider how bodily experiences of move, mobility, and migration shape settlement, adaptation, integration, return, assimilation, pluralism, multiculturalism, transnationalism, cosmopolitanism, etc. This session addresses the question: How do the nation state, race and ethnicity, religion, and economy embody or disembody in the migration processes?

Organizer(s): *Jing Zhao, University of British Columbia; Cary Wu, York University*

Presentations:

### **1. Cosmopolitanism from Below: Analyzing the Community of Racialized Multi-Ethnics**

Global cities represent the cosmopolitan metropolises of the future. They are jewels in the crowns of the nation-states to which they are only tenuously connected. These global cities are disproportionately home to racialized multi-ethnics, who are variously constructed as versatile, competent, exotic, and harbingers of a post-racial future. Canada's rural working class has been pushed off land and out of work, rendered a social and economic problem requiring salvation. The native-born urban working class is descending into a criminalized sub-proletariat, with developing school-to-prison pipelines and growing regimes of surveillance. In contrast, the zeitgeist surrounding Canadian multi-culturalism demands a collective embrace of multi-culturalism's embodiment: the racialized multi-ethnic Canadian. Implicit in the ethnically ambiguous visible minority is the embodiment of migration to the settler state. There is no clear home country, and no clear host country, not single ethnicity to put before the hyphen. Rather, for racialized multi-ethnics, the global city is the sole point of origin. Insofar as these global cities are the only thriving spaces in a nation entirely embedded in the global market, the imagined native of that imagined space becomes the only thriving identity in the working class. In this research, I theorize the racialized multi-ethnic as the literal embodiment of South-North migration, tied to the South as an idea, and hypervisible in the North as praxis. I question the ways in which "beige" people are constructed as conspicuously successful in comparison both to their ancestors' co-ethnics in the Global South and to their working-class counterparts in the Global North. I build theory on the embodiment of the racialized multi-ethnic as a physical symbolic justification for the violence of globalized markets in late capitalism and the resultant widespread coerced migration of the working class.

Author(s): *Natalie Delia Deckard, University of Windsor*

### **2. (No)Bodies: Migrant agricultural workers and disembodiment in Canada**

Each year, tens of thousands of migrant workers arrive in Canada via the Seasonal Agricultural Worker Program (SAWP) from Mexico and the English-speaking Caribbean. These workers provide the embodied labour that is essential to agriculture. Although farms depend on their embodied labour, the material conditions of employment deny their embodied experience. On Canadian farms they endure material working conditions, exempted from many employment provisions, that are unacceptable to most Canadians. For instance, their hours are long; they work outdoors in the heat and the cold; they have limited access to basic requirements such as food and bathrooms. The living conditions for SAWP workers in employer-provided housing are explicitly articulated (albeit as guidelines), but even these guidelines are indifferent to the workers' bodies, with, as examples, no limits on the maximum temperature in their housing and the use of well water for bathing that results in skin rashes. Through both their living and working conditions, SAWP workers -as precarious migrants -are denied embodiment.

Author(s): *Kristin Lozanski, King's University College at Western*

### **3. The consequences of childhood victimization: Will migrating away help?**

Childhood victimization often results in higher fear of crime, lower sense of belonging, higher perception of being unsafe, and lower general well-being. In response, victims are more likely to move away from the place where they were victimized. Nonetheless, no research has considered whether moving away will help minimize the negative effects of childhood victimization. Drawing on data from the Canadian General Social Survey (2014), in this article we compare the differences in a list of widely-discussed consequences of childhood victimization between victims who moved away and those who stayed. We find that moving away does not seem to help victims recover from their childhood trauma. Findings of this research suggest that childhood victimization has long-term consequences in shaping people's value orientations and social behaviors.

Author(s): *Cary Wu, York University; Jagdeep Heir, York University*



#### **4. How is migration lived and embodied by international students in Canada**

International students in post-secondary educational institutions are making up a large proportion of the student population in Canada, especially in some cosmopolitan cities against the backdrop of neo-liberalist society. Based on my own experiences as a graduate student and then an instructor in Canadian colleges and universities, I observe international students might encounter significant difficulties in a foreign countries, like language barriers, emotional loneliness, lack of supports, financial burdens. I wonder what the geographic migration from other countries to Canada means for international students and how do they embody it in multiple layers, paying particular attention to educational dimension. The embodied migration is lived by students on daily basis, rather than regarding them as prosaic experiences, I hope to understand them better by searching for renewed meanings. By investigating their stories and testing their stories, I hope to return to the conception of embodied, what does embodied migration do or undo to the students as they navigate through different cultural and societal paradigms. Author(s): *Ying Ma, University of British Columbia; Jing Zhao, University of British Columbia*

### **Embodied Migration II**

Session Code: SOM6B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Migration

Migration is fundamentally about the movement of physical bodies of people, yet most research on or about migration has largely overlooked the body and embodied experiences of moving across borders. The body as a site and medium through which of societal regulation as well as cultural ideas are embodied, is crucial to better understand migration patterns and processes. Studies of migration needs to consider how bodily experiences of move, mobility, and migration shape settlement, adaptation, integration, return, assimilation, pluralism, multiculturalism, transnationalism, cosmopolitanism, etc. This session addresses the question: How are migration processes embodied in physical bodies, material resources, cultural identities, and social relationships?

Organizer(s): *Jing Zhao, University of British Columbia; Cary Wu, York University*

Presentations:

#### **1. Two forms of oppression at the same time: Female Syrian refugees in Turkey**

Turkey has been hosting a largest number of Syrian refugees from different religions and ethnicities all over the world since 2011. Our field research reveals that Syrian refugees experience the whole process on different scales. Within the scope of our study, 35 in-depth interviews were conducted with 15 female and 20 male refugees who are above 18 years old in five different provinces. To our initial results, first, female refugees' sense of belonging to their homeland is stronger than male ones; second, male refugees' access to livelihood opportunities and outside world is easier than female ones. Both initial results and more indicate that the willingness of refugee women to participate in social life is quite regional and directly linked to their cultural and religious backgrounds as well as environmental conditions. In this sense, it can easily be emphasized that refugees' bodily movements and appearance differ from small provinces to metropolitan ones. Male refugees come out actors of social life as breadwinners whereas female refugees appear as aid receivers. Our field research demonstrates these initial results in a broad range of theoretical discussions and key concepts by presenting an analysis of issues like adaptation, integration and multiculturalism.

Author(s): *Merve Ergenç, Association for Solidarity with Asylum Seekers and Migrants; Cengiz Yilmaz, Association for Solidarity with Asylum Seekers and Migrants*

#### **2. Embodiment, Masculinity, and Caste-visibility in Transnational Spaces**

This paper is part of my ongoing dissertation research in which I study transitioning masculinities of young Punjabi men -belonging to a "higher" caste called Jat -as they migrate from India to Canada. Jats are traditionally farmers and landowners in Punjab, a north-Indian state. The context of body and embodiment is particularly significant in studying contemporary Jat masculinities. In this paper, through in-depth interviews with 22 young Jat men from Punjab currently living in Brampton, Ontario, I explore how and why Jat men's physical bodies and behavioral and material identity expressions are important to masculine constructions of self and how do the material identity expressions figure in transnational spaces or spaces that render their caste-identity invisible.

Young men, as they navigate such spaces, might develop the notion that Jat identity and masculinity is threatened by this ambiguity and they might take remedial measures to fix the same -which includes operationalizing their bodies in an attempt to make their identity deliberately visible. Given that visibility of caste association or Jat identity to others is crucial for the maintenance and reification of contemporary hegemonic Jat masculinity, transnational spaces become the spaces where Jat male body plays a significant role, as it becomes the most important and visible medium in displaying the Jat identity. In the absence of masculinized spaces and explicit Jat identity markers, men use their bodies (plus other possessions) to convey to others of their caste association and status, for example, tattoos on their bodies (such as their surnames indicating their caste identity); unique moustache and beard styles; body-building; sometimes rural attire; surnames on their vehicles and so on.

Author(s): *Navjotpal Kaur, Memorial University*

### **3. “Sitting the Month” in Canada: Bodily Practice and Immigrant Experience**

How do immigrants reconstruct deeply embodied cultural practices in their new homes, locations that may lack to cultural scaffolding and material infrastructure to support valued cultural practices? The experiences of Chinese immigrant mothers performing “zuo yuezi” (“sitting the month”), a postpartum recovery period for new mothers, is an example of a deeply valued, embodied cultural practice that newcomers bring to Canada. Drawing upon interviews with Chinese immigrant mothers in the Vancouver area, we demonstrate the complexities of performing zuo yuezi in Canada. Although characterized by great diversity, almost all women we interviewed practiced zuo yuezi in some form, mobilizing transnational caregiving relations, drawing upon transnational information sources and flows, and tapping into more local, ethnic-community based social networks to prepare for and carry out a satisfactory zuo yuezi experience. Zuo yuezi provides an example where the body - care for the body, ideas about the body, and bodily experiences - is a key element of immigrant settlement and experience.

Author(s): *Amy Hanser, University of British Columbia*

### **4. I Belong In Two Worlds But I'm A Stranger to Both: Female Marriage Migrants And Their Struggle to Find Home**

This research project examines the integration experiences of female marriage migrants in Germany. Based on ethnographic research and semi-structured interviews with ten American women whose migration to Germany was a result of their marriage relationship with a German spouse, this research adds to our understanding of how this unique class of migrants navigates migration, integration and marriage while struggling for a sense of belonging and feeling at home in their new country. Taking a feminist perspective and grounding my research in Standpoint Theory, this project finds that citizenship, race, position within intercultural marriage and immigration status create a unique experience for American women living as marriage migrants in Germany. These women suffered with a great emotional difficulty in developing a sense of belonging and feeling at home, even while having a local spouse and local children born and raised in Germany. As White American women in Germany, their racial categorization typically allows them the privilege of not standing out as obvious newcomers in their daily life, while their American citizenship means that they are exempt from otherwise mandatory language and integration training that is required of nearly all other immigrants. The privileges experienced due to their citizenship and race create unique immigration experiences where women felt permanent outsiders, never truly fitting in with locals neither migrants from other countries. Struggling to fit in in Germany, while leaving behind aspects of their native culture, leaves these migrants to exist in a lonely space in between cultures and nations. Overall, this research highlights the integration experiences that female immigrants and mothers face as they negotiate integration and parenting with a foreign spouse, the importance of language in immigration integration and the significance impact of and the emotional struggle to find a sense of belonging as immigrant newcomers.

Author(s): *Sharlie Eicker, Langara College*

## **Internal Migration: Causes, Patterns, and Consequences**

Session Code: SOM7

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Migration

Although migration within a country is not as dramatic as cross-border immigration, it is an important life event that has various personal and social ramifications. There is also much more domestic migration than international immigration overall. This session attempts to examine the patterns and ramifications of internal migration from a

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sociological or multidisciplinary perspective. Specifically, it will investigate what factors shape individuals' migrating intentions and destinations, how migration impacts individuals' lives and health, and how internal migration shapes and changes a society overall. This session covers internal migration in both Canada and other countries.

Organizer(s): *Min Zhou, University of Victoria*

Presentations:

### **1. Job Satisfaction, Priorities, and Migration Intentions in Atlantic Canada**

This paper tests correlations between how satisfied people are with different aspects of their jobs, how important different aspects of work are to them (e.g., income, commute time, challenge), and whether or not they envision leaving their communities in the future. Using data from an original survey of over 1200 Atlantic Canadians in rural, urban and suburban communities conducted in Spring 2019, we ask if there are links between job attributes and migration intentions, and whether other factors, such as education, gender, age and so on, affect these links. Our analysis helps deepen understandings of what constitutes good work, and how more subjective dimensions of job quality (not just employment rates) might impact internal migration, and rural outmigration in particular.

Author(s): *Karen Foster, Dalhousie University; Rachel McLay, Dalhousie University*

### **2. Childhood Victimization and internal migration in Canada**

A growing body of literature has highlighted the importance of taking a life course perspective in understanding why people migrate. In this article, we consider how childhood victimization might affect internal migration among Canadians and why. Analyzing data from Canadian General Social Survey (2014), we generate three main findings. First, childhood victimization significantly increases the odds of moving away from home province. Second, while there is no significant difference in the effect between sexual and physical abuse, type of abuser matters, and parental victimization during childhood has the strongest effect. Third, childhood victimization leads to higher fear of crime, lower sense of belonging, higher perception of being unsafe, lower general well-being, but these factors explain little away the effect of childhood victimization on emigration. The findings of this research demonstrate that people's migratory behavior is deeply rooted in their life course. Future research can explore further the specific processes that underlie the long-term impact of childhood victimization on emigration.

Author(s): *Cary Wu, York University; Jagdeep Heir, York University*

### **3. The Rainy Challenge in Rohingya Refugee Camp: A Crisis in Water and Sanitation**

The Rohingya of Myanmar are a severely persecuted minority group of stateless people; a million of them took refuge in southeastern Bangladesh in order to protect themselves from ethnic cleansing. Even though much progress has been made in the provisioning of water sanitation and hygiene services to the large influx of Rohingya refugees, quite a few crucial challenges persist. Poor quality of water source, required alteration of water sources or latrines, finding suitable land for solid waste management and the growing pressure to provide WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) services to the host and arriving refugees are notable consideration. Together with the advent of rainy season, the ongoing challenges in safe water, sanitation and hygiene raise the real possibility of a resurgence of severe acute waterborne diseases which are endemic in Bangladesh. This ethnographic study aims to examine the overall condition of water sources and latrine systems and its management; as well as how and in what magnitude the upcoming monsoon season poses threat for the contamination of waterborne diseases to the susceptible Rohingya refugees in Ukhia. In addition, this study wants to evaluate the preparedness taken in the Rohingya camps for WASH services by authority in the preceding year (2019) of monsoon. This study intends to explore the subjective experiences of the Rohingya refugees who face difficulties in accessing safe water sources or latrine systems. It also aims to understand that in what manner they are preparing themselves for the upcoming (2020) monsoon season to cope with the challenges. Furthermore, the present study accentuates the importance to carry out more researches on the health state of Rohingya with a special reference to WASH and waterborne diseases exclusively in the approaching monsoon season in Bangladesh.

Author(s): *Saba Nuzhat, Eastern University, Bangladesh*

### **4. Fertility Intentions of Having a Second Child among the Floating Population in China: Effects of Socioeconomic Factors and Home Ownership**

The adoption of the universal two-child policy in late 2015, replacing the one-child policy, signals a dramatic shift in China's fertility policy. The 2016 Migrant Dynamics Monitoring Survey (MDMS) provides a nationally

representative dataset that enables us to reveal, for the first time, the socioeconomic correlates of fertility intentions of having a second child among China's large migrant population. Using a multilevel analytical framework, we find that male, younger, and more affluent migrants, those from minority ethnic groups, individuals migrating from rural areas, those whose first child is a girl, those at 5 years after having the first child, and migrants living in economically less developed cities are more likely to express the intention to have a second child. Moreover, our study establishes a correlation between home ownership and fertility intentions. Migrants who own their own home in the destination city express lower intentions to have a second child, compared with those who are renting. We suggest a proposition about this counterintuitive relationship between home ownership and lower fertility intentions: home ownership and childbearing compete for the limited financial resources of migrants who are socioeconomically disadvantaged in China.

Author(s): *Min Zhou, University of Victoria; Wei Guo, Nanjing University*

## Immigrant integration: From national policies to local practices

Session Code: SOM8A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Migration

Immigrant integration includes a dual interaction between top-down policies and bottom-up practices. This session explores 1) how various national policies might affect immigrant and refugee integration and 2) how local practices might shape the integration experiences among immigrants and refugees.

Organizer(s): *Cary Wu, York University*

Presentations:

### **1. From adaptability to vulnerability: Did changes in admission criteria affect resettled refugees' participation in Social Assistance in Canada?**

With the introduction of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (IRPA) in 2002, Canada shifted its admission criteria of resettled refugees from their ability to successfully adapt in the host country to their need for protection. As a result, those considered vulnerable are rarely refused entry, and the share of refugees with limited human capital has increased. However, few studies examine the IRPA's long-term impact on the economic self-sufficiency of resettled refugees. Using data from the Longitudinal Immigration Database, this paper compares rates of social assistance for Government-Assisted Refugees (GARs) and Privately Sponsored Refugees (PSRs) from three arrival cohorts: those admitted pre-IRPA (2000-2001); those admitted during the transition period (2002-2003); and those admitted post-IRPA (2004-2010). The results from our linear probability models indicate post-IRPA GARs in particular evidence notably higher rates of social assistance than their pre-IRPA counterparts three to six years after arrival, explained mostly by their post-migration labour market characteristics. After 10 years, however, the gap diminishes. These findings suggest while post-IRPA GARs may require more assistance during the early to mid-stages of resettlement, prioritizing humanitarian goals in refugee admission does not negatively impact the long-term self-sufficiency and economic integration of resettled refugees.

Author(s): *Max Stick, McMaster University; Lisa Kaida, McMaster University; Feng Hou, Statistics Canada*

### **2. Integration as a Two-Way Process between National Identities and Policies: The Case of Canada**

In the face of increasing diversities, the initial scholarly debates around the tension between national identities and social integration underlined the enduring cultural legacies of nationalism in shaping diversity-management national policies. Accordingly, nationalisms would lead to a limited set of integration policies compatible with national identities. Such arguments, however, were more capable of explaining continuity rather than the emergence of policies that, at first look, might be contradictory to national identities. A second, more recent line of scholarly work has turned the argument around by reading the national policies of integration is symptomatic of national identities. Rooted in political theory, this line of work has, understandably, turned prescriptive rather than analytical. To address the progressives' dilemma of nationalism versus social justice, these scholars underline the success of liberal and multicultural policies, thus indications of liberal or multicultural national identities, in managing diversity and argue for further government-implemented policies in expanding liberal multicultural national identities. Considering that policies are interpretations of institutional and cultural repertoire by policy-makers and that policies can change quite rapidly over time, we propose two lines of criticism to this literature: 1 - In reading national identities through policies, which set of policies we must choose as symptomatic of

nationalisms? For instance, in Canada, both the Multiculturalism Act and the Indian Act are in effect. Which one of these policies represents the Canadian nationalism? 2- Does the seeming convergence of national policies on minority integration towards liberal values indicate that nationalisms in various countries are also converging under liberal multicultural identities? Instead of the one-way relation between national identities and policies of integration, assumed by both groups of scholars, we argue that there is a two-way relation between nationalism and policies of diversity management. Similar to the first group, we emphasize the continuity and weight of national identities over policies, but also the impact of policies in transforming national identities, albeit limited.

Author(s): *Aryan Karimi, University of British Columbia; Rima Wilkes, University of British Columbia*

### **3. Deconstructing Citizenship and Belonging: Refugee Student Integration in Ontario Schools**

A global record of 71 million people were displaced by war, oppression and climate change in 2018, the vast majority originating from Afghanistan, Syria, Somalia, South Sudan and Myanmar (UNHCR, 2018). Canada resettled more refugees than any other country in 2018, resettling some 28,100 of 92,400 refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) granted asylum among 25 countries (CBC, 2018). While narratives that depict Ontario as a safe haven of social cohesion, diversity, equity and inclusion, significant barriers continue to bar access to resources such as housing, education and employment among racialized bodies (Colour of Poverty, 2019). Although the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) is a top destination for refugees and IDPs, there is a lack of extant literature pertaining toward refugee student integration into the Ontario education system. Current studies posit that the Ontario education system is ill-prepared to respond to and support refugee and IDPs student transitions (Ratkovic, et al., 2017). Moreover, education policies in the province do not address the unique challenges encountered by refugee and IDPs students arriving in Ontario's publicly-funded schools. This research is grounded in Critical Race Theory and RefugeeCrit theoretical frameworks in order to understand the specific barriers and microaggressions refugee students face when transitioning into Ontario schools by peers, teachers and administrators alike. Furthermore, the paper situates culturally responsive approaches to mental health and social work resources that dismantle Eurocentric pathologizing epistemologies of wellness.

Author(s): *Zuhra Abawi, Niagara University Ontario; Alana Butler, Queen's University*

### **4. Lessons from the Local: Social Innovation in Rural Refugee Resettlement**

In this paper, we explore rural refugee resettlement in North Eastern Nova Scotia and Cape Breton where several faith-based and community groups used Canada's Private Sponsorship of Refugee (PSR) program to respond to the Syrian refugee crisis. Since 2015, Cape Breton's welcome of 14 Syrian families involved the spontaneous formation of 11 separate groups, mostly in very small communities. Likewise, in Antigonish county, 3 new PSR groups formed in church and town halls to offer new beginnings to 16 refugee families and, in Pictou county, 3 different 'localities' formed PSR groups that sponsored and resettled 15 families. PSR volunteers are tasked with fundraising and providing integration assistance in distant rural settings. We draw upon Fine's (2010) sociology of the local and the social innovation model (Cukier and Jackson, 2018) to discuss the significance of the local context to understand how and why volunteers built capacity to find unique, workable solutions to assist with resettlement and deliberate over best practice. We contend that it is in innovating upon the local that these groups also influence and change the local context, via its various organizations, institutions, and demographics. We also explore why the local context also presents limitations to sustain rural refugee resettlement.

Author(s): *Norine Verberg, St. Francis Xavier University; Jordan MacDonald, University of Guelph*

## **Workplaces and immigrant integration**

Session Code: SOM8B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Migration

Workplaces are essential spaces for immigrant integration. This session examines the cultural, economic, and policy experiences among immigrants and refugees at the workplace and how they shape their adaption and integration to Canadian society.

Organizer(s): *Cary Wu, York University*

Presentations:

### **1. The Labour Market Integration of Resettled Refugees in Canada**



Refugees--unlike non-refugee immigrants--are forced to flee from their homes, seek protection and navigate potential options for refugee settlement. At post-migration stage, refugee challenges continue as they seek integration in their new setting. While the successful integration of newcomers is expected by newcomers and their host nations, many host countries, governments, and citizens are concerned about how refugees fare economically. With the pre-migration experiences of forced displacement, dispossession, and violence caused by war or other protracted conflicts, government assisted refugees (GARs), as well as privately sponsored refugees (PSRs), blended visa office referred refugees (BVORs) or refugee claimants (asylum seekers) have travelled to Canada to make a new home. Economists, sociologists and the government have paid significant attention to the economic integration of immigrants, yet very few studies have focused exclusively on refugees. Existing literatures demonstrate the poorer economic outcomes of refugees in compared to immigrants and native-born in Canada. This paper examines the economic experiences of resettled refugees exclusively employing the 2016 Canadian Census dataset. The study analyzes employment income, employment status, and education-job mismatch based on a sample of GARs and PSRs within 25-64 years of core working age who have been admitted between 1980 and 2016. This paper contributes to the broad Canadian immigrant and integration literature and fills the void in the Peace and Conflict Studies (PACS) literature on social justice and refugee integration as most studies are from sociologists and economists.

Author(s): *Aziz Rahman, University of Manitoba*

## **2. Canadian Workplace Culture: Mono or Multi-cultural?**

Immigrants constitute a growing proportion of the workforce in Canada, changing the workplace structure to become increasingly diverse. Workplaces are not devoid of culture, instead they represent mainstream culture as well as create their own organizational cultural practices. In this vein, it is important to explore how culture is experienced and utilized in the workplace as a means to gain access or deny entry to employment positions and fields of leadership. The current study explores the experienced Canadian culture in the workplace by interviewing and surveying workers, managers, and diversity trainers in southern Ontario. The results indicate that while the idea of diversity and multiculturalism is present among narratives of the Canadian workplace, there remains an understanding of the stereotypical Canadian worker as mono-cultural. Within the workplace, culture works as an invisible knap sack worn by individuals that influences their everyday interactions, changes, and promotions. The idea of culture does not come into their everyday for those in higher positions, who are more often than not white, Anglo-Saxon, males with Christian heritage.

Author(s): *Secil E. Ertorer, Canisius College; Jennifer Long, MacEwan University*

## **3. Positive Practices for Supporting Newcomers at Employment Ontario Employment Services Sites**

The Government of Canada continues to offer safe haven to refugees and to seek immigrants to expand the economy. The government has set a goal of accepting 340,000 newcomers in 2020 (Government of Canada, 2019). Previous studies have established that newcomers (immigrants who have been in Canada less than 5 years) face difficulties in the labour market. Their employment support needs are different from both native-born Canadians and immigrants who have been established in Canada for more than 5 years. This presentation will report the results of a study that investigated services for newcomer clients at Employment Ontario sites across the province. These services are funded by the Government of Ontario to help newcomers enter the Ontario labour market. The study examined current programming practices to identify service gaps and best practices by collecting data from frontline workers through surveys, focus groups, and ethnographic research and applying a political economy analysis to the data. Policy recommendations that grew out of the study include (1) restoring effective past programming, (2) adoption of a consistent definition of the term "newcomer" across EO sites, and (3) establishing training requirements for EO site staff members to better serve newcomer clients.

Author(s): *Leslie Nichols, Georgian College; Melissa Fletcher, Georgian College*

## **Measures and indicators of immigrant integration**

Session Code: SOM8C

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Migration

Integration is a multidimensional concept. This session considers various measures and indicators of the adaptation and integration among diverse immigrant and refugee groups.



Organizer(s): *Cary Wu, York University*

Presentations:

**1. Predictors of Immigrant Canadians' Self-Rated Health**

This study tries to explore the connections between immigration “as a choice we made to live somewhere different” and health which changes throughout the process of immigration and resettlement. I try to explain the most significant factors on Canadian immigrants’ self-rated health through making comparisons between genders, marital statuses, range of years living in Canada, different education backgrounds, smoking, and regular exercise habits. Multinomial regression analysis is used to determine the chances of falling into different categories of self-rated health. The General Social Survey 2016 data is used for the analysis. The study finds that the longer immigrants were in Canada, the lower their self-rated health gets, and those immigrants who have spent their lives for 47 or more have better health rates compare to those who are recent. While smoking and workout are known to be positively correlated with the better health rates, in this study, however, neither of them had a significant effect on falling into a specific category except the less chances of falling into high self-rated health rather than the low for those who do exercise by 0.55 compare to those who do not exercise.

Author(s): *Jihad Kamal Othman, University of Manitoba*

**2. Social Integration of Immigrants in Canada**

Social integration provides a sense of connection to others and belonging to the community. It is equally important for immigrants and the host communities. The objective of this study is to assess the level of social integration of immigrants in Canadian society. It also examines how social integration of immigrants changes over time and which factors contribute to successful integration. This paper uses data from the Canadian Community Health Survey, 2015-16, which collected information from nearly 110,000 individuals. This study compares social integration of recent immigrants, established immigrants and non-immigrants. Logistic regression is used to predict social integration of the three groups. Ten indicators of social integration are used, viz. emotional security, trustworthy relations, counting on someone in an emergency, depending on someone for help, enjoyment of social activities, talking to someone for important decisions, recognition of skills, sharing of beliefs, emotional bonds, and admiration of abilities. Findings of the study reveal that on all these indicators, except for sharing of beliefs, there is no significant difference between recent and established immigrants. However, a significant difference between established immigrants and non-immigrants on all these indicators indicates that immigrants have a lower level of social integration. Recent immigrants are similar to established immigrants on the scale of social integration, but established immigrants have a significantly lower level of social integration than non-immigrants. Results of the logistic regression show that selected predictors of social integration have different effect on integration of recent immigrants, established immigrants and non-immigrants.

Author(s): *Parveen Nangia, Laurentian University*

**3. Neighborhood Effects and the Economic Outcomes of Immigrants in Same-Sex Partnerships**

Lesbian, gay, bisexual (LGB) immigrants report high levels of social isolation and neighborhood detachment compared to their heterosexual and/or native-born peers. This is a cause for concern given that neighborhoods are theorised to influence economic outcomes through being sources of networks, resources, and support. Using master-file data from the 2016 Canadian long-form census, I investigate 1) whether neighborhood composition (in terms of socio-economic disadvantage, coethnics, and couple-type [same-sex or different-sex]) explain the disparities in labor market activity between immigrants in same-sex couples and their peers in different-sex couples and/or who are native-born; 2) whether neighborhoods effect the economic outcomes of immigrants in same-sex couples differently than they do the general sample; and 3) how gender influences the above relationships. Group differences in neighborhood composition somewhat explain the labor market gaps between immigrants in same-sex couples and their peers, but divergences remain, as do important gender differences in these relationships. The extent to which neighborhood effects for immigrants in same-sex couples are equivalent to the general sample effects differ depending on the neighborhood characteristic, the labor market activity category, and gender.

Author(s): *Sagi Ramaj, University of Toronto*

**4. Measuring the emotional impacts of childhood migration on the social integration and development of trust among Canada's immigrant population**

When it comes to migration, recent research indicates that trust is an integral factor in the successful integration of immigrants (Wilkes and Wu, 2019). The ability to form social bonds of trust not only impacts how immigrants

see themselves post-migration, but also the extent to which they are able to successfully integrate into the social fabric of the host society. For many immigrants, trust is impacted by feelings of 'otherness' which are either self-perceived or learned through social interaction (Bilodeau and White, 2015). In the case of Canadian education, multilingual immigrant youth often face the added pressure of developing trust within a system framed by a homogenous narrative of Canada as a bilingual-bicultural country. For these youth, successful integration often means learning to live between worlds while splitting allegiances between nation of origin and the host society (Mady, 2012; Cummins, 2014). Using retrospective data from a critical narrative inquiry, this paper measures the emotional impacts of this process on how Canadian multilingual youth negotiate relationships of trust across different social spheres throughout their life course. Findings indicate that having to live between worlds leads to feelings of social isolation and ambivalence in adulthood resulting in a fragmented sense of self.

Author(s): *Katherine MacCormac, Western University*

## Immigrant integration: Theories and methods

Session Code: SOM8D

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Migration

Further investigation of immigrant integration requires theoretical and methodological innovations. This session includes papers that investigate immigrant integration from new theoretical perspectives and using new methods.

Organizer(s): *Cary Wu, York University*

Presentations:

### **1. The Politics of Moving: A Critical Ethnography of a Refugee Family Adjusting to Life through Leisure in Montreal**

This critical ethnography will explore how a new refugee family adjusts to life in the City of Montreal through various sport, recreation, and leisure pursuits. Within the first two years of their arrival in Canada, many new immigrant families have reported significant declines in both their physical health and mental wellbeing (source). While such declines have been largely attributed to difficulties in accessing health care services (Robert and Gilkinson, 2010), little is known about how other available resources linked to health and wellness impact the lives and lifestyle choices of new refugee families. Researchers have further identified a gradual decline in the self-perceived health of refugees and asylum seekers in Canada due, in part, to their adoption of a physically inactive lifestyle upon their arrival (Ng, Wilkins, Gendron & Berthelot, 2005). The fact that the Canadian Refugee Resettlement Program intends to welcome substantially more families over the next three years makes understanding the broad range of social factors linked to refugee health and wellness particularly significant (Government of Canada, 2019). Our research aims to shed important light upon the potentially complex role(s) that sport, physical activity, and leisure play in the resettlement process, as well as contribute to the broader scholarly literature surrounding refugee health and wellness in Canada.

Author(s): *Shoaib-Hasan Shaikh, McGill University; Jordan Koch, McGill University*

### **2. The Racial Line of Assimilation**

Merging the tension between the subfield of immigration and race and ethnicity in the immigrant integration literature, I argue for a refined theory--which I call the Racial Line of Assimilation (RLA). RLA incorporates the core framework of (neo)classic assimilation theory and uses criticisms of this prior theory to reconceptualise our understanding of immigrant integration. Straight-line assimilationists (or neoclassical assimilationists) argue that immigrants will experience upward mobility across succeeding generations and will culturally integrate into the mainstream and lose ethnic distinctiveness over time. In adjusting for the lack of explanatory power for more recent non-European immigrant groups, segmented assimilationists argue that immigrants can experience more than one path to assimilation - which can also include downward assimilation for ethnic minorities. The theories have been criticized for being racially unconscious (Jung 2009) that reify white supremacy (Treitler 2015). Premised upon using the criticisms to modify the theory, RLA argues that experiences of upward mobility and perceived cultural integration into the dominant group are stratified by a hierarchical racial line of assimilation for American-born and immigrant groups alike - and this process of integration is contingent upon the racial

discourse of the time. To elaborate, in contrast to segmented assimilationist that cluster racial groups' integration patterns on the hourglass economy, RLA theorizes that immigrant integration is stratified on a hierarchical racial line. Moreover, unlike the absence of African Americans in the analysis of assimilation theory (Jung 2009), RLA includes American-born racialized minorities to also understand how they fare in terms of assimilation in relation to the dominant group and in relation to incoming immigrants. In concluding remarks of the paper, I outline how future work can empirically test this novel theoretical conceptualization.

Author(s): *Jessica Stallone, University of Toronto*

### **3. Forms of Capital in Migration from Conflict: A Case Study of Migration from Iraq**

As receiving states seek to control movement across their borders, migrants adjust their strategies to fit available state entrance categories (Crawley and Skleparis 2018; Massey et al. 1998; Zolberg 1989). Conceptualising migration policies as opportunity structures (Garip 2017), this paper draws from interviews with 21 participants who fled Iraq after the 2003 US-invasion sampled based on country of origin rather than entrance category to Canada. Assuming that economic and refugee migration are related processes (Fitzgerald and Arar 2018; Richmond 1993), it uses a process-tracing methodology to analyse how the ability to mobilize economic, social and cultural capital (Bourdieu 1986; Kim 2018) influences participants' migration routes and thus legal status when fleeing conflict and violence. In the case of Canada's PSR program, those eligible for refugee status are an advantage if they have social network members residing in Canada -i.e., a specific form of social capital that can be converted to a legal pathway to permanent residence in a global context where less than 1% of refugees are resettled (Fitzgerald 2019). Thus, this paper suggests that migrants fleeing conflict who hold the ability to mobilize diverse forms of capital are able to access more options for migration and permanent residence.

Author(s): *Alicia Poole, McGill University*

### **4. The Impact of Transnational Immigrant Community Organizations on the Settlement Experience of Immigrants**

Community organizations are a building mechanism for the broader community and play a significant political role for newcomers, serving as the primary channel for the political incorporation/integration of immigrant community groups in their new homes (Ramakrishnan and Bloemraad, 2008). The term 'integration' while highly contested, has commonly been used to describe a two-way adaption process between the host society and immigrants, whereby immigrants are able to engage with the host society in order to grow socio-economically, politically and/or culturally. It is a transnational mechanism by which immigrants form the initial networks necessary for settlement. Immigrant organizations have not received a lot of attention from migration scholars (Bloemraad, 2006, p.162). In fact, the study of organizations created for and by immigrants is a relatively new field (Nijenhuis and Zoomers, 2016, p. 252). There is very little known about the factors that shape these organizations as well as their role in integration, transnational engagement, and development (Nijenhuis and Zoomers, 2016, p. 252). The dominant discourses on immigrant community organizations stereotype these organizations, depicting them as detrimental to immigrant success and incorporation into the host country. This paper explores the various ways in which transnational community organizations have impacted the diasporic settlement experience. The following are four themes that emerged from the literature: (1) The Political Incorporation of Immigrants, (2) The Integration and Settlement of Immigrants, (3) Economic Integration and (4) the Promotion of Cultural Solidarity and Legitimacy. For many immigrant communities in Canada, community organizations are at the centre of their lives, however there are not many literature reviews on this topic. Through this paper, I argue that transnational immigrant community organizations significantly impact the diasporic settlement experiences amongst immigrants.

Author(s): *Archana Sivakumaran, York University*

## **Asian experiences in Canada I**

Session Code: SOM9A

Theme: Migration / Immigration

Asian Canadians comprise the largest and fastest growing visible minority group in Canada. It is only very recently that the study of Asian Canadians has begun to take shape as a field of sociological studies (Coloma & Pon, 2017). The history of Asian immigration, settlement, and integration to Canada since the late eighteenth century to now

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has inextricable connections to colonial and postcolonial conditions and increasing political and economic turmoils in different parts of Asia; it is also a history heavily and sometimes cruelly shaped by racism and racialization from the explicit exclusion to the seemingly celebratory but othering rhetoric of “model minority” in the mainstream society. This session seeks to engage with and consolidate sociological examinations of the key themes and issues emerging from the experiences of different Asian Canadian groups in Canada.

Organizer(s): *Wei Xing, University of Winnipeg; Xiaobei Chen, Carleton University; Palak Dhiman, Carleton University; Jiyoung Lee-An, Carleton University*

Presentations:

### **1. The name game of newcomers: Dynamics of integration in a comparative perspective**

Sociological research on immigrant integration usually focuses on assimilation outcomes while the social psychological process that constitutes integration mostly is untouched. This study, adopting collaborative autobiography method, provides a comparative analysis of personal name relevant experience and practices of two immigrant girls who arrived in Canada in less than five years, one from South Asia and another one from China. Personal name is a nexus of ethnic culture, social status and personal identity; personal name change experience of new arrivals in Canada thus provides a site to discover the dynamic of immigrant integration, particularly the interplay of cultural, social and identity dimension of the integration process.

Author(s): *Wei Xing, University of Winnipeg; Victoria Wang, University of Winnipeg; Shreya Tuladhar, University of Winnipeg*

### **2. Invisible Barriers: Saskatoon Chinese and their occupation attainment**

About 7,800 Chinese are living in Saskatoon, the largest city of Saskatchewan province. Few researchers studied Saskatoon Chinese, their history and community building. In the last decade, Saskatoon experienced an increasing flow of newcomers from China, and yet, information and data about the newcomers are insufficient. To fill this gap, this research studies recent Saskatoon Chinese immigrants who arrived in the last 13 years (2006-2019) and their experience in job-hunting, and work experiences. By using a mixed-method design, including a survey and a semi-structured interview, this research aims to answer two research questions. The first is the current situation of Saskatoon Chinese and their integration in terms of their occupation attainment. The second is during job-hunting and daily working, whether they encountered the “new” racism, which discriminatory behaviors are expressed implicitly through the more disguised ways. The survey result shows the majority of respondents did not experience being discriminated, while all of the interviewees suggested they had at least some “uncomfortable” experience but preferred not to address it too seriously as discrimination. This result reflects the existence of new racism preventing Chinese from equal opportunities in the labor market.

Author(s): *Yi Qin, University of Saskatchewan*

### **3. Economic and social outcomes of Asian children and youths in their adulthood**

There is a substantial increase in the number of studies that focus on various aspects of the adaptation and integration of immigrant and refugee children and youth. In order to situate the findings of the recent cohort of immigrant and refugee children, examining heterogeneity in the experiences of past cohorts from diverse backgrounds offer contextual information. Using the Longitudinal Immigration Database (IMDB), the paper examines differences in patterns of economic and social outcomes for the children of Asian immigrants and those from other ethnic origins to shed light on how trajectories to adulthood are shaped by ethnic origin, arrival cohort, and other background characteristics.

Author(s): *Jonathan Anim Amoyaw, University of Saskatchewan; Rachel McLay, Dalhousie University; Yoko Yoshida, Dalhousie University*

### **4. Beyond the Standard Canon: The saliency of generation, age, and appearance as social markers in insider-outsider researcher positionality**

Asian Canadian studies, as a field of sociological studies, has seen growth in recent years (Coloma and Pon 2017), in part as a result of an increase of a newer generation of Asian-Canadians entering academia. With these shifts, it is worth considering how younger generation Asian-Canadian researchers can conduct critical reflexive research that takes into consideration the history of Canadian migration, colonialism, and linking them with the complexities of contemporary racism. Drawing from the findings of my MA research conducted in 2017 on Filipino-Canadian restaurant entrepreneurship, this paper discusses how there is a need to go beyond the

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standard canon of sexuality, gender, and race in critical reflections of researcher positionality and include long overlooked social markers such as generational status, age, and researcher appearance (e.g., body size and skin colour). The findings suggest, within the context of migration research, that such markers do have an impact on where the researcher is positioned on the insider-outsider research continuum.

Author(s): *Gazel Manuel, Carleton University*

### Asian experiences in Canada II

Session Code: SOM9B

Theme: Migration / Immigration

Asian Canadians comprise the largest and fastest growing visible minority group in Canada. It is only very recently that the study of Asian Canadians has begun to take shape as a field of sociological studies (Coloma & Pon, 2017). The history of Asian immigration, settlement, and integration to Canada since the late eighteenth century to now has inextricable connections to colonial and postcolonial conditions and increasing political and economic turmoils in different parts of Asia; it is also a history heavily and sometimes cruelly shaped by racism and racialization from the explicit exclusion to the seemingly celebratory but othering rhetoric of “model minority” in the mainstream society. This session seeks to engage with and consolidate sociological examinations of the key themes and issues emerging from the experiences of different Asian Canadian groups in Canada.

Organizer(s): *Wei Xing, University of Winnipeg; Xiaobei Chen, Carleton University; Palak Dhiman, Carleton University; Jiyoung Lee-An, Carleton University*

Presentations:

#### **1. Towards decolonial solidarity: Contemporizing and contextualizing the issue of “Comfort Women”**

The history of Asian immigrants to Canada is intertwined with the complicated colonial history of both their countries of origin and of Canada as white-settler colonial nation. This paper aims to discuss the possibility of decolonial solidarity surrounding the support work for Korean “comfort women” in Canada. More specifically, this paper examines the controversies surrounding the plan to build the Statue of Peace in Vancouver to commemorate comfort women, that was opposed by some Japanese Canadians who argued that the building of the Statue would disrupt Canadian multicultural values. This paper critically examines the ways in which Canadian multicultural values were provoked in this debate and analyzes how multiculturalism rhetoric without the nuances of colonial history can be used to deter decolonial efforts to rectify historical wrongdoings. Combined with the efforts to recognize the tragic history of state-led racism against Asian Canadians, in particular, Japanese Canadians during the WWII, this paper argues that solidarity among Asian Canadians can be made through actively engaging with the unresolved history of Japanese colonial violence against comfort women and supporting victims of colonial violence.

Author(s): *Jiyoung Lee-An, Carleton University*

#### **2. Complex standpoint, identity, and struggle --Analysis of the interview of Mr. Kimura Kishizo--**

Mr. Kimura Kishizo (1899-1976) is a Japanese Canadian who partook in the dispossession of property owned by Japanese Canadians during WWII. Using Mr. Kimura’s selective interview transcriptions in the website ‘Witness to Loss’ this paper analyzes his complex standpoint, identity and struggle as a Japanese Canadian during and after WWII. In the narrative analysis of this text, the theory of framing, agency, and positioning through the use of pronouns, metaphor, and historical facts, as well as cultural influences on the narrator, were considered. By analyzing both original Japanese interview transcription and its English translation, three main findings regarding his identity and standpoint were found. 1. Mr. Kimura sees himself as first-generation (Issei) Japanese, but has never blamed any particular Canadian institution or person for discrimination towards Japanese. 2. Mr. Kimura’s narrative shows that he was distancing himself from both the Japanese community as well as Canadian society by holding his position as a professional, and speaking on the ‘facts,’ potentially, to avoid the hostile relationship between Japanese Canadians and other Canadians. 3. However, with close analysis of his narrative, his struggle being a Japanese person taking part in the dispossession of the Japanese community can be observed in different expressions. Some nuanced Japanese phrases in his interview, such as “shikatanai” meaning “it cannot be

helped” or “there was no choice,” were often not translated clearly into the English text. Along with constant pronoun dropping in Japanese, the Japanese language’s characteristics as more content-dependent than English result in concealing the narrator’s ambivalent standpoint and their agency. To fully understand the situation around Japanese Canadians and their struggle, their narratives have to be closely examined in the original text.

Author(s): *Izumi Niki, York University*

### **3. Are “you” going to have an arranged marriage?: Examining stereotypical discourses of arranged marriage as mechanisms of Othering**

In this paper I examine stereotypical discourses of ‘arranged marriage,’ more often associated with particularly South Asian countries and cultures, in order to examine how they operate as mechanisms of Othering, which racialize particularly non Euro-descendant Canadians. Based on my PhD research in which I conducted semi-structured qualitative interviews with 34 second generation Canadians of South Asian origin, I explore these individuals’ experiences of being stereotypically associated with the practice of arranged marriage by others and how they respond to these stereotypes. Critically engaging with discourses of arranged marriage as a backwards, oppressive, traditional, Eastern practice (as opposed to Western practices which are taken for granted as modern, progressive, normative), I use Puar’s notion of ‘oppositionally active whiteness’ to examine how participants respond to these stereotypes. As defined by Puar, ‘oppositionally active whiteness’ explains how participants do not simply accept (internalize) or reject dominant stereotypes, but are continuously engaged in active critical assessments of these racializing stereotypes and of how to respond to them.

Author(s): *Palak Dhiman, Carleton University*

## **Les francophones minoritaires canadiennes et « leurs immigrants francophones » : intégration, juxtaposition ou segmentation communautaire**

Session Code: SOM10

Theme: Migration / Immigration

L’immigration dans les communautés francophones en situation minoritaire (CFSM) et au Québec est devenue centrale pour la vitalité et la viabilité de la francophonie canadienne. Cette session s’intéresse aux enjeux de la cohésion communautaire dans des cadres pluriethniques francophones.

Organizer(s): *Suzanne Huot, University of British Columbia; Leyla Sall, Université de Moncton*

Presentations:

### **1. Insertion économique des immigrants et origine nationale à Montréal. Le temps arrange-t-il toujours les choses?**

La présente communication s’intéresse à l’effet de l’origine nationale sur l’insertion économique de deux cohortes d’immigrants arrivés au Québec en 1989 et 1999 et résidant dans la grande région de Montréal. Elle s’appuie sur l’exploitation des données de la Banque de données longitudinales sur les immigrants (BDIM). Elle montre que, contrairement à ce qu’avaient observé Renaud, Piché et Godin (2003) à propos d’une cohorte d’immigrants s’étant établi à Montréal à la fin des années 1980, l’effet de l’origine nationale ne semble pas s’être dissipé avec le temps. Dix ans après leur arrivée, certaines origines nationales performant toujours moins bien que les immigrants européens et nord-américains sur le marché du travail, ayant notamment des revenus moins élevés. Quelques hypothèses sont faites pour expliquer ces résultats divergents.

Author(s): *Danièle Bélanger, Université Laval; Charles Fleury, Université Laval; Victor Piché, Université de Montréal*

### **2. La participation sociale des immigrants francophones dans le Grand Vancouver : race, langue et divisions communautaires**

L’immigration francophone est présentement une priorité du gouvernement fédéral Canadien pour soutenir la vitalité des communautés francophones en situation minoritaire (CFSM). Cependant l’intégration sociale et culturelle des immigrants ciblés par ces politiques est vécue au niveau local. Les immigrants d’expression française (IEF) constituent souvent « une minorité dans la minorité » et pour ceux issus de minorités visibles il s’agit d’une « triple minorisation ». Il est important d’étudier les dynamiques de la vie quotidienne au sein des CFSM. Nous avons mené une ethnographie critique dans le Grand Vancouver portant sur la participation sociale des IEF dans des espaces communautaires francophones. Les méthodes utilisées comprennent des observations dans trois sites



(une église, une organisation provinciale et une association communale), trente-trois entretiens avec des IEF et six entretiens avec des informateurs clés. Nous discuterons des divisions observées lors des activités quotidiennes, entre la francophonie formelle, recevant des financements gouvernementaux, et la francophonie informelle, que constitue les associations regroupant les personnes issues de minorités visibles et ayant moins de stabilité institutionnelle. Si la CFSM du Grand Vancouver contient une proportion importante d'immigrants, on remarque que la langue n'est pas suffisante pour assurer la cohésion communautaire et surmonter les divisions racialisées.

Author(s): *Suzanne Huot, University of British Columbia; Anne-Cécile Delaisse, University of British Columbia; Luisa Veronis, University of Ottawa*

### **3. Promouvoir la cohésion communautaire dans un contexte de diversité : quel sont les enjeux?**

L'immigration est un enjeu clé pour le développement des communautés francophones en situation minoritaire (CFSM). Cependant, quelle a été la place accordée à la cohésion communautaire dans un contexte de diversité? Les résultats d'une étude menée dans quatre provinces canadiennes (Nouveau-Brunswick, Ontario, Manitoba et Colombie-Britannique) examinant les différentes dynamiques de cohésion communautaire d'un océan à l'autre. En premier lieu les perspectives de représentants d'organismes porte-parole obtenu lors d'entrevue avec informateurs clés seront présentés. Deuxièmement, les enjeux clés identifiés lors des groupes de discussions menés dans avec des membres de communautés francophones (personnes nés au Canada et issus de l'immigration) dans les quatre provinces seront présentés. En particulier, les thèmes suivants seront abordés : les espaces communautaires d'importance, sentiments d'appartenance, et les facteurs qui facilitent ou entravent la participation sociale au sein de la CFSM, ainsi que des recommandations proposés pour promouvoir la cohésion communautaire.

Author(s): *Suzanne Huot, University of British Columbia*

### **4. Les francophonies minoritaires canadiennes et « leurs » immigrants : opportunités et barrières à la cohésion communautaire**

Les communautés francophones en situation minoritaire (CFSM) du Canada ont opéré une transformation sociétale remarquable durant la première décennie des années 2000. De communautés revendicatrices de services, elles sont devenues des communautés d'accueil d'immigrants. L'objectif visé est le maintien de leur vitalité démographique, linguistique et économique par l'ajout de nouveaux locuteurs. Une fois cette transformation achevée se pose le défi de la cohésion communautaire. Comment faire société en intégrant la diversité ethnoculturelle lorsqu'on a eu tendance à protéger ses spécificités identitaires? Comment concilier logiques ethniques et citoyenneté civile inclusive lorsqu'on est minoritaire? Cette communication restitue les résultats d'une recherche qualitative portant sur la cohésion communautaire dans quatre CFSM (Colombie-Britannique, Manitoba, Ontario et Acadie du Nouveau-Brunswick). Les résultats démontrent qu'il existe des facteurs favorables à la cohésion communautaire : partage du français considéré comme un bien commun, un discours des élites favorable à l'immigration, des espaces communautaires francophones rassembleurs, des institutions d'enseignement où cohabitent immigrants et résidents locaux, un sentiment d'appartenance latent. Toutefois, il existe de nombreuses barrières à la cohésion communautaire : une segmentation des communautés francophones en présence, une hiérarchie des locuteurs francophones selon leur accent et leur « race », une instrumentalisation de l'immigration perçue de manière négative par les nouveaux arrivants, des distances socio-spatiales, et des discriminations à l'emploi dans des secteurs du marché du travail contrôlés par les CFSM. Au-delà des barrières, les immigrants généralement souhaitent mieux connaître les CFSM et leurs membres, et à travailler ensemble dans le but de bâtir un projet de francophonie commune. Aussi ont-ils émis des recommandations pouvant faciliter la « désethnicisation » des interactions et des institutions de leurs communautés d'accueil.

Author(s): *Leyla Sall, Université de Moncton; Suzanne Huot, University of British Columbia; Nathalie Piquemal, University of Manitoba; Luisa Veronis, Université d'Ottawa; Faical Zellama, Université de Saint-Boniface*

## **Social Networks Theory and Methods: Current State and Future Directions**

Session Code: SON1A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Social Networks

This session critically examines the current state of research on social capital and social networks across theory and methods. Presentations also explore some possibilities for refining contemporary methodological, theoretical, and conceptual approaches to the study of social networks and social capital.

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Organizer(s): *Adam Colin Howe, University of British Columbia; John McLevey, University of Waterloo; Rochelle Coté, Memorial University*

Presentations:

### **1. The Use of Mixed-Methods to Study Social Networks: A Scoping Review**

There has been a recent push for the use of mixed-methods to study social networks as social networks consist of both structure and social processes. This scoping review aimed to answer the question: How are mixed-methods being used to study the structural features of social networks and the ties that exist between network members? A scoping review was conducted using Arksey and O'Malley's (2005) five-step framework. Four databases (CINAHL, Scopus, PsycINFO and Sociological Abstracts) were systematically searched. Information on the types of quantitative and qualitative methods used and the points at which the methods were integrated were extracted and summarized. 45 articles met the inclusion criteria. Questionnaires and semi-structured interviews were most often used. Name generator questions were used most frequently to identify network structure. Over half of the studies employed social network analysis and thematic analysis to analyse the quantitative and qualitative data. Integration of the methods mainly occurred at the method level and during the reporting and interpretation stage. The use of mixed-methods enhanced understanding of social networks. Quantitative methods identified network structure while qualitative methods elicited important contextual information about networks such as the types of interaction within a network, influential individuals and the meaning attached to social ties by network members.

Author(s): *Jovana Sibaliya, Western University; Carri Hand, Western University; Colleen McGrath, Western University; Gail Teachman, Western University; Marianne Larsen,*

### **2. Using SNA thoughtfully: Ethical and methodological dilemmas**

Social network analysis affords the opportunity to examine the social structure and social relations in which resources are embedded. Building on the work of Barnes (1954), Wellman (1983) and Emirbayer and Goodwin (1994) social network theory contends that attempts to explain social behaviour using individual attributes and norms such as ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, and so on, should be rejected in favour of a consideration of human involvement in structured social relations. Social network theory assumes the behaviour of an actor is better explained by the actor's interdependencies with other actors (Bichler, 2019; Everton, 2018). Using this framework, an SNA approach has been used to give a voice to subordinates, reduce isolation, share knowledge between researcher and participants, and study complex relationships. Yet, despite the promises of an SNA approach, it can place researchers and participants in vulnerable situations. A growing number of research projects utilize SNA, but few publications provide ethical or methodological guidelines (see, for example, 2005 Social Networks special issue). Situating the study in extant literature, I will highlight the tensions and dilemmas that arise during data collection, data interpretation, and data sharing. Four propositions are provided for the thoughtful use of social network analysis including the development of an understanding of researchers' ethical responsibilities and the development of shared understandings and trust between researcher and participants.

Author(s): *Hannah Renee Chestnutt, McGill University*

### **3. Is the study of social capital and health still undertheorized? The view from the network school**

Entrenched claims that research on social capital and health is undertheorized (strong undertheorized claim) and articles reporting it are undertheorized (weak undertheorized claim) have not been investigated empirically. Taking a sociology of social research approach I investigate whether these claims hold for published studies of health effects of network social capital informed by three conceptualization-measurement pairings developed as "useful theory" - the embedded instrumental resources-position generator pairing, the embedded resources-resource generator pairing and the network structures + embedded resources-name generator pairing. I develop and apply a multidimensional analytical framework that (1) offers an integrated set of criteria for assessing the undertheorized claims by (2) directing analytic attention to definitional and linking work constituting the conceptualization-measurement pairings in a way that (3) is sensitive both to how research appropriates this theoretical work and to how articles reporting this research engage this theoretical work. I find that coexistence of rival ways of conceptualizing and measuring network social capital does not cause, explain or provide evidence of either form of undertheorization. What matters is how this generation of network social capital theorizing is appropriated and engaged. Studies appropriating pairings as units counter the strong undertheorized claim and lend any credence to the weak undertheorized claim only where the stand-in engagement strategy is in play. Studies appropriating the measurement half of a pairing without the conceptualization that guided its

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development and without adequate replacement definitional and linking work affirm both undertheorized claims. In my conclusion I suggest that understanding why and how the study network social capital and health is still undertheorized matters for growth of cumulative knowledge on network social capital and health and for the potential value of this knowledge for intervention research.

Author(s): *Valerie A. Haines, University of Calgary*

### 4. #MeToo: A synthesis review of digital feminist literature and methodology

In 2017, the sudden spread of the hashtag #MeToo sparked a global social media movement and created a networked community where survivors shared their experiences of sexual violence. "Me Too" was coined by US-based community activist Tarana Burke in 2006 but garnered international attention eleven years later when American actress Alyssa Milano used the phrase on Twitter. With this project, we present a synthesis review of studies of the #MeToo movement on social media. Our goal is to provide a comprehensive review of publications in a range of fields (such as communication, sociology, and gender studies) to identify key focus areas, findings, and methodological approaches. We conducted a thorough search for journal articles, book chapters, and white papers published since 2006 across nine academic databases. From the 24 articles examined for this synthesis review, we identified and analyzed nine recurrent themes: intersectionality, participation/nonparticipation, methodology, geography, online vs. offline affordance, impact of the movement, backlash, and social change. Using the theories of social affordance and platform vernacular, we draw implications about how the movement is shaped by Twitter's social dynamics and how the platform characteristics enable and limit the movement.

Author(s): *Dennis Ho, Western University; Olivia Lake, Western University; Charlotte Nau, Western University; Darryl Pieber, Western University; Anabel Quan-Haase, Western University; Kaitlynn Mendes, University of Leicester*

## Social Networks: Social Capital in Engagement, Mobilization and Activism

Session Code: SON1B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Social Networks

In this session, presentations highlight how social network analysis and various facets of social capital are being employed to explore important and contemporary empirical questions across a range of substantive areas. Focus is on questions pertaining to social engagement, mobilization, and activism.

Organizer(s): *Adam Colin Howe, University of British Columbia; John McLevey, University of Waterloo; Rochelle Coté, Memorial University*

Presentations:

### 1. Effects of Media Coverage on Perceived Policy Influence of Environmental Actors in Canadian Climate Change Policy Networks: Good Strategy or Pyrrhic Victory?

In this paper we analyze how media coverage for environmental activists and environmental movement organizations is associated with their perceived policy influence in Canadian climate change policy networks. We conceptualize media coverage as the total number of media mentions an actor received in Canada's two main national newspapers - the Globe and Mail and National Post. We conceptualize perceived policy influence as the total number of times an actor was nominated by other actors in a policy network as being perceived to be influential in domestic climate change policy making in Canada. Literature from the field of social movements, agenda setting, and policy networks suggests that environmental actors who garner more media coverage should be perceived as more influential in policy networks than actors who garner less coverage. We assess support for this main hypothesis in two ways. First, we use Poisson regression to analyze how actor attributes (such as the type of actor) affect the amount of media coverage an actor receives. Next, we use Poisson regression to evaluate whether being an environmental actor shapes the impact of media coverage on an actor's level of perceived influence within the policy network. We find that media coverage does not correspond with increased perceived policy influence for individual activists. This case raises fundamental theoretical questions about the nature of relations between media and policy spheres, and the efficacy of media for signaling and mobilizing policy influence.

Author(s): *Adam Colin Howe, University of British Columbia; David B. Tindall, University of British Columbia; Mark C.J. Stoddart, Memorial University*

**2. Networks, Emotion and Animal Rights Activism: Applying eco-Marxist Solutions to Interspecies Alienation**

Animal rights activism is understudied and under-theorized within sociology. This is particularly true for research using a social networks analysis perspective. Among studies that take animal rights networks as their focus, the means by which veganism and activism are inspired - and the relative importance of social networks - is contested. In this paper, I review the literature on animal rights networks as well as eco-Marxist explanations for society's alienation from traditionally farmed animals. Next, I develop a theoretical model explaining recruitment into animal rights activism. Finally, I argue that specific kinds of activism that put humans in direct contact with nonhuman animals are more likely to succeed in breaking the species(ist) barrier and encourage higher levels of mobilization.

Author(s): *Yasmin Koop-Monteiro, University of British Columbia*

**3. Still Bowling Alone? Adolescent Civic Engagement in the United States, 1990-2017**

The "bowling alone" thesis has fueled heated debates over the decline and future of social capital in America. From a cohort-replacement perspective, it is essential to investigate adolescent civic engagement, temporal patterns, and socioeconomic gradients. This study compiles and analyzes 27 waves of a nationally representative survey (the Monitoring the Future Project, MTF) to separate age, period, and cohort effects of adolescent civic engagement in America. Contrary to the decline of civic engagement argued by Putnam, this study finds little evidence of the erosion of civic engagement among American youth. Instead, both period and cohort effects suggest a recent increase in adolescent civic engagement among American youth, while socioeconomic disparities in the trajectories of civic engagement remain salient. These findings warrant further investigation of the decline of social capital in Western countries.

Author(s): *Qiang Fu, University of British Columbia; Jiaxin Gu, University of British Columbia; Yushu Zhu, Simon Fraser University*

**4. A multilevel analysis of the support networks of immigrants in Canada: a case study of Ghanaian immigrants in Toronto**

Immigrants consciously develop and maintain ties with individuals both in the host society and their origin country. These individuals, who constitute their personal networks may provide and receive various types of support. Nevertheless the characteristics of the immigrant, network members and the structure of the network influences the kind of support provided or received. Yet, relatively little is known about the nature of these support networks - in the context where immigrants are engaged in transnational activity and how this contributes to their integration in the host society. This study therefore addressed the question of which dimensions of support are exchanged between immigrants and members of their personal networks and the extent to which the immigrant's characteristics, network members' characteristics and network characteristics influence these support exchanges. Drawing on data from 172 ego-centric networks collected from Ghanaian immigrants in the Toronto Census Area, results show that relationship between immigrants and their networks provides a wide array of support. Multi-level multinomial analysis of the networks reveals that immigrants' characteristics (gender, length of time, educational level), transnational engagement (sending remittance), characteristics of the network (brokerage) and network members (age, nationality, and sex) are less significant in influencing support exchanges. Rather relational attributes such as frequency of communication and strength of ties measured as the degree of importance attached to the relationship determine support exchanges in the immigrant's network. Based on this, the implications for integration are discussed.

Author(s): *Emmanuel Kyeremeh, Western University; Godwin Arku, Western University; Bridget Osei Henewaah Annor, Western University*

**5. Diagnosis, Prediction, and Control of Epidemics in the Telegram Public Channel Network Using Cognitive Psychology and Linguistics**

Telegram is the most popular app in Iranian social movements. In recent years, demonstrations in Iran were mainly organized through Telegram. In this research, we want to study the issue of the mechanism of epidemic and dissemination of messages in the social network application of Telegram. In particular, by studying the telecommunications network of Telegram in Iran and observing a limited number of such channels, we want to be able to detect a topic becoming epidemic before a large number of channels talk about that topic. The data used in this study are a number of active telegram channels in Iran in 2017 that organized street protests by the public. This research answers the following questions: What variables are effective in messages spreading on public telegram channels? What is the process of a message becoming epidemic on telegram channels? Which telegram

channels first raised the important issue? (Detecting channels or central nodes of the graph). Given the nature of the rapidly expanding messages, which topics will be further expanded on Iranian Telegram channels in the future? What are the features that can make Telegram channels causing social abnormalities? The study also predicts which topics will be extensive in the future, based on available data. In presenting algorithms and solving methods, a cognitive approach is used to solve this problem. One of the biggest challenges of this project is the enormous amount of data (Telegram public channel network) that includes several millions of different channels and a large number of messages transmitted among them. On the other hand, many of the usual simplifications cannot be done on this data to solve this problem. Applying cognitive concepts to this problem can be very helpful since cognitive approaches can be used to examine how information is disseminated between individuals (channels) and to identify factors that influence a person's (channel) decision to publish or not publish a message, and to identify the characteristics of channels that are effective in triggering an epidemic, and to simplify the network based on these features.

Author(s): *Parizad Bahardoost, Islamic Azad University*

## Sport and Social Inclusion in Canada I: Winter Sports and Newcomer Integration

Session Code: SOS1A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Sport

The stratification of sports results in a number of social inequalities. These inequalities are increasingly relevant given global migration and political changes that bring together diverse individuals which ultimately create new challenges for living and participating in activities together. This panel focuses on newcomer integration, as well as diversity in winter sports, and examines the ways in which sports participants experience the socially constructed understandings of race, ethnicity, and multiculturalism. Through an exploration of winter sports programming and experiences of mixed-race individuals and families who participate in ice hockey, this panel examines the role of winter sports in shaping the Canadian identity and the importance of race and ethnicity, specifically within programs and hockey arenas.

Organizer(s): *Martine Dennie, University of Calgary; Lloyd Wong, University of Calgary*

Presentations:

### **1. Integration, inclusion, or assimilation?: Investigating diverse understanding of a newcomer community sport program**

Sport participation is popularly constructed as an effective way to help newcomers integrate into Canadian society (Institute for Canadian Citizenship, 2014). Yet, this claim has been subject to scholarly debate (Agergaard, 2019), and is largely underexplored within winter sport (Barrick, Bridel, and Bard Miller, Under Review). I will address this gap by sharing research involving the WinSport Welcomes Newcomers Initiative, an intersectoral collaboration based in Calgary, Alberta that has introduced over 300 newcomers to skiing, snowboarding, and ice skating. I conducted a qualitative case study analysis of the initiative from 2017 to 2018 that was theoretically informed by socially constructed understandings of race, ethnicity, and multiculturalism (Bannerji, 2000; Guo and Guo, 2015; Mackey, 2002). Methods included in-depth interviews with program participants, parents, instructors, and administrators; photo elicitation focus groups with program participants; participant observation; and document analysis. For this presentation, I will focus on the varied ways study participants (e.g., program participants vs. administrators) conceptualized the WinSport programming as either integrative, inclusionary, and/or assimilationist. This work will contribute to the expanding literature (e.g., Agergaard, 2019) critiquing simplistic and neo-assimilationist realities of integration, through presenting nuanced, messy understandings of this process from those involved in the WinSport programs.

Author(s): *Simon J. Barrick, University of Calgary*

### **2. Habitus and Hockey: Social Exclusion, Social Inclusion and Symbolic Capital**

The sport of organized hockey is often difficult to access for many Canadians. The factors for social exclusion from hockey may include money, time, abuse, racism, homophobia and other barriers that restrict access to full participation. However, once in the door of the arena, as a player or as a fan (physically or virtually), there comes with it the emergence of symbolic capital and experiences of Canadian identity and sense of belonging as a national habitus. These participants then become members of the hockey community and part of a national conversation.

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Drawing from qualitative interviews with hockey players and fans in Calgary and Toronto, this paper explores the barriers that affect participation and shape their experiences within the hockey world. We also explore the unique barriers affecting players, which tend to be more difficult to navigate than those affecting hockey fans who consume the sport through attendance at games, and on television and online media. Finally, we explore the emergence of symbolic capital and aspects of social integration into Canadian society.

Author(s): *Lloyd Wong, University of Calgary; Martine Dennie, University of Calgary*

### **3. Affordances of Hockey Space and its Role in Shaping Identity and Imagination of the Sport**

This paper examines how physical space configures social relations and intersects with hockey identities, imagination, and interactions. Based on 40 observations and ethnographic experience, this paper looks at how actor network theory and the concepts of affordance can be used to better understand hockey relations and who participates in the sport and how space mediates the form of participation and the imagination of hockey, and as an offshoot, Canadian identity. It looks at spaces ranging from the pond to the jumbotron as well as online and mediated spaces. The paper also explores spaces within spaces as fields of interaction to understand the role that hockey plays in creating inclusive or prohibitive spaces for people from diverse class, ethnic, racial and gender backgrounds.

Author(s): *Howard Ramos, Dalhousie University; Patrick Bondy, Dalhousie University*

### **4. Change in Hockey - Experiences of Mixed-Race Individuals and Families**

While existing scholarship on hockey has explored conflicting moral discourses of the sport, few have focused on how hockey players, parents, and fans - 'hockey people' - weigh and evaluate competing moral claims around disputes, incidents, and change in the sport. As Canada's demography has become increasingly ethnically and racially diverse, who plays hockey and hockey culture has seen a gradual change which has led to disputes and incidents around the identity of the game. Research has been done on the history of ethno-racial minorities in the sport, however, little attention has been paid to biracial and mixed-race hockey people and the roles they play in navigating hockey culture and change in the sport. Using data from ethnographic fieldwork conducted in Halifax and Toronto, this paper explores how hockey people think through questions around race, ethnicity, and the treatment of difference in contemporary Canadian hockey. While mixed-race hockey players tend to downplay the importance of race and ethnicity, for white hockey parents and fans having familial connections to mixed-race hockey players leads to a high degree of racial awareness within hockey arenas. The paper teases out how mixed-race individuals and families uniquely experience hockey in today's Canada.

Author(s): *Patrick Bondy, Dalhousie University; Howard Ramos, Dalhousie University*

## **Sport and Social Inclusion in Canada II: Race and Sexuality in Sports**

Session Code: SOS1B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Sport

The stratification of sports results in a number of inequalities around race, ethnicity, nationhood, social class, gender, and sexual orientation. These issues are increasingly relevant given global migration and political changes that bring together individuals and families from all walks of life, which ultimately create new challenges for living and participating in activities together. This panel explores the role of sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, and socio-cultural factors that shape the experiences of participants. Through an investigation of figure skating, varsity sports, women's sports, and street parties following professional hockey games in Winnipeg, Manitoba, the panelists explore the numerous barriers to social inclusion and the numerous inequalities that persist in leisure practices and Canadian sports.

Organizer(s): *Martine Dennie, University of Calgary; Lloyd Wong, University of Calgary*

Presentations:

### **1. An Examination of the Sociocultural and Psychosocial Factors Affecting Women of African Descent and their Engagement in Physical Activity.**

This research is aimed at exploring the effects of sociocultural and psychosocial factors on the relationship African women in Canada have with exercise and Physical Activity (PA). The high incidence of PA related illnesses such as diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, and obesity among African women makes this study a necessity, especially in



discussions about ways to reduce the current burden on the Canadian health care system. The objectives of the study includes: exploring the psychosocial and sociocultural factors affecting the relationship of continental African women with PA, investigating the differences in the understanding of the needs for PA between two generations of African women, and suggesting a reasonable understanding of the lived experiences of continental African women that may impact their relationship with PA and exercise, and their overall health. The ideal participant number for this study is six in total: three for the first-generation group and three for the second-generation group. All participants will go through a semi-structured one-on-one interview, which would include several prompting questions to explore their PA habits. Hermeneutic phenomenology and the Black Feminist Theory will be combined for the analysis of the data from the interviews. This would then be used to create themes and make conclusions on the sociocultural and psychosocial factors influencing the engagement of African Women in PA. This combination discourages the use of a hypothesis since the primary objective of the study is to create an unbiased lens for understanding and interpreting the experiences of the study population. The paucity of research on the experiences of Black women, especially those from continental Africa emphasizes the significance of this study. To develop health related interventions for a highly discriminated and marginalized group, we need to understand their experiences based on their personal definitions and understanding of said experiences.

Author(s): *Deborah Ayomikun Sanni, Dalhousie University*

## **2. Creating space: Black Canadian Female Athletes' Negotiating Access to Athletic Spaces**

For basketball scholarship hopefuls, informal gym time for training is often essential to the success of their athletic careers. Scholarly research shows that Black male youth in particular, face race-based access barriers to informal athletic spaces. Research also shows that female athletes also face barriers to athletic spaces in general due to gender discrimination. However, there has been little examination of the ways in which racialized and gendered athletes, such as Black women, experience access to athletic spaces. Therefore, using an Intersectional analytical framework and drawing on qualitative data gathered from 20 Black Canadian female U.S. athletic scholarship recipients, I identify the specific race-gender barriers faced by the participants in accessing informal athletic spaces and examine how they negotiated access to those spaces. I begin by first unpacking the literature on the histories of Black people more broadly, and Black athletes specifically, facing barriers to informal leisure practices in publicly owned spaces, such as community centres. I then link this literature to research on the specific ways that female athletes are often alienated or excluded from athletic spaces due to gender oppression. Next, I situate the experiences of the participants in this study as racialized and gendered athletes within the aforementioned literature to argue that the barriers to access that they faced were rooted in a sexist anti-Blackness that compounds race and gender oppression to create specific experiences. I conclude this working paper by exploring the strategies employed by these female athletes to circumvent access barriers and how those efforts often led to additional financial expense, as well as psychological and navigational labour. In this work, I elucidate the ways in which the axis of gender, intersecting with class and race, creates social and athletic experiences and opportunities that are distinct from the dominant Black male-centered discourses in sport and research on student-athletes.

Author(s): *Rhonda C. George, York University*

## **3. Figure Skating and (Barriers to) Social Inclusion: Findings from a Qualitative Case Study**

Following continued calls for more publicly engaged sport sociology, this paper presents research and praxis outcomes of a two-year case study investigating LGBTQI2S inclusion in Canadian skating. Informed by poststructuralist theories of gender and sexuality, transcripts from interviews with LGBTQI2S members of the national sport organization Skate Canada, and field notes taken while observing a series of figure skating competitions, were subjected to thematic and discursive analysis. Themes identified in and across the qualitative materials included acceptance with caveats, a need (and desire) for better education on LGBTQI2S inclusion, and barriers to “authentic” participation. I argue that despite more openness in the sport in contemporary times, dominant gender discourses and heteronormativity (intersecting with social class) continue to influence performance aspects of the sport as well as everyday experiences of LGBTQI2S persons in skating. I conclude with comments about how this research has influenced changes to Skate Canada policies, rules and regulations, development of resources, and public support of LGBTQI2S communities, as the organization strives to address social inclusion in a meaningful way.

Author(s): *William Bridel, University of Calgary*

**4. Trans-Inclusive Sport: Identifying and Challenging Persistent Inequalities**

How and where transgender Canadian student-athletes participate in sport is complex, highly contested, and inconsistent due to the competing, and often contradictory, policies in force across different school boards, geographical regions, sport disciplines, and levels of competition. The qualitative study discussed in this presentation provides insight into persistent barriers to trans-inclusive physical and health education (PHE) by seeking out and amplifying the voices of people impacted by trans eligibility policies in sport. In-depth semi-structured interviews were conducted with 26 trans athletes and trans people who participate in physical activity at a recreational level. This presentation discusses the recommendation for trans-inclusive PHE that participants voiced. Emphasizing the frequently-cited observation from participants that the requirements for fairness in sport differ when moving from PHE and grassroots-level sport to high performance sport, and that many areas of sport are not safe spaces for trans athletes (particularly locker rooms, unfamiliar environments, and unknown sports officials) ideas from participants to challenge persistent inequalities and make sport a more trans-inclusive space are provided. This presentation demonstrates that due to the lack of inclusion of trans issues in PHE curricula, as well as coaching and officiating education, trans student-athletes continue to face the burden of educating teachers, school administrators, sports officials, and competitors about why they should be allowed to play. Findings from this study indicate that for some trans students, participating in sport still requires cautious involvement to ensure that they will be safe, free of harassment and abuse, and treated with respect.

Author(s): *Sarah Teetzel, University of Manitoba*

**5. White Noise Never Dies: How an NHL Street Party Turned Into a Viral Conversation on Racism-Dissecting White Fragility in Public Opinion**

Public opinion is in(form)ed by institutional, political dictation and influenced by dominant cultural norms embedded in white supremacy. Upset and discomfort can be triggered when public opinion is questioned or challenged by counter-culture. When a simple observation inquiring about public safety and social-inclusion was asked of the NHL Winnipeg Jets annual whiteout street party, it sparked a public frenzy that turned into a viral debate on racism. Examining public opinion on critical inquiries of: race, language, public safety, socioeconomics and cultural institutions seeks to understand and deconstruct the roots of white fragility in public opinion. Michael W. Martin and Jane Sell attempt to rationalize social experiments in their book *The Role of Social Experiments in Social Sciences* in challenging the idea that conducting social experiments creates insolvable problems in generalizing results from the laboratory setting to the real world. Dissecting public opinion through critical discourse can exist within social experimentation - to gauge the range of public tolerance and the general public's understanding of oppression and institutionalized exclusion. As Canada's reputation encompasses themes of a 'hate free' society, this paper attempts to reveal the ugly truth of white fragility in public opinion by recounting what happens when a Canadian institution is questioned in the public eye.

Author(s): *Alexa Joy Potashnik, Black Space Winnipeg*

**Tackling Inequality: Racism, Resistance, and Empowerment in Sport**

Session Code: SOS2

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Sport

It is often assumed that sport is free of inequality and we are all equal at the starting line. On the contrary, the values as well as the structure of sport have always been intertwined with dominant norms and social values, social and political conflicts, and power relations. Sport norms are a reflection of racial and colonial privilege, domination, oppression, and subordination and intersect with class, gender, sexuality and other social and political identities. At the same time, sport is a place of resistance to racism and marginalization. Sport can also be empowering and has historical and contemporary significance within racialized communities. With the theme of the conference in mind, 'Resisting Racism and Colonialism,' this session will explore racism and colonialism within sport organizations, sport media, and sporting experiences both historically and presently. Given that sport is a contested institution, this session will also explore sport and sporting arenas as places of resistance and empowerment for racialized and marginalized athletes and sport fans.

Organizer(s): *Rachelle Miele, Western University; Daisy Hamelinck, Western University*

Presentations:

**1. Climbing 'Well': Critical Opportunities in Sport**

As a rapidly growing sport, tensions between the 'spirit' of a creative and rebellious practice with the challenges of growing sustainably abound in rock climbers' recreational experiences. Nowhere is this tension more palpable than in the conflicts and negotiations of climbing access to public lands; sites of ongoing contestations of colonialism, white supremacy, gendered landscapes, and class inequality. Climbing 'well' is thus a problematized experience -a site of subjectification in which who belongs in environmentally and culturally sensitive places is established through an ethical stylization of conduct. By exploring how dominating norms intertwine with liberatory possibilities in the 'games' of climbing ethics, I will discuss the opportunities and roadblocks to the emergence of the critical work of resisting gender normativity, colonialism, and racism as an aspect of climbing 'well.' This position will be supported through consideration of Foucault's genealogical account of ethics in conversation with phenomenological, feminist, and critical sport approaches. To illustrate this discussion, I draw on fieldwork undertaken in the contested spaces of Hueco Tanks State Park, Texas, and Bruce Peninsula National Park, Ontario to engage with the bodily experience of ethical subjectification, as co-generated in narratives, interviews, and climbing practice.

Author(s): *Kent Hall, Carleton University*

**2. From Warriors to Chiefs: Indigenous Mascots in Sports and the debate in Canadian Newspapers**

Within the last decade or so, a popular topic in Canadian sports media has surrounded the use of Indigenous mascots in sports. Some sports fans argue that change is needed, while others believe that Indigenous mascots are not disrespectful and cite tradition as a reason to maintain the status quo. This study critically examines the debate in popular Canadian newspapers between 2009 and 2019. Specifically, I focus on how the debate is framed, who is given voice in the debate and who is not, and the meaning ascribed to the mascots. I draw on postcolonial theory and conduct a critical discourse analysis to examine media discourse, understand taken-for-granted assumptions about colonialism, nationhood, and sports, and understand the role of discourse in producing, reproducing, and challenging colonialism in Canada. Findings of this analysis are framed in relation to other Canadian representations of Indigenous people, inequality, and colonialism.

Author(s): *Rachelle Miele, Western University*

**3. "Shut up and Play:" The Legacy of Slavery and Colonialism in Sport**

This paper explores how the legacies of slavery and colonialism are entrenched in the treatment of black and brown men in professional sports. I argue that players who protest and express their dissent towards racism in their respective leagues face consequences as they are challenging what the leagues and fans believe of themselves, i.e. the notion of equality and championing regardless of race. Power structures are reflected in the leadership of these teams, with the vast majority of coaches and owners being white. These power dynamics are further recreated with fans of the sports who come to believe that their chosen form of entertainment should not be related to the conflicts within broader society. I analyze interviews, comments on news articles and the social media of players who have spoken against racism in professional sports to understand the reaction to athletes of colour who advocate for themselves and their communities.

Author(s): *Jasmeet Bahia, Carleton University*

**4. Fight the Power: the NBA and New Sporting Social Activism**

This paper examines the intersecting nature of contemporary sport, politics and social activism in the United States and does so while employing both social conflict and critical race theory as well as Erving Goffman's classical ideas on stigma, deviance and master status. More specifically, the Los Angeles Lakers' LeBron James is positioned as the dominant and representational voice of what this paper identifies as the NBA's new sporting social activism. Additionally, this paper looks to social media such as Twitter and Instagram as a contributing ally in offering additional platforms hosting the voices of this new social activism, but also as oppositional platforms hosting dissenting, purposely agitating voices wherein defiant social media agitators, or the colloquially regarded "troll" seek to disrupt these new activist voices through the employment of inflammatory, racialized language - as well as outright racism, race-baiting and mischaracterizations of history - while working to stall, rupture or delegitimize new sporting social activism. Lastly, this paper positions new sporting social activism as a key and influential voice amidst the 21st-century culture wars wherein discordant views on race, class, gender, and sexuality are increasingly debated, both in the traditional arena of cable news networks such as CNN or Fox News, but also online via social media. For example, James' active, critical voice is continually challenged and contested

by reactionary political commentators, including us president Donald Trump, as they work to re-entrench the retrograde belief that sports and politics are to be inherently sealed off from one another.

Author(s): *Graeme Metcalf, Ryerson University*

## Physical Culture and Late(r) Life

Session Code: SOS4

Research Cluster Affiliation: Sociology of Sport

As nations around the world grow demographically older, numerous sources report that aging populations will create a “crisis,” becoming a burden on the state by increasing health care costs. As part of this discourse, many encourage old(er) people to take responsibility for their own aging processes, championing physical activity as the key to successful aging. In this session, presenters address the embodied experiences and representations of late(r) life exercisers. They attend to the ways the media shape pressures on the old to exercise and how those in late(r) life actually engage/disengage in physical activity in light of these pressures.

Organizer(s): *Kristi Allain, St. Thomas University; Meridith Griffin, McMaster University*

Presentations:

### 1. Skating into Old Age: Embodied Aging and Men's Ice Hockey

In the West, many in the media and the health sector emphasize physical activity as important for the old, so that they can circumvent the impacts of aging and the associated costs. At the same time, neoliberal health discourse advises older people to avoid activities that may cause injuries, such as slips and falls, creating contradictions for older people who participate in sports on ice. In light of these mixed messages, this paper explores how older men understand their bodies through their participation in the seemingly risky sport of ice hockey. I conducted eighteen semi-structured interviews with older Canadian men who played hockey, identifying common themes related to aging, embodiment, risk and pleasure. Participants were aware that common-sense discourse produced hockey as risky for the old but often downplayed this risk, privileging pleasure. Discourses associated with pleasure acted as an important way for older men to examine their ageing bodies and contemplate the significance of hockey in their lives. They often expressed resistance to neoliberal health strategies that mandate physical activity for the old as a way to avoid age-related decline and instead found ways to celebrate their bodies as both aging and capable of experiencing pleasure.

Author(s): *Kristi Allain, St. Thomas University*

### 2. Exploring mediated representations of old(er) curlers in Canadian media

As Canada's population continues to age, growing interest is being paid to how recreational sport and physical activity participation contributes to ideas of “healthy aging”. Curling is popularly constructed as part of Canada's national sporting imaginary, in which old(er) adults hold a prominent position both in playing the sport and in popular understandings of curling in Canada (Allain, 2019; Allain and Marshall, 2019; Mair, 2007). Yet, the centrality of old(er) adults in Canadian curling is being disrupted by the ongoing “athletic turn” in elite curling, fueled mainly by the sport's Olympic inclusion since 1998 (Allain and Marshall, 2018). In this presentation, I will share findings from a media analysis of mainstream Canadian newspaper articles from September 1st, 2015 to December 31st, 2019 examining the participation of old(er) adults in curling. I thematically analyzed the articles (Braun and Clarke, 2019) to understand how old(er) adults are positioned within representations of contemporary curling. Key insights include how old(er) adults' participation in curling both supports and challenges popular understandings of healthy aging, while fostering spaces to celebrate the embodied experiences of old(er) curlers. These insights will help make sense of the intersections between aging, sport, national identity, and mediated representations of old(er) adults.

Author(s): *Simon J. Barrick, University of Calgary*

### 3. “Eventually if you can't do any of it, it's like why am I here?” : Older adults' stories of exclusion from physical cultures

Despite efforts to promote physical activity in late(r) life (e.g., governmental recommendations about levels and types of activity and associated public discourse ripe with anti-ageing and individualist calls to action), relatively few older adults are active. Scholarship here has not moved very far beyond noting the typical barriers to exercise.

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To advance our understanding, we argue that there is a need to explicate the contextual and biographical experiences of older adults, that underlie (and contribute to) commonly reported barriers. Our aim is to share stories of experienced exclusion in fitness contexts, demonstrating the heterogeneous experiences of older adults. To do so, we conducted a retrospective narrative analysis of four discrete research projects on aging and physical activity. With respect to stories of exclusion, we employed a contextually situated biographical approach to (re)analyze interviews, ethnographic observations, and memoirs. Four themes emerged from these stories of exclusion: 1) fitness trauma (re)negotiated over time; 2) somatic knowledge, informed by ageing, injury, and/or illness, influencing physical activity decisions; 3) lingering impressions of (in/ex)clusive spaces and embodied/rejected places; and 4) gatekeeping as engendering exclusive fitness subcultures. These narratives highlight the need for gerontological competence in fitness cultures, as well as for multiple levels of integration.

Author(s): *Meridith Griffin, McMaster University; Kelsey Harvey, McMaster University*

### Canadian experiences of social stratification and economic mobility

Session Code: SPE2

Research Cluster Affiliation: Social Policy and Social Equality

Economic mobility is supposed to be the glue that binds a modern rich and capitalist society like Canada. But are Canadians really as economically mobile as often claimed? Are all equally mobile? This session will host papers that unpack the social drivers of economic mobility and how these factors can combine and interact to offer opportunity to some and exclusion for others.

Organizer(s): *Charles Plante, University of Saskatchewan; Josh Curtis, University of Calgary; Xavier St-Denis, University of Toronto*

Presentations:

#### **1. Entrepreneurship in a settler-colonial state: A Comparative Study on Institutional Conditions Affecting Indigenous and Immigrant Entrepreneurs in Canada**

Entrepreneurship has been studied as a significant form of employment and job creation, often characterized with descriptions of benefits associated with independence, freedom, and facilitating upward mobility. The broader category of self-employment in Canada has steadily progressed on an upward trend, with research attributing this to technological advancements, the aging of the labour force and government policies. Scholars have also focused especially on immigrants in self-employment as they make up a considerable portion of the self-employed labour force in Canada as compared to their Canadian-born counterparts. With the basis that Canada is a settler-colonial state, it must be examined how the concept of entrepreneurship fits within the relationship between immigrants and Indigenous communities. One area where there has been a dearth of literature is around how Indigenous communities start and succeed in entrepreneurial pursuits, as compared to immigrant entrepreneurs. This paper will examine the institutional factors that impact both communities, and share findings that in the settler-colonial state of Canada, Indigenous entrepreneurs are at a disadvantage in succeeding in their business over immigrant communities, even though both groups face significant institutional barriers to their entrepreneurial pursuit. As a nation, this has policy implications to understanding how we can reconcile and promote policies that can facilitate the growth of entrepreneurs for both communities as a tool of economic empowerment.

Author(s): *Laura Lam, Ryerson University*

#### **2. Intergenerational Educational Assortative Mating in Canada: A Study of Three Birth Cohorts from 1940-1985.**

Educational homogamy, or the practice of marrying someone of a similar level of education, tends to reinforce social stratification, amplify social closure, and stagnate social mobility. At the same time, in non-homogamous heterosexual partnerships, whether women are more likely to marry/partner up with men of higher educational attainment than themselves (i.e., hypergamy) or marry/partner down (i.e., hypogamy) serves as an indicator of gender inequality or equality in society. In this paper, we examine how intergenerational educational assortative mating contributes to social mobility by disrupting or reproducing social stratification and gender inequality as indicated by educational pairing. Ultimately, we ask the question: do parents' practice of educational homogamy,

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hypergamy, or hypogamy affect their offspring's own educational pairing? Using data from the 2014 Canadian general social survey (GSS), we examine trends of educational homogamy for heterosexual men and women born between 1940 and 1985 to study how it has changed across time and different social groups. We develop a distance measurement to examine how the magnitude and direction of educational distance between one's parents affect a respondent's choice of partner in terms of educational attainment. Our preliminary results suggest that when people marry across educational and in turn class boundaries, there are benefits for social openness and gender equality not only within a generation, but also for subsequent generations by influencing their choice of partners. Author(s): *Siqi Xiao, University of British Columbia; Alex Chow, University of British Columbia*

### Perspectives on class and social inequality in Canada

Session Code: SPE3

Research Cluster Affiliation: Social Policy and Social Equality

Mounting inequality and political crisis in rich Western democracies is motivating renewed interest in traditional mainstays of sociology like class and status. What does Canadian sociology have to contribute to these conversations? This session will host sociological papers on class, social stratification, income/wealth inequality, debt, work, and occupational inequality based on quantitative or qualitative research. How should we understand and/or measure these things in Canada? How do they shape people's opportunities, experiences, and values? How do they intersect with other factors like gender, sexuality, ethnicity, indigeneity, and citizenship?

Organizer(s): *Charles Plante, University of Saskatchewan; Josh Curtis, University of Calgary; Xavier St. Denis, University of Toronto*

Presentations:

#### 1. The Motivational Bases of Labour Action

Labour mobilization has been a central tactic for advancing social change since the Industrial Revolution, but we have a limited understanding of peoples' subjective willingness to act. Our research attempts to understand (1) whether changing material circumstances affect the motives shaping strike action; and (2) if so, precisely how. Put differently: When do people rebel? The relative deprivation hypothesis says that mobilizations for social change depend on big, negative material differences between today and yesterday, and that gains in material welfare are inherently demobilizing. The counter-hypothesis suggests the opposite: people are inclined to push for social change once they have already made material gains. Instead of becoming satiated with small improvements, success emboldens them to demand more. Advocates of either view can find cases to support their preferred hypothesis, but the circumstances under which different mechanisms operate are poorly understood. Is the relevant material factor absolute changes - improvements or declines - in the wellbeing of persons at the median (we call these "median theories") or are the pertinent changes inherently comparative? In the latter case, variables compare changes in the standards of living at the median with those of elites (we call these standard deviation theories"). This theoretical map gives us (1) gain theories and loss theories, and (2) median theories and standard deviation theories. Cross-tabulating these two dimensions provides four permutations of potential social change. To analyze these questions quantitatively, we compiled a dataset which merges US state-level socioeconomic data with US strike data from the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, and at the international level, we merged cross-national strike data from the International Labor Organization with the World Inequality Database, covering more than seventy countries. We find preliminary support for median decline theories, and clarify the circumstances under which one or another mechanism is in play.

Author(s): *David Calnitsky, Western University; Ella Wind, New York University*

#### 2. Political Coalitions and Willingness to Pay Taxes

Support for additional public spending is widespread in advanced industrial democracies, but few voters are willing to raise their own tax burden: most voters want to fund additional spending by shifting the tax burden to high-income individuals. This study aims to identify which voters are willing raise their own taxes to fund additional spending. Using the ISSP cross national surveys on the role of government conducted in 2016, I analyze if occupational status and preferences for specific types of public expenditures, namely investment and



consumption (the two main categories of expenditures in this dissertation), are related to individuals' willingness to pay. Few studies have tested if the expenditure preferences of different constituencies, defined by their occupational status, are related to their preferences for taxation. This is a blind spot in the literature since the tax policy preferences could contribute to tensions within political coalitions. I find that voters who want more investments in education and environment tend to support higher taxes in general. These voters are often highly educated sociocultural professionals, the new core constituency of center-left coalitions. In contrast, voters who want more consumption spending in health care, unemployment and pensions tend to believe that taxes on their own income group are too high and would prefer to shift the tax burden to the rich. These voters are often relatively poor, low-skilled service or production workers, the traditional core constituency of center-left parties. Thus, tax policy preferences contribute to tensions within the typical social-democratic coalition. In contrast, the tax policy preferences of the main center-right constituencies are not significantly different, suggesting that tensions regarding tax policy preferences are more severe for the center-left coalition than for the center-right coalition.

Author(s): *Olivier Jacques, McGill university*

### **3. Modeling family data three-dimensionally: Methodological considerations for measuring cumulative family processes at the whole-family level**

Social stratification scholars often consider 'the family' to be the most influential social group impacting the life course of an individual. As such, 'the family' represents an important unit of analysis for social science research (Uhlenberg, 1980; Heath and Payne, 2000). Despite the importance that the concept holds, for decades, scholars have debated how to define and measure the boundaries of what exactly constitutes 'the family' which has resulted in an overreliance on the use of dyadic and individual data models for studying family relations. For the field of family research, the lack of studies examining the extent to which 'whole-families' face issues of mobility throughout time and space has limited the capacity to understand family processes over multiple generations (Cox and Paley, 1997; Handel, 1965, 1987, 1996). Using multisource biographical data from four generations of Irish Canadian refugees, this paper argues the methodological merits of studying multigenerational stratification patterns by measuring the cumulative processes of transmitting culture and inequality from a whole-family perspective. I demonstrate that conceptualizing processes of continuity and change from a 'whole-family' perspective can reveal important patterns regarding the generational degree with which cumulative processes (i.e. inequality, social mobility) are transmitted to socially bonded individuals.

Author(s): *Megan MacCormac, Western University*

### **4. Toward an Evidence Based Approach to Identifying the Poor: Canada's New Official Poverty Measure in Theoretical and Practical Context**

In 2018, the Government of Canada released its first poverty reduction strategy in which it committed to "reduce poverty by 20 percent by 2020 and 50 percent by 2030." In order to track these efforts, it identified as its new "official measure of poverty" the indicator previously known as the Market Basket Measure, or simply, the "MBM." In his now seminal 1976 essay, "On the Measurement of Poverty," Amartya Sen identified the selection of a poverty indicator as one of two critical decisions that have to be made before we can begin to measure poverty. However, even though countless poverty indicators have been proposed over the years, how exactly we should go about choosing between them has received surprisingly little systematic attention from social scientists. In this paper, I detail the nature and stakes of the indicator problem and make the case that the answers we provide to it can and should be informed by theory and evidence and not just by habit or convenience. I use the poverty alleviation objectives of the Canadian government and its new official poverty measure to illuminate my argument.

Author(s): *Charles Plante, University of Saskatchewan*

## **Social Policy and Governance: Unequal Processes, Unequal Actors**

Session Code: SPE4A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Social Policy and Social Equality

Various intersecting axes of social inequality exist in Canada and around the world. Much research - both theoretical and empirical - has been exploring the ways in which inequality may be reduced and lives, particularly of members of vulnerable social groups, may be improved. Inequality-reducing social policies, infrastructure, and social services are present in many areas of social life. This session focuses on formation, implementation, and

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instituitualisation of social policies. It thus connects the consideration of political process and governance, with that of social policy. Social policy actors and their networks, as well as the socio-cultural contexts wherein they operate, are considered.

Organizer(s): *Ivanka Knezevic, University of Toronto; Weizhen Dong, University of Waterloo*

Presentations:

### **1. Impoverished Destiny: Neoliberal Governmentality in Poverty Reduction**

This study draws upon a Foucauldian framework of governance to examine citizen-subject creation and reinforcement through the Canadian, Ontarian, and Windsor poverty reduction strategies. While poverty reduction strategies state that their objectives are to reduce or end poverty, the objective of this research is to demonstrate that the poverty reduction strategies are first concerned with the creation of neo-liberal subjects. This study uses socio-linguistic analysis to demonstrate that poverty reduction strategies hide behind noble language of "helping" to reinforce the power structures of colonialism and capitalism. Through shifting responsibility, use of the expert, and a variety of economic discourses, poverty reduction is mobilized to encourage everyone to fill a uniform, neo-liberal existence. This study also engages with the questions: what happens when someone is not able to fit into the prescribed role? How are those who cannot fill these roles governed through the strategies?

Author(s): *Sydney Chapados, University of Windsor*

### **2. Colonial oppression, racism and the powerful: Contextual explorations of Australia's cashless debit card in the lives of recipients and their communities**

Australia's cashless-debit-card is the most recent iteration of income management (IM), a social policy approach to modifying behaviours of people in receipt of income support payments. IM is a form of welfare-conditionality, where a portion of government issued income-support payment is quarantined via a private provider, to disallow purchases of alcohol, gambling or pornographic products, while a small amount remains available as cash. This paper argues IM policies ignore existing intersections of social conditions related to inequality and inequity. Our primary research instead discusses how Australia's IM approach works to entrench hardship and promote poverty through intentional stigmatisation whilst profiting of the backs of the poor. Australia's Aboriginal Peoples remain overrepresented as recipients of income support nationwide, and even more so as recipients of the cashless-debit-card. We argue that through an unwillingness to contextualise lived realities of racism, history and colonialism, this policy further institutionalises ongoing colonial oppression enhanced by neoliberal economic reasoning. We tackle this policy from the perspective of whiteness theory, and challenge whether acknowledgement of our own power as researchers is ever enough to ensure effective resistance via advocacy. We suggest implications of our research for future policy making better aimed at preventing not promoting, social harms.

Author(s): *Kristen Stevens, University of South Australia; Deirdre Tedmanson, University of South Australia*

### **3. Social Policy Networks and Governance: Civil Society Law Reforms in a Post-Socialist Country**

The paper examines social policy formation network whose members were active in the 2009-2010 reforms of civil society regulation in Serbia. This regulation is an example of a structural social policy: intervention into the political decision-making process, rather than a substantive intervention into societal outcomes. Like all post-socialist countries, Serbia had conducted extensive reforms to achieve legal framework suitable for neo-liberal economy, compatibility with the European Union's Acquis Communautaire, and compliance with the international human rights regime. This regime includes an idea of governance as depoliticized, decidedly non-state desideratum. This ideologically benign view assumes a civil society wherein political stratification is suppressed. The research shows that public discussions and legislative negotiations of these reforms were neither broad nor particularly democratic, but dominated by a small and relatively stable network of individual and organisational actors. Its members emerge as "flexians" (Wedel), operating in and across three distinct sub-networks: academia, government, and NGOs. The last also functions as "knowledge community," promoting ideals of non-hierarchical and wide-spread civic engagement. The network's activity in the policy-making process, aimed at enabling these goals, is at ironic odds with them.

Author(s): *Ivanka Knezevic, University of Toronto*

### **4. Creative Agencies: How Seniors' Services Negotiate Austerity and Inequality**

Austerity measures in Ontario are significantly impacting the non-profit sector, including services for seniors. In the context of age-friendly initiatives, these organizations are attempting to strengthen supports for seniors that help them to maintain health and reduce social isolation, but within uncertain funding environments. Drawing on

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data from “Imagining Age-Friendly Communities within Communities: International Promising Practices” (PI: Tamara Daly, York University), a SSHRC Partnership Grant project, we provide two case studies of non-profit organizations in Ottawa that support seniors: one that supports immigrant seniors and one mainstream organization that primarily supports low-income seniors. In this paper, we describe their different funding situations and the impact of these situations on the organizations, workers, volunteers, and seniors that they support. Informed by feminist political economy, our data from document analysis, interviews, and participant observation indicate that while the organizations are coping within a precarious funding environment, they are also resisting. As we discuss, however, there are human costs to this coping and resistance. We also draw attention to the ways in which the organizations, while both affected by austerity measures, experience austerity differently. Thus, austerity measures fall unequally, distributing costs and benefits in ways that shape relations of class, race, and gender.

Author(s): *Lauren Brooks-Cleator, Carleton University; Susan Braedley, Carleton University; Christine Streeter, Carleton University*

### Social Inequality and Social Policy In Housing And Homelessness

Session Code: SPE4B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Social Policy and Social Equality

Various intersecting axes of social inequality exist in Canada and around the world. Much research - both theoretical and empirical - has been exploring the ways in which inequality may be reduced and lives, particularly of members of vulnerable social groups, may be improved. Inequality-reducing social policies, infrastructure, and social services are present in many areas of social life. Presentations in this session represent varied methodological and theoretical approaches to housing inequalities and policies that seek to address them, including critical assessments of insufficiency of existing policies to achieve equity and social justice in allocation of residential space.

Organizer(s): *Ivanka Knezevic, University of Toronto; Weizhen Dong, University of Waterloo*

Presentations:

#### **1. Canadian housing policy as “passive revolution”**

This paper argues that national housing policy has evolved as a crisis management strategy designed for capital rather than to address the housing needs of the working class. I employ Gramsci’s ‘passive revolution’ in an attempt to show that state intervention in housing mediates the contradictions of capital by restoring the balance of class forces and transforming housing from a public good into an investment in order to ensure the conditions of accumulation in the housing sector. By analyzing the historical development of the federal government’s housing policy through three phases -the Keynesian regime from 1919-1975, the neoliberal regime from 1975-2008, and the globalized financial regime from 2008-2019 -I argue that the chief characteristics of each policy regime were shaped by the instances of passive revolution through which the state reorganizes the regime of accumulation and submerges class conflict. The findings conclude that a century of federal housing policy has contributed to class, racial, and gender divisions, and, moreover, that globalization has rendered national housing policy ineffective for managing the global contradictions that define the current housing crisis.

Author(s): *Yuly Chan, York University*

#### **2. Neo-liberalism, Financialization and Canada’s National Housing Strategy**

In 2017, the Canadian government announced “A Place to Call Home: Canada’s National Housing Strategy” a 10-year strategy to renew Canada’s supply of affordable housing. Housing advocates cautiously welcomed the initiative, even though the levels of support it promised remained far below the heyday of social housing construction in the 1960s through 1980s. However, despite a modest increase of investment compared with previous years, the strategy reinforces Canada’s neoliberal approach to housing provision, while heightening contradictions in Canadian housing policy. While promising affordability to all Canadian households, rising prices push housing further out of reach for low and modest income households, especially in large urban centres. Meanwhile, the availability of social housing struggles to keep pace even with population growth, let alone reduce wait lists. Canada has enacted new right to housing legislation, while simultaneously it subjects social housing to a regime of greater financialization. This article reviews key elements of current Canadian housing policy. It

situates this policy within the context of a growing literature of housing and financialization. It concludes with recommendations for what would be necessary to meet the objectives of affordable housing for all.

Author(s): *Josh Brandon, University of Manitoba*

### **3. A Critical Review of (Under)Representations of Youth Homelessness in Provincial and Territorial Education Policy**

Working Upstream is a SSHRC-funded, multi-partner research project on school-based prevention of youth homelessness. The project is a collaboration between lived-experience youth, policy makers, university researchers, and social service agencies. During an initial phase of the project, a critical review of provincial and territorial school board and government policy was undertaken to investigate how homelessness and its cognate issues are recognized and addressed in education policy. Our review indicates that youth homelessness is generally not recognized, housing issues are near-invisible, and engagement with poverty is insubstantial. Policies that do address issues related to homelessness - such as racialization, settler-colonialism and Indigeneity, LGBTQ marginalization, disability, inclusive education, attendance, punishment, and bullying - generally imagine that students are not homeless, have supportive family/caretaker residences, and benefit from school authorities' interventions rather than peer-based strategies. Major gaps exist between existing policies and those recommended by both the youth homelessness research literature and lived-experience youth collaborating with Working Upstream. Insofar as policies imagine students and families who conform to white, settler, middle-class norms, they can be seen through anticolonial and critical race theories as reflecting and perpetuating settler colonial and racial neoliberal approaches to youth homelessness and cognate issues.

Author(s): *Stuart Warren, Carleton University; Joshua Hawley, Carleton University; Jacqueline Kennelly, Carleton University*

### **4. Home Ownership and Fertility Intentions of Having a Second Child in China: A Comparative Study of Migrants and Urban Locals**

The link between homeownership and fertility intentions remains an open empirical question in today's Chinese society. The 2015 Chinese Social Survey (CSS) provides a nationally representative dataset that enables us to examine the differing effects of homeownership on fertility intentions of having a second child between local urban residents and rural-to-urban migrants. Using multi-level ordered logistic regression, we find that homeownership in Chinese cities does not automatically translate into greater fertility intentions as observed in many other countries. Homeownership and childbearing compete for the family's financial resources, due to increasing housing unaffordability in Chinese cities. The intensity of this competition effect differs greatly between urban locals and rural migrants, however. One of the most important social benefits in Chinese cities, subsidized housing, is usually only accessible to urban locals. In contrast to rural migrants who are left out in subsidized housing markets, urban locals can capitalize on subsidized housing, such as converting their public tenancy to new homeownership at very low costs and participating in the housing provident fund to purchase commodity housing. Besides the lack of access to subsidized housing, rural migrants encounter other difficulties stemming from the exclusive house registration system such as limited access to healthcare, employment opportunities, pension plans, and school enrolment for their children. Among rural migrants, these structural challenges are expected to weaken the sense of stability and security usually brought about by homeownership that is found to promote fertility intentions. These challenges are also likely to intensify the competition for a family's financial resources between homeownership and having more children. Taken together, due to policy discrimination, the weakened fertility-promoting effect and the intensified fertility-depressing effect of homeownership combine to make homeownership manifest an overall negative effect on migrants' fertility intentions.

Author(s): *Min Zhou, University of Victoria; Wei Guo, Nanjing University*

## **Population Dynamics and Social Inequality**

Session Code: SPE4B

Theme: Social Equality / Inequality

Social Inequality is a dominant characteristic of our society, but its dynamics and dimensions may change over time. This panel, organized by the Sociology Department at Western, includes several researchers who use quantitative methodologies, including demographic techniques, to explore social inequalities and their changing nature over time. Inequalities explored may include those related to health, immigration, education, families and the labour market.

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Organizer(s): *Tracey L. Adams, Western University*

### Panelists:

- Anna Zajacova, Western University
- Kate Hee Choi, Western University
- Anders Holm, Western University
- Andrea Willson and Kim Shuey, Western University
- Rachel Margolis, Western University

## Sociology and The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning

Session Code: TEA2

Research Cluster Affiliation: Teaching and Learning

Sociologists bring into their classrooms a variety of teaching and learning strategies and techniques. Some are disciplinary, applying sociological themes and theories to student learning and engagement. Others are anchored in the scholarship of teaching and learning, an emerging field that involves framing and investigating research questions relating to teaching and student learning, such the conditions under which learning takes place, what learning looks like, and the ways in which learning can be improved and advanced. The purpose of this session is to explore strategies ranging from practices informed by student or peer feedback and reflection to strategies anchored in the scholarship of teaching and learning.

Organizer(s): *Nathan Innocente, University of Toronto; Jayne Baker, University of Toronto*

### Presentations:

#### **1. The online minute-paper: A unique window into the learning process and experience**

In this presentation I share my experience with the “online minute paper”, my modified version of a learning tool, the one-minute paper (OMP), that expands this tool to include structured critical reflection and develops it into a confidential, yet not anonymous, online assignment. I adopted this tool following the broad consensus in the educational literature that critical reflection is key to engaging students in the process of learning. My own use of the OMP began two decades ago, as I switched from a career in medicine to one in sociology, which launched my career in academic sociology now teaching in an interdisciplinary, health studies program. In search of reassurance about my teaching competence, I then began to ask students to fill out an anonymous index card that I collected periodically at the end of each meeting. It has since evolved into an online, low-stakes, structured assignment that invites students to reflect weekly on their learning experience. Because by completing 10 of 12 possible “minute papers” students can earn up to 15% of course credit, most of them complete the assignment in full. Also, because I share their (anonymized) feedback on cognitive, emotional and behavioural aspects of their learning as a starting point for weekly sessions, reassure them that poor grammar or spelling will not impair their grade, and provide evidence that their critiques of content and process are welcome and make a difference (e.g., I make actual changes in response to them), the online MP has also evolved into an exceptional window into my students’ learning process and intellectual development. The online MP has also become a critical tool for me to better tailor course material, assignments and activities to my teaching goals and my students’ learning needs.

Author(s): *Claudia Chaufan, York University*

#### **2. Trading pens and paper for software and laptops: Exploring undergraduate student perceptions of learning to use CAQDAS**

Since the 1980s, researchers have been using computer-assisted qualitative data analysis software programs - CAQDAS - to organize, analyze and visualize qualitative and mixed-methods data (Davidson, Paulus and Jackson, 2016). Although the software has been in existence for over thirty years, teaching CAQDAS in the university setting has been largely confined to training graduate students (Carvajal, 2002). Consequently, there are limited studies available highlighting strategies for undergraduate research methods instructors to integrate CAQDAS into their teaching. To add to the existing literature, this paper explores student perceptions from their experiences using MAXQDA software in a large introductory sociology research methods course. Utilizing qualitative reflective

response data, I explore the likelihood that undergraduate students would voluntarily use the software in their future coursework. Findings from this study reveal that undergraduate students overwhelmingly had a positive learning experience with using CAQDAS and felt they were able to gain deeper meaning into their work by utilizing the software. Students also believed that the skills they developed could be implemented in careers outside of academia. The findings from this paper encourage instructors at the undergraduate level to incorporate CAQDAS into their teaching of research methods to support student learning and skill development for qualitative data analysis.

Author(s): *Megan MacCormac, Western University*

### **3. Teaching for Difficult Environmental Knowledge in a Risk Society**

Students enrolled in their first environmental sociology course often find themselves confronted with socio-environmental ambiguity. Faced not only with a discrepancy between their own environmental attitudes and behaviours, they must also navigate structural environmental challenges amidst what Ullrich Beck called 'Risk Society'. This is a delicate pedagogical scenario. Moreover, to create a challenging learning environment that is at once deeply critical and transformative requires moving away a reliance on dominant narratives that are comforting and familiar (psychoanalyst Deborah Britzman's 'lovely knowledge') toward approaches for 'difficult knowledge' based on subversive narratives that disrupt worldviews. Reading challenging material like Jem Bendell's 'Deep Adaptation' addressing the causes of climate change so powerfully illustrated by satellite imagery of Australian bushfires, and talking about the impacts of industrial industries requires reflection on the development of difficult knowledge in students who are often shielded from such critical engagement. Here, I reflect upon the challenges of experiential approaches including working with radical community service-learning (CSL) partners, student reflections on being actively engaged and challenged, instructor pedagogical and ethical responsibility when presenting difficult knowledge, the personal impact on students when exploring difficult knowledge, and the use of in-class discussions in ever-larger and impersonal classrooms order to explore difficult knowledge that can both confront personal action as well as larger societal practices as part of an environmental sociological imagination.

Author(s): *Ken J. Caine, University of Alberta*

## **Teaching Showcase**

Session Code: TEA3

Research Cluster Affiliation: Teaching and Learning

This session features presentations designed to highlight a teaching strategy or assignment design that engages students in learning sociological content. These will be approaches that have received positive (formal or informal) feedback from students and help achieve key learning goals. The aim of the session is to share strategies and structures with fellow sociology instructors that are designed to engage and excite students.

Organizer(s): *Jayne Baker, University of Toronto; Nathan Innocente, University of Toronto*

Presentations:

### **1. Applying auto-ethnographic methods to teaching and learning**

When students and educators participate in autoethnographic assignments, they come to better understand how their own beliefs and culture frame the meanings they attach to theirs and other's experiences. One major goal of conducting "autoethnographic research" is to assist researchers and educators to better comprehend how they frame their perceptions of data and assignments. An autoethnography is a reflexive account of one's own experiences situated in culture. It puts into play a questioning of the "positionality" and the constitution of the self in autobiography. Catherine Russell is convinced that, as literary genres, autobiography and ethnography both have a commitment to actuality, or factuality. She refers to Michael Fischer's discussion of the writing tactics of autoethnography as ethnic autobiography: they are meta-discursive, in that they draw attention to their linguistic and fictive nature. In the context of film and video making, autobiography becomes ethnographic from the moment that the maker understands his or her personal history to be part of larger social formations and historical processes, or, in other words, when the maker no longer understands him- or herself to be a self, as isolated ego



or as solipsistic experience, but as a self whose experiential self-realization occurs through intersubjectivity and intercorporeality. Students writing autoethnographic life course papers within Sociology classes, have claimed they experienced major personal growth and gained greater sociological insights, after completing their autoethnographic life course papers.

Author(s): *Nancy-Angel Doetzel, Mount Royal University*

## **2. Incorporating e-portfolios into large classes**

In 2019-2020, I required students in three large introductory sociology classes (around 450 students each) to create and submit e-portfolios as one of their key assignments. While I was initially nervous about experimenting with a new technological platform and a new assignment with such large classes, the experiment was successful. Students used the e-portfolio to record and reflect upon a series of talks, and other activities they engaged in on and off campus using the sociological concepts taught in class. They were also asked to reflect on the course outcomes at the beginning and the end of the semester. The e-portfolio assignment encouraged students to reflect and build on their ongoing learning. The assignment also fulfilled an affective learning outcome of getting the students more connected to their new university homes.

Author(s): *Tonya Davidson, Carleton University*

## **3. Community Partnerships and Program and Policy Evaluation**

This presentation highlights the successes of a relatively new, senior-level, multidisciplinary course at the University of Toronto in Program and Policy Evaluation. The course is an introduction to the field of program and policy evaluation, with students gaining insight into the theoretical, methodological, practical, and ethical aspects of evaluation across different settings. An integral part of the course is experiential learning, with the main assignment requiring students to work with a cross-section of community partners to develop an evaluation framework of an existing, real-world program or policy. Students work collaboratively with community partners, applying skills and knowledge to improve ongoing programs and policies, and connect with the world-at-large during a formative part of their academic training.

Author(s): *Nicholas D. Spence, University of Toronto*

## **4. “Shut up, Heather!” : Applied Learning and the Use of TikTok & Memes in Assignment Design**

In essence, applied learning refers to teaching through the application of academic understandings to the real world. Applied learning encourages students to both think critically and to make connections inside and outside of the classroom. A novel way to foster meaningful, applied learning is through the incorporation of application-based digital media creation assignments into courses. This session discusses the use of memes and TikTok videos within assignment design. Through the incorporation of self-made digital media into assignments, students are given the opportunity to illustrate their knowledge of course concepts, demonstrate their capacities for application and conceptual interconnection as well as showcase their creative energies. For instance, students can be asked to create their own TikTok video or meme regarding a social issue pertinent to the course. Students can then supplement their digital creation with a write up which details their work's relation and connection to course themes (and/or ground the issue in the literature). Application-based digital media assignments deepen both the comprehension and relatability of the subject matter. The use of TikTok videos and memes, for instance, give students the opportunity to demonstrate their understanding of course concepts in a visual, artistic and often humorous manner. It is through this application that students can demonstrate their mastery of their new understandings. Within a course, application-based digital media assignments can be used in tandem with more traditional paper-based work. Their adoption encourages students to relocate and diversify their learning, moving past memorization to engage with the subject matter on a more accessible and contemporarily meaningful level. Digital media holds great promise as a tool of applied learning, as its utilization facilitates students seeing the 'strange in the familiar' within their everyday lives -whether they are online or offline.

Author(s): *Chris Tatham, University of Toronto*

## **5. Using Peer Assessments within Active Team teaching/learning**

Team Active learning is a form of learning in which teaching strives to involve students in the learning process and assessments more directly than in other methods. In team active learning, students participate in the process and students participate when they are doing something besides passively listening. Use of Active Learning techniques in the classroom is important because of their powerful impact upon students learning. For example, several studies have shown that students prefer strategies promoting active learning to traditional lectures. Other research studies evaluating students achievement have demonstrated that many strategies promoting active

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learning are comparable to lectures in promoting the mastery of content but superior to lectures in promoting the development of students skills in thinking and writing. In Active Learning student receive many active assignments, where their peer evaluations and reviews are important.

Author(s): *Nancy-Angel Doetzel, Mount Royal University*

### Teaching and learning about violence

Session Code: TEA4

Research Cluster Affiliation: Teaching and Learning; Violence and Society

Violence is complex and pervasive, and therefore demands a multidisciplinary approach to understanding and preventing it. Arguably, addressing violence and initiating social change begins in higher education classrooms. It is essential to engage students in critical reflection regarding their positions of privilege and oppression to create an awareness of the role they play in reproducing and resisting power relations. While sociologists are well versed in the theoretical content of violence, oppression, and resistance, we must pay further attention to the pedagogical strategies used to deliver this content.

Organizer(s): *Valérie Grand'Maison, University of Guelph; Anna Johnson, University of Guelph*

Presentations:

#### **1. Practicing intersectional and trauma-informed pedagogy while teaching about gendered violence**

This paper reflects on my recent experience re-designing an undergraduate seminar on gendered and sexualized violence and my efforts to practice anti-oppressive and trauma-informed pedagogy, as well as the challenges that I encountered along the way. The course's title was pre-set as 'Violence Against Women' and, as such, I oriented the course content around unpacking the potential limitations of this framing and exploring a more intersectional understanding. I sought to challenge students to move beyond sympathy toward a more complex engagement with privilege and complicity and to consider what it means to practice accountability. This paper also discusses the difficulty of teaching and learning about violence in the context of the neoliberal university and the labour required of both the instructor and the students as we receive disclosures, hold space for one another, and try to imagine the classroom as a site where collective care and resistance might be fostered.

Author(s): *Emily M. Colpitts, York University*

#### **2. Teaching Gender and Violence; Or, How to Survive (Giving) a Lecture on Rape Culture**

What does it mean to teach and learn within the academy as a survivor of sexual violence? In my efforts to teach about violence, and sexual violence in particular, I frame the subject as constructed through historical, political, social, and ideological conceptions of who is deserving of compassion, care, and justice. Crucially, my pedagogical approach is grounded in intersectional analysis that is attentive to the ways in which multiple forms of privilege and oppression shape not only our experiences of sexual violence, but also how we continue to live and survive in its aftermath. In this roundtable, I am interested in thinking through how a feminist classroom that emphasizes self-reflexivity, community accountability, and a variety of survivor narratives might offer students valuable tools through which they are able to understand and reframe core concerns, including how we are each implicated and potentially complicit in structures of violence in different ways. Ultimately, I consider: How can we teach students both to critically analyze the complexities of violence, and to identify these complexities within themselves? How do we teach students how to work to transform power relations, while also learning together how to survive and grow in the process of such work?

Author(s): *Zoe Gross, University of Toronto*

#### **3. Toward a Trauma- and Violence-Informed Research Ethics Training Module**

Over the past two decades, there has been growing national and international interest in developing ethical research protocols and guidelines for the study of violence against women and children; however, within the prevailing guidelines published by research councils and university ethics boards, there remains a lack of material designed to address the unique kinds of experiences, situations, and ethical decisions confronted by researchers involved in gender-based violence (GBV) interventions. Because GBV intervention research requires an

awareness of both psychological “triggers” and social intersections of systemic oppression, front-line researchers face unique challenges in navigating the situations they encounter in their everyday practice. And because conventional ethical norms take on increased complexity when study participants face precarious circumstances relating to their safety, housing, child custody, etc., a client- and service provider-oriented program for training in trauma- and violence -informed (TVI) intervention research ethics is needed. Based on the discussions of a Working Group representing 17 GBV and family violence intervention projects in Canada, this paper explores three themes that shape the ethical situations faced by GBV intervention researchers: (1) tensions between the protection versus empowerment of participants, (2) tensions in the boundary between an individual’s research and/or intervention/ support roles, and (3) tensions in the boundaries between service providers and research teams. The central argument of the paper is that ethics training specifically designed for GBV intervention research, and specifically developed from a TVI lens, is warranted on both methodological and moral grounds. Using a series of example scenarios, the paper illustrates ways that a TVI approach might be incorporated into the ethical decision-making of researchers and support workers. It concludes with a summary of key recommendations from the Working Group for the development of a situation-based TVI ethics training program for intervention researchers.

Author(s): *Robert Nonomura, Western University*

#### **4. Embodying sexual violence prevention: Facilitators' perspectives on trauma, healing, and resistance**

This paper explores the experiences of six facilitators of a sexual violence resistance program, across 2 university campuses in Southern Ontario. These facilitators have been extensively trained to deliver a 12-hour workshop for female undergraduate students that focuses on recognizing the risks of acquaintance rape, identifying emotional barriers to resisting, practicing verbal and physical self-defence, and exploring their own sexual and romantic desires. Given the scripted nature of the workshop, which focuses narrowly on sexual assault committed by male acquaintances, the facilitators critically reflect on the compulsory heteronormativity and cultural relativism of this program. We ask how the assumed membership to dominant social groups not only prevents our connection to the material and participants, but also replicates the very oppressive systems that are implicated in sexual violence. We share the ways in which we struggle, heal, and connect through our individual and collective trauma that fluctuate during preparation and facilitation of the program. Moreover, we discuss how we resist the program’s normalized power relations by using practices that challenge hegemonic ways of knowing and being. In sum, we present how facilitators embody the sexual violence program, as well as how this embodiment opens possibilities for healing and social change.

Author(s): *Valérie Grand'Maison, University of Guelph; Shelby Lacey, University of Windsor; Taylor Priya MacPherson-Aaron, University of Guelph; Eleana Paguaga Amador, University of Windsor; Maria Tetro, University of Guelph; Rose Verzosa, University of Windsor*

### **Contextualizing Pedagogical and Teaching Practices to Resist Racism and Colonialism in Higher Education I: Reflections on Experiences**

Session Code: TEA5A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Teaching and Learning; Race and Ethnicity

Higher education institutions are currently characterized by both increasing diversities and emergent movements to critique, challenge, decenter and/or decolonize Northern theories and knowledge production systems. The reality and implications on practice and interactions of these two movements vary by disciplinary, institutional and classroom contexts, as well as larger socio-cultural contexts in which they are located. In this session we are interested in examining how our pedagogical and teaching practices engage with efforts at resisting racism and colonialism and decentring questions, approaches and content. Underscoring the importance of intersectionality and context in understanding racialization processes and efforts to resist these processes, we are particularly interested in understanding how efforts to resist racism and colonialism vary by institutional and cultural contexts in which we and our students are located. This session critically examines resisting racism and colonialism within higher education by highlighting the experiences of students and faculty as well as addressing the implications of their conclusions for higher education.

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Organizer(s): *Sara N. Amin, The University of the South Pacific; Christian Girard, Independent Consultant and Researcher; Tanya Trussler, Mount Royal University; Anna-Liisa Aunio, Dawson College*

Presentations:

### **1. Exploring institutional bias and the role of the othered lens in academia: A collaborative autoethnography**

Trends seemingly signal the decay of white heterosexual male hegemony in Western academe, as well as tentative successes of diversification and decolonial practices across social sciences. Still, while changes have addressed lack of access to an academic system whose benefits are assumed, critical literatures still call into question Western-based theory and traditionally Eurocentric ways of knowledge production. Previous studies have reviewed disparities in academic and professional achievement (gender-based, racial, class, epistemological, etc.) and provided qualitative accounts of interpersonal exclusion, though typically within one country and identity group engaging with one body of literature. This current work contributes to this overall body of work in a cross-cultural, cross-national, and cross-theoretical analysis of bias beyond the interpersonal. Using collaborative analytic autoethnography, we set side-by-side the academic and professional experiences and epistemological reflections of two criminal justice and criminology scholars: an Arab European scholar of politico-ideological violence and a Black American scholar trained in U.S. institutions. In a searching comparative and dialogic examination, we span multiple othered identities (race, religion, nationality, sexuality, epistemology, methodology, practitioner, etc.) and associated critical frames to explore not just how sets of individuals enact interpersonal bias, but rather how the academic collective enacts ideological and institutional bias (oft internalized by the othered themselves). We suggest that the inclusion of othered researchers' positionality is a much-needed analytical tool, for a particular sensitivity emerges through the experience of being othered ; a sensitivity that is crucial in a field producing knowledge about othered groups and communities.

Author(s): *Ahmed Ajil, University of Lausanne; Kwan-Lamar Blount-Hill, City University of New York Graduate Center/John Jay College of Criminal Justice*

### **2. Affect Aliens: Experiencing Blackness and Indigeneity in the Classroom**

This paper is concerned with experiences of blackness in the Australian university classroom, particularly those experiences involving dialogues around race, colonialism, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and Black people. The author, an Indigenous Ethiopian woman and migrant to Australia, provides a content analysis of conversations via text message between herself and an Indigenous Australian friend, with their permission. While these conversations offer mutual support and solidarity between two Indigenous people, they also document parallel traumatic experiences in classrooms at universities in Sydney, Australia. The analysis focuses on affect, and how racial interpellation occurs while there is a discussion of us, and of people like us, from which we feel excluded, most often by white students and lecturers. The data offers examples of how, when we as Black and Indigenous people engage with these dialogues to offer our insights or to challenge racism and/or misconceptions, the experiences that follow produce us as 'affect aliens' as those that convert 'good feelings to bad' (Ahmed, 2008, p. 12). The author argues that white supremacy and white fragility operate in these spaces to enable white students and teachers to inherit the capacity to initiate, dominate and enjoy these dialogues, while Indigenous and Black students inherit the common burden and emotional labour of educating others while we are paying for our education.

Author(s): *Sarah Demekech Graham, University of Sydney*

### **3. (Un)Learning Whiteness in Academia: Resistance Strategies among Racialized Graduate Students**

This article uses autoethnography to investigate the challenges that racialized students face within academic spaces and places. Building on feminist of colour scholars, such as Christina Sharpe, Sarah Ahmed, and Zakiyyah Iman Jackson, who theorize non/belonging in relation to a complex assemblage of flesh, space, time, and affect, we begin to make sense of the racism and whiteness we felt while attending a graduate course at the University of Guelph, Ontario, in the Fall of 2019. In particular, we examine a series of resistive moments in which the three of us, alongside the only other student of colour enrolled in the course, sought to either challenge or survive our white classmates attempts to animate collective feelings of hegemonic whiteness. Framing these moments as 'leaning in' and 'leaning out' we explore how these instances helped us to buffer against what we identified as an atmosphere of whiteness, or 'white affect,' that constituted the space. Our personal accounts serve as entry points into a larger conversation of how centuries of racism, colonialism, and imperialism in academia result in an ever-present and affectual residue of whiteness that subjugates racialized students. Drawing on our personal accounts,

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we examine how this spectre of white affect negatively impacts the health and well-being of racialized students. We conclude by arguing that, in order to remedy this, instructors and teachers need to more intentionally co-construct learning spaces that allow for racialized students to lean in and lean out, thereby permitting us the space we need to feel Black or Brown.

Author(s): *Jade Crimson Rose Da Costa, York University; Fitsum Areguy, University of Guelph; Skylar Sookpaiboon, University of Guelph*

### **4. Unsettling Education: Pedagogical Considerations for Facilitating White Poor and Working Class Student Engagement in Anti-Oppressive Learning Opportunities**

In this paper, I weave autoethnographic reflections, anti-oppressive educational scholarship, and empirical data together to wrestle with pedagogical considerations for facilitating white poor and working class student engagement in anti-oppressive learning opportunities. I speak specifically to my own contextual engagements in decolonizing and anti-racist practices as a white settler in a pan-institutional position at a relatively small, relatively rural open-access university. Scholars have shown that elite whites and progressive political movements commonly vilify white poor and working classes. Deficit thinking about white poor and working class students have implications for how they are situated in relation to anti-racist, decolonizing, and anti-oppressive education. I argue for a more complex understanding of such students' negotiations of educational power dynamics. I contend that the complexity and ambiguity of these students' positionalities may create important, often overlooked alignments with anti-oppressive pedagogies -even as the students are fully imbricated within broader oppressive power dynamics. I consider strategies for tapping into white poor and working class students' lived experiences in ways that enhance their capacities for engaging in inclusive, equitable and decolonizing learning opportunities. I emphasize the value of cultural safety approaches and of considering all students' situated knowledges and lived experiences when implementing anti-oppressive pedagogies.

Author(s): *Amie McLean, Thompson Rivers University*

## **Contextualizing Pedagogical and Teaching Practices to Resist Racism and Colonialism in Higher Education II: Decentring and Decolonizing Education**

Session Code: TEA5B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Teaching and Learning; Race and Ethnicity

Higher education institutions are currently characterized by both increasing diversities and emergent movements to critique, challenge, decenter and/or decolonize Northern theories and knowledge production systems. The reality and implications on practice and interactions of these two movements vary by disciplinary, institutional and classroom contexts, as well as larger socio-cultural contexts in which they are located. In this session we are interested in examining how our pedagogical and teaching practices engage with efforts at resisting racism and colonialism and decentring questions, approaches and content. Underscoring the importance of intersectionality and context in understanding racialization processes and efforts to resist these processes, we are particularly interested in understanding how efforts to resist racism and colonialism vary by institutional and cultural contexts in which we and our students are located. This session examines programmes and other policy efforts to resist racism and colonialism in higher education in different institutional contexts.

Organizer(s): *Sara N. Amin, The University of the South Pacific; Christian Girard, Independent Consultant and Researcher; Tanya Trussler, Mount Royal University; Anna-Liisa Aunio, Dawson College*

Presentations:

### **1. Decolonizing and Decentring Teaching Practices: Questions and Challenges from Bangladesh, Fiji and Canada**

This paper is a comparative reflection on how each of our pedagogical and teaching practices engage with efforts at resisting racism and colonialism and decentring questions, approaches and content. As educators with teaching experiences in different institutions, we reflect on how our own ethnic, gender and racialized positionalities interact with student diversity and institutional contexts. The paper allows for comparisons between institutions in Bangladesh, Fiji and Canada, as well as between large and small institutions, between teaching-focused and

research institutions. The comparisons across cultural and institutional context facilitate our reflection on what contextualizing pedagogical and teaching Practices to Resist Racism and Colonialism in Higher Education may look like and what our struggles are.

Author(s): *Sara Nuzhat Amin, University of the South Pacific; Christian Girard, Independent Researcher and Consultant; Tanya Trussler, Mount Royal University; Anna-Liisa Aunio, Dawson College*

## **2. Making Trouble for Students and Social Justice: Steps towards Decolonizing a Community Engagement Option at an Ontario University**

The Community Engagement Option is a unique and innovative partnership of Wilfrid Laurier University's Faculty of Arts and The Working Centre. The Working Centre is a highly respected non-profit, community-based, volunteer-inspired venture in Kitchener. The Community Engagement Option offers credit courses that provide students with experiential learning opportunities in downtown Kitchener focused on social inclusion, local democracy, and community enterprise. Students learn about these concepts while attending classes in various locations across the downtown and while participating as a volunteer within the many initiatives of The Working Centre. Students read, reflect and participate together with other students as a means to deepen their learning about community. The Community Engagement Option appeals most to senior undergraduate students who are passionate about social justice and who are ready to start transitioning from university to the broader world -in this case, from classroom-type learning to learning with others in a context that values civic engagement, cultural diversity and respect for others. Recently, at Wilfrid Laurier University, there has been a move to Indigenize and Decolonize education as a nod towards the Calls to Action in the TRC. Typically the theoretical component of the option is taught with a heavy dose of Freireian social justice. The decolonization/indigenization of the curriculum, especially the theoretical component, presented a challenge to this notion of Freireian social justice. With teachings from Indigenous guests and Tuck and Wang's (2012) *Decolonization is Not a Metaphor* as a key text, we problematized students' relationship to social justice and imposed limits on the social justice imaginary through forcing an encounter with the incommensurability of decolonization and social justice. The impact of this deep learning was reflected in the journals students wrote as a requirement for the course.

Author(s): *Stephen Svenson, Wilfrid Laurier University; Heather Montgomery, Wilfrid Laurier University*

## **3. Colonial Under the Covers: A Critical Examination of the KAIROS Blanket Exercise and its Limitations as an Decolonial Educational Tool**

Created by KAIROS, a charitable organization managed by the United Church of Canada, the Blanket Exercise is an educational tool that uses role-play in an attempt to convey Canadian history from an Indigenous perspective. In the twenty-odd years of its existence the Blanket Exercise has been lauded by many in the field of education as a powerful step towards reconciliation. Be that as it may, settler educators are finally beginning to learn from the various Indigenous educators, teachers and leaders who advocate for an intentional, uncomfortable and radical move towards decolonization instead. Decolonization must be the unique goal of anti-colonial education projects because it is the only goal that meaningfully imagines and honours Indigenous people's liberation and resurgence on, through, and by the repatriation of land. Eve Tuck and K. Wayne Yang implore that decolonization should not be employed loosely and is not a metaphor: "When metaphor invades decolonization, it kills the very possibility of decolonization; it recenters whiteness, it resettles theory, it extends innocence to the settler, it entertains a settler future" (3). Analyzing the KAIROS Blanket Exercise, with particular attention to the metaphors it employs exposes its limitations as an educational tool for decolonization. Through a discourse and content analysis of the exercise itself I pay particular attention to the invisibilization of the settler and the invisibilization of land theft, as well as the function of the blanket as a metaphor for land.

Author(s): *Jordyn Sheldon, McMaster University*

## **4. Indigenous Ways of Knowing in Early Childhood Education Training**

The purpose of this research is to measure the impact and understand the experiences of the indigenization of an early childhood education (ECE) class on college students. Academic curricula has historically developed so that it privileges the ideologies of the dominant western culture. These often Eurocentric voices permeate throughout academic literature and education which further marginalizes indigenous voices; therefore, limiting more expansive approaches to both teaching and learning. An introductory ECE course curriculum has been altered to include indigenous and Musqueam specific content and indigenous ways of knowing. Our hope is that the new content added to ECED 1115 will enhance the course content and impact students' knowledge in measurable ways. In this project forty students in the introductory ECE class participated in pre and post surveys. Additionally, at the completion of the course, ten students were interviewed about their opinions and experiences of the



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indigenization of the course curriculum. Beyond this project, we hope that this information will provide post-secondary institutions with information pertaining to the indigenization of other course curriculum.

Author(s): *Gagun S. Chhina, Langara College; Carolyn Wing, Langara College*

### Incorporating Diversity Into Everyday Classroom Practice

Session Code: TEA6

Theme: Teaching and Learning

This roundtable will allow participants to brainstorm and share how they incorporate racial, ethnic, class, sexual identity, and other forms of diversity into their everyday classroom practices. Topics could include the course offerings themselves, what gets read and watched and experienced in the course content, reflexivity on the part of faculty, and so on. Of especial interest, however, will be sharing the means by which faculty use classroom management, examples, exercises, test questions, and more to encourage students' awareness and acceptance of various aspects of diversity, including in courses not explicitly focused on that topic. Participants will be encouraged to think about and discuss the small but cumulative ways their actions and decisions in the classroom provide context for students' learning about various forms of diversity and inclusion. Roundtable topics are expected to include the normalizing of diversity and the recognition of both majority and minority identities as contributing to diversity, entailing a decentralizing of majority identity aspects.

Organizer(s): *Lara Descartes, Brescia University College; Celeste Licorish, McMaster University*

Presentations:

#### **1. Reflections and possibilities: Indigenous and Decolonizing Pedagogy**

This paper is a reflective account of our experiences working with students in one Canadian teacher education program. The paper focuses on the ways in which we center decolonizing and Indigenous pedagogy in our classroom, in the courses we teach, and on their content. We question the term "diversity" and discuss our use of the decolonizing pedagogical lens in our work with teacher candidates. We look at some of the critical challenges which many teacher candidates struggle with when examining questions of decolonizing in their educational practices. In doing so, we address what it means to shift our thinking as reflexive practitioners who are engaging in, and about, decolonization and moving beyond diversity. We also look at the complexities which many teacher candidates face, as well as issues which they ought to think about as they prepare to join the teaching profession and commit to promoting truly inclusive teaching and learning pedagogy. Finally, we present some of the challenges and tensions which some teacher candidates wrestle with in relation to decolonizing pedagogy, and we offer additional thoughts for consideration.

Author(s): *Erica Neeaganagwedgin, Western University; Bathseba Opini, University of British Columbia*

#### **2. Youth tell their stories: Examining the experiences of Black youth in the GTA who have been suspended from school**

Diversity and inclusion continue to be important issues in Ontario education, but anti-Black racism remains uncontested. While most research on Black students focus on educational attainment, this research in progress focuses on the current culture of school discipline and how this is experienced by Black students. Specifically, this research study will employ a critical race theoretical framework and one-on-one semi-structured interviews to examine the experiences of Black youth who were suspended from secondary schools in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). This study pays particular attention to the reintegration practices that took place when participants came back to their home school following their suspensions. Furthermore, this study aims to re-tell the stories of participants using narrative inquiry to highlight the reintegration practices that supported or hindered their success in school. The findings from this study will contribute to the current body of knowledge on the experiences of Black youth who have been suspended and support educators to implement inclusive practices to ensure that Black students who have been suspended can fully participate in the classroom.

Author(s): *Maria Brisbane, OISE, University of Toronto*

#### **3. Developing a Sense and Place of Belong**

There has been research completed in Nova Scotia on the experience of students of African descent in the public-school system: The Black Learners Advisory Committee (BLAC) report (1994) identified several gaps for African

Nova Scotian learners. The Theissen Report (2009), the Enid Lee Report (2009), Blye Frank Report (2002), Individual Program Plan Review (Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, (2016) but few reports exist on students of African descent in post-secondary education. This paper will examine the benefits of culturally relevant programs for learners of African descent in post-secondary institutions, specifically Promoting Leadership for African Nova Scotians in Health (PLANS) and Imhotep's Legacy Academy (ILA). PLANS aim to increase the number of students of African descent in health professions including dentistry and medicine and ILA aims to redress the under-representation of people of African descent in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) studies and STEM careers. The development of both programs is a result of the experiences of people of African descent in the school system and in the province of Nova Scotia. Many persons of African ancestry living in Nova Scotia are impacted by racism. This impact is evident in the ongoing negative experiences of African Canadians and African Nova Scotians in the justice, education and social systems. People of African ancestry are subjected to higher rates of incarceration, unemployment, difficulty in accessing advance education, and equitable health care (Codjoe, 2001; James, 2011; The African Canadian Legal Clinic Report, 2015; Wortley and Owusu-Bempah, 2011). This paper will explore the experiences of students of African descent over the age of 18 years that have been participants in the PLANS or ILA programs. Through this exploration we will gain an understanding of the impact of PLANS and ILA's programs and activities in supporting students in high school and post-secondary education

Author(s): *Barbara Hamilton-Hinch, Dalhousie University*

#### **4. "We are a family that works with our hands" or uterus: An exploration of first-generation female university students**

There is a pattern in research, whereby working-class children are not as likely to obtain higher education, and the preeminent factor is parent's level of education (Spiegler, 2018). Thirty percent of all Canadian students are first generation and are defined as students whose parents did not complete a four-year university degree (Grayson, 2018). This paper seeks to explore how we might understand the academic pathway of first-generation female university students, using in-depth interviews in combination with an autoethnographic voice. A post structural theoretical frame work and Bourdieu's concept of habitus is essential for analyzing the challenges, complexity and achievements of first-generation female students. This research is intended to add to theoretical discourse and to identify working class dispositions of female students for early intervention. This knowledge is valuable for early childhood educators, teachers, guidance counselors, professors, parents and first-generation student support programming, to ensure equitable opportunities for all children. Unaddressed, girls from working class homes are set up for a future of precarious work, limiting personal potential and repeating a generational cycle of low socio-economic status.

Author(s): *Sophia Attema, Brock University*

### **Student evaluations of teaching: Scholarship on faculty impact, pedagogy, and new horizons**

Session Code: TEA8

Research Cluster Affiliation: Teaching and Learning

Across North America, the use of student evaluations of teaching (SETs) has received unprecedented scrutiny and reconsideration by University administrators over the past year. Decisive in this shift was the 2018 landmark ruling following a grievance filed by the Ryerson University faculty union in 2009, against the use of SETs to assess instructors' teaching competence in hiring, promotion, tenure, contract renewal, etc. Since then, some university administrators are signaling to faculty that their SET scores and comments will no longer be used for those summative and comparative purposes, while others have been less willing to alter their use of SETs. At the same time, it appears that student input on the pedagogic quality they receive will continue, with substantially revised instruments and new solicitation methods.

This panel seeks to bring to light new and ongoing scholarly research on aspects of SETs that have yet to be fully considered in any geographic context. A major aim of the panel is to inform innovation in how best to redesign the means of eliciting students' constructive feedback on their learning. How do SETs as they are currently designed and utilized affect faculty members' teaching practise and emotional well-being? An implicit assumption of the papers is that holistic well-being and professional growth of instructors are entwined with optimal pedagogical practice.

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This session is co-sponsored by the Canadian Sociological Association Policy, Ethics, and Professional Concerns Subcommittee.

Organizer(s): *Lisa Kowalchuk, University of Guelph*

Presentations:

### **1. Perceptions of student teaching evaluations and their formative value: does academic background matter?**

Over the past few decades, student evaluations of teaching (SETs) have become a standard metric at postsecondary institutions to appraise an instructor's quality of teaching. Although several studies have highlighted the inadequacy of SETs for use as a factor to determine tenure, few have specifically examined how SETs can be used as formative tools by instructors to ameliorate teaching proficiency. Such knowledge is important for departments when formulating and presenting SETs, with the aim of providing high quality of education. This study uses quantitative and qualitative methods to explore firstly whether instructors consider SETs when making modifications to their teaching, and if so, which factors influence how SETs can be used formatively. The results indicate that area of study (i.e., discipline) and academic rank are important determinants of how SETs are perceived by instructors. Among instructors that reported using SETs formatively, written components of SETs are perceived to have more formative use than Likert-scaled questions, which are perceived to exacerbate biases. Based on these findings, departments should prioritize written feedback and de-emphasize scaled questions in SETs, which are typically associated with evaluating instructors for tenure purposes. Rather, SETs should be positioned primarily as resources for instructors to obtain feedback and ameliorate their teaching skills.

Author(s): *Shoshanah Jacobs, University of Guelph*

### **2. Words matter: Students' evaluative comments on teaching, and their impact on instructors' morale, self-esteem, and emotions**

A vast literature on the appropriateness of student evaluations of teaching (SETs) as a means to gage and reward university instructor's pedagogic competence has been accumulating over the past three decades. A striking feature of this scholarship is a focus on the numerical scores generated by the closed-ended questions. Far fewer studies examine the content and impact of the comments students provide on open-ended questions. Our paper addresses this oversight. SETs comments have the potential for personalized judgements irrelevant to pedagogy, amplified by the nearly ubiquitous transition to online modes of survey completion. The greater leeway for hostile and even harassing comments in SETs, which are reported to be on an upswing, carries implications for emotional well-being, sense of safety, self-concept, morale, and even the teaching abilities of instructors. Our paper, based on a survey of PhD-holding instructors in sociology (or combined) departments across Canada, attempts to understand these impacts, identifying whether caustic, inappropriate, and bullying comments are unevenly borne by particular groups. Our overarching goal is to establish grounds for redesigning the qualitative component of SETs, through a better understanding of how instructors in social sciences experience and use them.

Author(s): *Rachel Latouche, University of Toronto; Lisa Kowalchuk, University of Guelph*

## Rethinking Statistics Training

Session Code: TEA9

Research Cluster Affiliation: Teaching and Learning

Numeracy, data-literacy, and quantitative reasoning are key transferable skills that help make a degree in sociology worthwhile but, is statistics training in sociology at a crossroad? Our research questions, methods, and data are becoming increasingly complex and sophisticated, while at the same time, our undergraduate and graduate statistics curricula remain largely unchanged.

We have a responsibility to prepare future sociologists for careers using cutting-edge methodologies yet, our classrooms are often filled with students who are math-adverse and loathe taking mandatory statistics courses. How do we balance accessibility and simplicity on one hand, with applicability and relevance on the other? Are we succeeding or is there a better way?

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Are our students, or even whole departments, bifurcating into quant and qual specialities in response to the increasingly demanding methodological expectations for research? Does this do a disservice to our undergraduate or graduate students, and how can we re-think our curricula to avoid this?

These invited panelists represent a variety of perspectives, approaches, and experiences and offer unique insights and reflections to better inform our own teaching practices.

### Panelists:

- Michael Haan, University of Western Ontario
- Mitchell McIvor, University of West Georgia
- Andie Noack, Ryerson University
- Tomas Soehl, McGill University
- David Walters, University of Guelph

## Bringing Equity to Wicked Problems I

Session Code: THE1A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Social Theory

“Wicked problems” are problems for which there is no one single solution, and often no apparent solution, because they involve complex feedback among heterogeneous interdependent actors, communities, and forces (both individual and collective, grassroots and institutional, human and other-than human). Wicked problems appear across many domains, and include: climate change, poverty and growing economic inequality, food security, colonialism, systemic racism, patriarchy, heteronormativity, and obstacles to bottom-up democratic decision-making. When it comes to wicked problems, both the social and the physical sciences are implicated in questions of equity and justice. Conventional approaches tend to frame “social problems” in such a way as to pursue solutions that leave structural inequities intact. For wicked problems, no intervention is value-neutral; relations of power, identity, and equity permeate all aspects of any sufficiently complex problem. Addressing wicked problems and helping equity groups who are traditionally overlooked requires scholarship and working in tandem with affected communities that goes beyond disciplinary silos: a deterritorialized, networked, transdisciplinary, and collaborative scholarship, to create new approaches to conceptualizing, modeling, observing, and engaging in social relations.

Organizer(s): *Christopher Powell, Ryerson University; Cheryl Teelucksingh, Ryerson University*

### Presentations:

#### **1. Systems thinking and the science-policy nexus: Examining Canadian parliamentary debates on climate change**

In 2018, two studies were conducted by Canada’s Parliament on the connections between climate change and agriculture, culminating in two final reports - one by the House of Commons and one by the Senate. Among the testimonies offered is the potential of using grazing management (including methods of rotational grazing, planned grazing, and agroforestry) for climate change adaptation and mitigation. However, references to grazing management are omitted from both final reports for these two studies. We conducted a discourse analysis on 112 parliamentary files to reveal key insights regarding: (1) the testimonies on grazing management that were omitted from the final reports, (2) the social contexts that informed the processes of collecting/hearing evidence and developing the reports, and (3) the underlying ideologies and normative assumptions reflected in these two studies. Overall, grazing management exemplifies one of the many knowledge forms deemed less ‘fit’ for climate policy. That is, policy regarding climate change and agriculture is channeled toward techno-fixes - technical, scientific, and expensive solutions that uphold both the status quo and prioritization of “expert” knowledge. Using literature on systems thinking, sustainable transformations, and wicked problems, we argue shifts toward climate adaptive agriculture will require greater reflexivity on policy framing by examining how political structures, knowledge hierarchies, and underlying ideologies inform policy outcomes.

Author(s): *Wesley Tourangeau, Saint Mary's University; Kate Sherren, Dalhousie University*

## **2. Beyond Posthuman and New Materialist Sensibilities: Reinventing Environmental Justice Through the Lenses of Decolonization, Animism, and Quantum Social Science**

We are reaching the limits of what convention risk management, and even resilience thinking, are capable of, as the dominant prevailing responses to emerging planetary health challenges. Rather than trying to 'solve' or 'fix' problems with the same level of thinking that created them, we argue that new ways of seeing, thinking and being are required if change is to be truly transformational. Drawing on disparate sources spanning posthumanism, new materialism, indigenous ways of knowing, Global South epistemologies, quantum physics and epigenetics, we paint a picture of an emerging landscape of possibilities for radically reinventing environmentalism in ways that address the political ecology, deep ecology, psychology, and equity dimensions of transformative change and deep adaptation. A 3-part process is envisaged: (a) decolonization, (b) opening to time-honoured animistic traditions that honour the sacredness and interconnectedness of all life, and (c) creating from the quantum field. Along the way, we offer two modest examples of funded projects that we have undertaken along this path: Pedagogy for the Anthropocene (or P4A), and the Many Lenses Project

Author(s): *Blake Poland, University of Toronto; Angela Mashford-Pringle, University of Toronto*

## **3. Deleuzian Solutions ... Protean Assemblages and the Political Subject**

The postmodern theory of Deleuze and Guattari (1982) offers a potential intervention into our understanding of social problems by foregrounding coalitional, transnational, and posthuman assemblages. The Deleuzian concept of the assemblage denotes the temporary and contingent relations which form not only between individual persons, but between material forces of all kinds, which come together in co-implicated processes of becoming. Assemblages offer a means to assert the relational nature of contemporary social movements, replacing the stable and unifying nature of political subjectivity with a multiplicity of protean political assemblages that collectively strive towards achieving equity (Tampio 2009). Many theorists have responded to this potential loss of political subjectivity, with subsequent adaptions of Deleuze and Guattari's thought attempting to reintroduce a recognizable political subject - the proletariat in Hardt and Negri's (2000) conception of the multitude or the female feminist subject in Braidotti's (1994) postmodern feminism, for example. This paper takes these engagements with Deleuzo-Guattarian thought as starting points to begin theorizing the assemblage as a useful political category, one which requires forfeiting notions of political subjectivity which are invaluable but which is perhaps more applicable to contemporary social problems. The assemblage encourages us to think about political change not in terms of a revolutionary social movement but as spontaneous and multiplicitous coalitions of grassroots organizing which mobilize human and nonhuman actors alike, including geospatial and ecological factors. Ultimately, this paper argues that assemblages constitute a productive analytic for thinking about "wicked problems," in which the heterogeneous conflicts we are increasingly confronted with in late modernity are intertwined in processes of becoming which cannot necessarily be disentangled or resolved but, rather, must be directed towards more equitable solutions.

Author(s): *Toby Anne Finlay, York University*

## **Bringing Equity to Wicked Problems II**

Session Code: THE1B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Social Theory

"Wicked problems" are problems for which there is no one single solution, and often no apparent solution, because they involve complex feedback among heterogeneous interdependent actors, communities, and forces (both individual and collective, grassroots and institutional, human and other-than human). Wicked problems appear across many domains, and include: climate change, poverty and growing economic inequality, food security, colonialism, systemic racism, patriarchy, heteronormativity, and obstacles to bottom-up democratic decision-making. When it comes to wicked problems, both the social and the physical sciences are implicated in questions of equity and justice. Conventional approaches tend to frame "social problems" in such a way as to pursue solutions that leave structural inequities intact. For wicked problems, no intervention is value-neutral; relations of power, identity, and equity permeate all aspects of any sufficiently complex problem. Addressing wicked problems and helping equity groups who are traditionally overlooked requires scholarship and working in tandem with affected communities that goes beyond disciplinary silos: a deterritorialized, networked,

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transdisciplinary, and collaborative scholarship, to create new approaches to conceptualizing, modeling, observing, and engaging in social relations.

Organizer(s): *Christopher Powell, Ryerson University; Cheryl Teelucksingh, Ryerson University*

Presentations:

### **1. Learning and Growth in Research on Wicked Problems**

This paper will consider the actors involved in wicked problems research in order to explore the varied skillsets and capacities necessary to achieve impact on such complex challenges. I will assume that a systems change methodology (see Meadows 2008; Williams and Hummelbrunner 2011) offers a reasonable starting point for developing such an understanding, and will argue that the imperative of contextual knowledge in identifying and implementing “wicked solutions” (Williams and van’t Hof 2016) requires valorizing a more expansive, inclusive, and cooperative notion of expertise than that typically offered by technical, methodological, or subject-matter experts alone. I will consider my own recent experiences (and personal shortcomings) in community-engaged and social innovation research, focusing on youth livelihood development (YLD) as an exemplary wicked problem. YLD demands actors develop a range of expertise (Epstein, 2019), in part through the imperative to build and sustain partnerships across intersecting educational, workforce development, or health and well-being contexts (Betcherman et al. 2007; Hempel and Fiala 2012). I will explore the ways actors involved in YLD do and can continue to benefit from pursuing common partnership and developmental strategies, particularly those that help formalize already existing expertise, clarify and delineate interrelated priorities, and decentre learning and growth from perceived individual deficits to instead focus on building the collective capacity of institutional, organizational, or partnership “actors”.

Author(s): *Kris Erickson, Ryerson University*

### **2. Engagement Strategies to Launch an Investment Co-operative: The Union Sustainable Development Co-operative Case Study**

Union: Sustainable Development Co-operative (USDC) is a new for-profit co-operative that seeks to buy and manage multi-unit residential and commercial properties for the environmental, social, and economic benefit of Waterloo Region. In launching the co-operative, USDC has used a consultative approach to understand the communities needs and simultaneously build the membership base. During the paper presentation the consultation methods used thus far will be reviewed and the upcoming approach will be discussed. Attendees of the session will be asked for feedback on how to improve consultations in the future.

Author(s): *Anthony Piscitelli, Conestoga College; Sean Campbell, University of Waterloo; Alex Szaflarska, Wilfrid Laurier University*

### **3. Exploring and explicating the 'wicked problem' of chronic pain through institutional ethnography**

Chronic pain (CP) is emerging as a wicked problem within Canada's health care system. Our previous research on the organization of the care of patients with CP from the perspective of primary care providers in Ontario highlighted that people who suffer from CP are often considered 'challenging' by their providers, in that they also endure poverty, poor mental health, and significant opioid use. As a result, our current research aims to draw attention to the constraints faced by this marginalized subset of patients as they navigate a health care system that lacks the personal and institutional capacity to equitably care for patients with CP and complex social needs. We do this through institutional ethnography (IE), an approach that uses people's everyday experiences as the starting point to explore and explicate the social/ruling relations that orient experiences and organize the 'work' (i.e. time/effort involved) of patients in managing their health and social needs. Through this sociological approach, we aim to highlight how the institution comes to shape the everyday. It is by focusing on the everyday, and beginning from the standpoint of this patient group that we hope to advance grounded, genuine and equitable solutions to this wicked problem.

Author(s): *Laura Connoy, Western University; Fiona Webster, Western University*

### **4. Trafficking at the Intersections: Racism, Colonialism, Sexism, and Exploitation in Canada**

Over the past several years, efforts from activist organizations, service providers, scholars, and survivors has brought an increasing and much deserved intensity to the issue of “human trafficking” in Canada, especially as it relates to sexual exploitation. This issue has in turn generated significant points of conflict among advocates over the policing of sex work, the restriction of migration, and the politics of neoliberal humanitarianism, exposing rifts



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in the ways that contemporary feminists conceptualize the target and objective of anti-oppression struggle. Conflicts between anti-trafficking and “anti-”anti-trafficking perspectives therefore appear as a “wicked problem” both for feminist solidarity and for effective social policy in Canada. However, this may be less so if human trafficking were more widely addressed in terms of the intersections of sexual violence with racial and colonial violence in Canada. Drawing upon the work of Indigenous, Black, and intersectional feminists, this paper analyzes the connections between the social phenomenon of “human trafficking” and the ongoing legacy of racialized and colonial oppression within the Canadian colonial project. The paper argues that meaningful and effective solutions to trafficking must confront the ways that heteropatriarchy, racism, and settler colonialism are systemically inscribed in human trafficking - not only in the patterns of the crimes themselves but also in the ways this violence is imagined, discussed, (de)valued, and prosecuted in Canadian society. Although a focus on the intersections of sexual, racial, and colonial violence does not itself resolve the “wicked problem” of human trafficking for contemporary feminism, I propose that such a focus stands to generate renewed bases for mutual recognition, allyship, and cultural humility. Not only can it open possibilities for decolonizing, antiracist approaches to human trafficking, it can foreground the voices of Indigenous and racialized survivors whose insights are too frequently marginalized from the current discourse.

Author(s): *Robert Nonomura, Western University*

### Symposium for Early Career Theorists (SECT) Part I: Relationality

Session Code: THE2A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Social Theory

The Symposium for Early Career Theorists (SECT) is a special session that spotlights the work of emerging social theorists at a relatively early stage in their careers (PhD Candidates who are ABD status and those who are no more than five years beyond completion of their doctorate). Social theory is an open and dynamic field, and so in that spirit SECT features papers that reflect, expand and/or critique an array of social phenomena that can be theorized. This is the first of a two-panel series. Papers in this panel will address theoretical topics relating to relationality, practice, power, and institutions.

Organizer(s): *Robert Nonomura, Western University; Lily Ivanova, University of British Columbia*

Presentations:

#### **1. MacIntyre and Expertise: Three Ways MacIntyre Could Aid Theories of Expertise in the Social Sciences**

For a long time, questions of ethics and questions of epistemology have been siloed off from one another in many disciplines. What I suggest in this paper is that epistemic foci must enter into dialogue with ethical considerations as to the causes and consequences of the different forms of expertise -along with the supplementation of questions of what expertise is , with questions of what expertise ought to be. Indeed, given the many practical questions of ‘expertise’ surrounding us in our contemporary moment -what skills might be required to be considered an expert; what social location one must hold (or might come to hold) because of their expertise; what role different social organizations and affiliations play in delimiting areas of expertise; how different experts interact with one another, and the role a community of experts plays in bestowing (and maintaining ) the title of ‘expert’ upon someone; what epistemic and ontological areas one can be considered an expert on / within , etc -it is foolish to believe that ethical questions can be divorced from the sociology of knowledge as it relates to ‘expertise.’ The above examples are just the tip of a social iceberg which is theorized within the social sciences primarily as epistemically significant : who can call themselves an expert in this postmodern age? What is expertise? This suggested dialogue is one which I am not the first to propose, as the rise in social epistemology in philosophy in the last 20 years has brought questions of epistemology and ethics closer together than in previous ages. The suggestion I am making, which is unique, is the participants in this dialogue: contemporary theorists of ‘expertise’ and ‘knowledge,’ and the philosopher Alasdair MacIntyre (1976, 2008a, 2008b, 2012, 2017). As MacIntyre is an enormous figure in philosophy -being a key figure in the revival of virtue ethics in the last 50 years, as well as the development of a traditions-theoretic account of histories of ethics which seeks to overcoming historical determinism as well as contemporary relativist positions -any engagement with him in a single paper must be necessarily brief. The theorists of ‘expertise’ and ‘knowledge’ that I engage with -Marian Adolf, Reiner Grundmann,

and Nico Stehr (2014a, 2014b) -whose work thereupon lays a foundation for much of related theorizing within sociology, science and technology studies, and other disciplines, must be likewise brief. Despite the necessary brevity of the engagement between both sides of what I consider a dialogue between and within disciplines, it represents the development of a wider dialogue between epistemic and ethical considerations in what is arguable an under-researched field -expertise. What this work also represents is a focused development -a 'field test' of sorts - in the traditions-theoretic approach to ethical considerations within sociology, and social theory more broadly, which I have been developing (Kruger, 2018), taking expertise and knowledge as the subjects of a dialogue with MacIntyre over questions of ethical engagement regarding both. I begin by primarily covering the work of Adolf, Grundmann, and Stehr. It is from drawing upon their work that a preliminary account of the state of 'expertise' as a field of study can be given. While this account is supplemented here and there by theorists within the social sciences and philosophy, the primary conceptualization of 'expertise' and 'knowledge' will be that of Stehr and his colleagues. After Adolf, Grundmann, and Stehr's account is given, I problematize it from several angles - including but not limited to the ethical and epistemological. Examples of this problematization include a brief engagement with William Leiss' (2017) work on the ethical risks inherent in genetics, robotics, and nanotechnology to identify what is lacking in contemporary expertise studies regarding ethical considerations, along with Karen Jones' (2012) work on 'intellectual self-trust' and the role experts play in the development of epistemic virtues and vices. Following this, I lay out what MacIntyre can contribute to sociological investigations of expertise, with his position synthesizing ethical, epistemic, and social-historical concerns. Specifically, I use MacIntyre's work to propose three means to improvement of contemporary social theory on expertise: (1) I draw on his conceptualization of 'practices' and 'crafts' to help elaborate on how theories of expertise understand expertise as a socially produced and regulated phenomenon. (2) I draw on MacIntyre's concept of a 'prereflective background,' which serves the purpose of a theory of the background which the ideas of lifeworld, habitus, and tacit knowledge plays in other social theory, but with several noted advantages. (3) I finally elaborate on MacIntyre's unique use of 'tradition(s),' and engage with the socio-historical, and normative, impact they could have on questions of expertise within social theory, broadly understood. This dialogue between MacIntyre and the theorists of expertise noted represents a conversation between two seemingly disparate positions in social theory, but positions which I argue can benefit from a theoretical engagement with one another -an engagement which may help better conceptualize, react to, and act upon the social world as we know it today.

Author(s): *Reiss Kruger, York University*

## **2. Overcoming Categorical Imperatives: Crafting a critical analysis of mental health policy**

This presentation describes how I adapted and extended critical theoretical approaches to resolve some conceptual issues that arose as I crafted an analysis of official statements pertaining to mental-health policy reform in Canada. As I set out to define my approach to my doctoral research by exploring critical scholarship pertaining to mental health policy and psychiatry, I saw value in typical methodologies such as Foucauldian discourse analysis and application of contemporary stigma theory. However, I also found that aspects of these approaches seemed inadequate to address certain aspects of public statements that had caught my attention in government reports on mental-health strategy, as well as public-awareness campaigns such as Bell Let's Talk: notably, a de-emphasis of severity and instances of non-recovery, as well as psychiatric diagnosis and treatment related to violence. This de-emphasis seemed to align with some deeper assumptions about universal rationality and economism to be found beneath the surface -or, often, plainly visible on the surface -of contemporary statements about mental-health problems and idealized solutions. When reading government reports, public-awareness materials, and scholarly critiques pertaining to mental health, I seemed to notice a commonality, which has to do with how issues and people are conceptualized in ways that are simultaneously categorical and individualistic. While I understand this to be a fairly obvious manifestation of neoliberal thought, it seems to have unique -and uniquely vexing - implications when it comes to governmental and private-sector efforts pertaining to mental health: ranging from widespread efforts to alter how people speak and think about their own mentality, to the de-prioritization and limitations of political discourse with regards to severity and (without conflating severity with violence, and being sensitive not to do so), to cases involving persistent violence and entanglement with the legal system. By way of introduction, I describe my engagement with existing critical scholarship and identify several areas I felt I should approach cautiously, using examples where typical critical approaches seemed to offer little guidance, or even lead in directions that might disempower or disregard a significant number of people whom physicians or the legal system determine to be affected by mental-health problems. I then focus on how I blended, and extended, the work of several critical theorists to overcome limitations that seem inherent to bringing the issues that caught my interest into the (ostensibly) person-centred, empowerment-focused conversations about mental health occurring in our present historical moment. I describe how the textual investigation and analysis that formed the

basis of my dissertation was influenced by Dorothy Smith's contributions to institutional ethnography and political economy, Arthur Frank's project of socio-narratology, and, (in a more complicated way), the historical and methodological works of Michel Foucault. My focus -in this presentation, and in the methodological chapters of the dissertation -is on finding ways to interrogate, and resist, the categorical assumptions of both conventional and critical perspectives on mental-health policy, in order to craft an analysis and contextual history of government policy visions pertaining to mental disorder and wellness. I explain how undertaking an analysis on these terms led me to an interpretation that aligns in some ways with scholarship on mental-health policy in the neoliberal era, yet also offers points of divergence in terms of argument and, especially, focus. I describe how I incorporated analysis of historical texts into my work and why I saw this dimension as crucial, offering some findings that seemed counter-intuitive and helped to shape my analysis of the present. As such, the history of reform that I've crafted is in many respects a history of how problems have been constructed and understood, while my deconstruction of current discourses of recovery and reform is in many ways an exploration of institutional developments over time (as well as of past proposals for radical reform that current conversations seem to preclude, actively or implicitly). Drawing on the theorists mentioned above, as well as concepts from policy studies related to policy subsystems and perceptions of state capacity, I explain how my analytic practice led me to interpret actual policy developments and visionary discourse pertaining to mental-health policy as the vanguard movement of neoliberalism within the Canadian social-welfare state. In my dissertation, I suggest that a biomedical era of mental-health discourse may be usefully thought of as giving way to, and merging with, an ascendant economic understanding of disorder itself. In this presentation, I aim to explain how and why a certain amount of conceptual innovation, and resistance to common scholarly idea(l)s, seemed necessary to reach this conclusion and develop it into a conceptually focussed narrative.

Author(s): *Steve Durant, University of Toronto; Fiona Webster, Western University; John P.M. Court, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health & University of Toronto; Brian D. Hodges, University of Toronto & University Health Network; Ayelet Kuper, University of Toronto & Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre*

### **3. An Embodied Dynamism Approach to Immigrant Fertility**

Where, when, and in what circumstances immigrants have children can affect the host society's demographic distribution, its residential density, its healthcare services and social welfare costs, the size of the labor force in the future, and the consequent social stratification, which affects both scholarly understandings and policy considerations. Despite immigrants' and their descendants' significant role in shaping economic, cultural, social, and political lives of the country, both scholarship and policy has paid little attention to immigrant fertility. Using Chinese Canadian immigrant women's fertility processes as a case study, I developed an Embodied Dynamism approach in this paper to understanding of the complexity and nuance of the two intertwining life transition events migration and reproduction. I argue that immigrant fertility should not be conceptualized as a quantifiable entity decided at a particular moment, but as a process during which individual immigrants navigate societal institutions, collaborate with significant others, and make sense of their own biographic situations to deal with immigration and childbearing simultaneously as their life course unfolds over time and across space. Using 42 in-depth interviews, I collect qualitative data on participants' immigration journey and childbirth history as well as their own accounts of understanding, reasoning about, and reflecting on their lived experiences. Through comparing across-group differences between immigrants who had children in China and those who had children in Canada, as well as within-group differences between people who had more children and those who had fewer, I explore how reproductive dynamics drive or hold migration and how migration dynamics enable or constrain reproduction. I find that moving across borders at different stages of the reproductive process shapes the ways people perceive immigration to Canada as a temporary stay, permanent settlement, periodic circulation, or springboard to other places. At the same time, variations in navigating immigration systems and reception institutions account for divergences in the timing, spacing, number of childbirths, and citizenship of children. The Embodied Dynamism Model elucidates the constellation of institutional, relational, and situational dynamics that shape the ways individuals cope with moving across borders and having children simultaneously, involving ongoing triadic interplays of making sense of biographic situations, cooperating with relational circumstances, and navigating institutional contexts.

Author(s): *Jing Zhao, University of British Columbia*

## Symposium for Early Career Theorists (SECT) Part II: New Materialism

Session Code: THE2B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Social Theory

The Symposium for Early Career Theorists (SECT) is a special session that spotlights the work of emerging social theorists at a relatively early stage in their careers (PhD Candidates who are ABD status and those who are no more than five years beyond completion of their doctorate). Social theory is an open and dynamic field, and so in that spirit SECT features papers that reflect, expand and/or critique an array of social phenomena that can be theorized. This is the second of a two-panel series. Papers in this panel will address theoretical topics relating to post-structuralism, new materialism, and agency.

Organizer(s): *Robert Nonomura, Western University; Lily Ivanova, University of British Columbia*

Presentations:

### **1. Creativity as intra-action: theorizing creativity as relational becoming**

The purpose of this paper is to theorize creativity as a relational process of becoming. Using Barad's concept of intra-action (Barad, 2007), I will argue for an understanding of creativity as an affective intra-active relation. The concept of intra-action was coined by Barad to highlight the ways in which entangled agencies co-construct one another in the process of becoming. In this paper, I will adapt Barad's concept to argue for a relational understanding of creativity highlighting the mutual constitution between human and nonhuman actants in processes of creation. An intra-active view understands creativity as central to everyday life and everyday process of becoming. In advancing this argument, my goal is to challenge an individualized and individualistic understanding of creativity that views creativity principally as an elite property or gift of individual minds. This individualized view of creativity serves to generate a theoretical inattention to the constitutive and cumulative processes that are central to creation but that often remain veiled under the labels of talent and giftedness. From a relational approach to creativity the focus is displaced from the individual and their internal processes, to focus instead on the ways in which creativity emerges from the affective intra-active constitution of human and nonhuman actants. This transition from an internalist to a relational theorizing of creativity can be understood as part of the shift from a psychological to a sociological theorizing of creativity. By focusing more overtly on the mutual constitution of the person and the material/discursive mediums within which creative action takes place we are given the ability to more fully understand how creativity emerges through ongoing and sustained affective relations that are not necessarily driven by human intention alone. To make this argument, this paper will start by outlining key elements of new materialism and posthumanism and their important implications for reconceptualizing creativity. Working from an animate ontology (Ingold 2006, Sheets-Johnstone, 2009), I will argue for a reconceptualization of materiality as active and forceful, a reconceptualization which seeks to restore the nonhuman as a forceful and central actant in processes of creation and becoming. This reconceptualization of materiality entails an equally significant repositioning of the human and a reimagining of the nature of the relationship between human and nonhuman. Building on these theoretical preliminaries, I will develop, using Barad's concept of intra-action, a thoroughly relational understanding of creativity. I will argue that from an intra-active perspective, creativity takes place as a process of affective attunement between a person and a structured medium (or materiality). Significantly, this process of attunement works both ways in the creative intra-action meaning that both the person and the material medium actively and forcefully fashion one another. This relational and intra-active approach to creativity therefore entails a radical reconceptualization of the affective force of materiality in the creative process as well as a displacement of the individual as the sole 'agent' of creation. Ultimately, by foregrounding processes of attunement and accommodation, this relational approach to creativity sheds a clarifying and correcting light on the conventional black box theories that otherwise explain creativity in terms of some inborn and ineffable gift or talent. Creativity, I argue is not principally a gift or an ability localized in individualities, but rather an intra-actional relation of attention, attunement, and becoming that implicates human and nonhuman in a constitutive relation. This view casts creation in a very different light than that prominent in the modernist view which situates creativity as an elite ability.

Author(s): *Kevin Naimi, OISE, University of Toronto*

### **2. Badges and Bars: Re-theorizing the police-prison relationship**

No one gets to prison without the help of police. Only the police have the power to set in motion the whole complex of institutional apparatuses that transform 'suspect' into 'prisoner'. And yet, we know very little about how police

make sense of this coupling between their badge and the prison bars. This investigation seeks to understand this connection. Of course, those legal apparatuses triggered by police do not necessarily terminate in a jail cell. Countless variables influence a suspect's juridical trajectory. Nevertheless, the prison looms large as the quintessential terminus of our juridical world. Accordingly, the specter of the prison predominates during the police-civilian encounter. The felt sense of the prison lingers just behind the individual officer and reifies police authority in the obdurate reality of brick, mortar, and razor wire. The prison is at the beginning of every police encounter precisely because it is also (potentially) at the end. A suspect responding to the officer's interpolating 'hey you!' does not give the officer power, as Althusser infamously claimed. Nor is one subjectivated to the ideology of law the moment they respond to the officer's hail. One answers the call, in large part, because failure to do so is risky business. Indeed, officers seem to agree that otherwise unnecessary police force becomes justified at the moment of resistance, even if resistance means remaining silent. The officer's 'hey you' then, is always coercive. A suspect's response, in turn, is often part of a strategy to avoid an escalation of violence - violence concealed, in the final instance, by the bureaucratic labyrinth helixed between the officer and the prison. What's more, the gun may well be understood as an extension of the prison. The gun's official role is to protect officers, but it also functions as a palpable 'or else'. It arrests movement, dissent, insolence. It immobilizes - temporarily or permanently. The gun speaks. It says, 'stay exactly where you are!' Further still, we ought to consider the police, not just as an institution linked to the prison, but an institution of penalty in its own right. The police (at least in part) function as frontline carceral workers. People experience police penalty hunched in the back of a cramped squad car. They feel it in the weight of an officer's knee in their back and the portable prisons zip-clenching around their wrists. But that's not all. The very presence of a uniformed, gun-carrying officer often activates a felt sense of the prison - not least of all because the police function as mobile appendages of the otherwise immobile prison leviathan. Indeed, this felt sense constitutes an important source of coercive police power. In sum, police gear together with the institutionally defined location of the prison, but also the abstract concept of 'prison' which finds expression even in the smallest acts of confinement - right down to the moment an officer first stops a civilian in time and place with a simple, 'hey you'. Punishment, force, and violence are not sharp, mutually exclusive categories. Instead, they are marbled together, with subtle gradations of symbolic interpretation and instrumental intention. Neat conceptual abstractions paper over what is in reality a very messy collision between the carceral state and civilian. Only by creating a timeline of discreet objectified moments are we able to position punishment outside of this collision, as a calculated (and calculable) non-violent outcome, instead of a quasi-violent quality that inflects the juridical process from the very beginning. Police violence then functions at the edges of institutional legitimacy as a kind of pre-ritualized punishment - punishment that comes before the 'true' fully ritualized penalty of the courts. And though it lacks ritualistic trappings, police violence is deeply symbolic. Punishment always, as Garland puts it, carries "a trace of the thing it expresses". Unlike other forms of explosive libidinal violence, police violence is always marked with punitive signification and the trace of resistance to authority. I advance a theoretical framework of the carceral state that preserves the fine gradations of penalty scattered along the 'justice' continuum running between the police and the prison. This structural-symbolic tethering of police to prisons and penalty is more than an academic concern. The prison and police are co-constitutive sites of tremendous moral controversy. The prison disproportionately houses the mentally ill, the poor, and racialized bodies while the police disproportionately target these same social groups. And since no one gets to prison without the help of police, the police are uniquely implicated in the effects of penalty. This project seeks to consider what police research has thus far overlooked. I intend to investigate the experience of policing in terms of their position in the carceral structure. Where the majority of police power and influence derives from the prison at the same time that it fills the prison, I will investigate this connection in more detail.

Author(s): *Aidan Lockhart, University of Guelph*

### **3. Ahmed in the Upside Down: Queer Affect and the Machines that Feel it**

This paper is an attempt to theorize an account of Queer affect in the absence of embodied subjectivity. In other words, this paper asks, "how are we and our data perceived by non-human actors and how do their perceptions of us shape our sexual identities and behavior"? This work inverts the pathbreaking work done by Sara Ahmed (2006) wherein objects are encountered by subjects and serve to orient them in accordance with prevailing heteronormative power structures. By inverting Ahmed's work, I explore what it might mean to take seriously the agential nature of non-human matter - including "information" - as described by scholars of science and technology studies and proponents of so-called object oriented ontology (or triple-O) and question how and in what ways matter renders humans as passive agents and transforms itself in relation to us. Here, I take up the tensions that digital matter, "information", algorithms, content recommendation engines, and the concerted effort by social media platforms to generate controversy and outrage surrounding identity politics pose to post-structuralist

interpretations of sex, sexuality, and gender. Drawing on ethnographic work conducted among Trans\* individuals, Queer activists, sex workers, and porn actors/actresses, this paper highlights how myriad objects, digital artifacts, and software architectures both disrupt and structure the sexual realities of my participants and, in some cases, formed the basis for the development of their sexual and gender identities and their ability to perform them. This perspective allows two main interventions: first, in recognizing the agency of objects and artifacts of sexuality and gender, we can reconsider debates about the acknowledged overemphasis on language and performance in post-structuralist readings of gender and sexuality (e.g., Butler 1993). Second, rather than interpreting sexual artifacts - pornography, sexual imagery, or discourses pertaining to sexual identity politics - as free-floating entities, memes, simulacra, or conduits of power, this perspective encourages theorizing around how sexual media is attracted to and by major digital platforms that subject them to curation in order to maximize profits under late capitalism. As such, power is taken away from sexual media itself and redistributed to major information brokers and social media content providers. These material dynamics are central to a logic of "control" (Deleuze 1992) that imposes a pleasurable dictatorship on the limits of sexual and gender identity and expression. As this talk illustrates, sexual media is no longer something consciously selected and consumed, but actively curated in response to an inhuman calculus wherein assemblages of data render themselves "Queer" in relation to the machinic "vision" of humans as information or as orienting objects. "data doubles" (Haggarty and Ericson 2000), or "dividuals" (Deleuze 1992). Framing these actors as operating within a system of Deleuzian control prompts us to reconsider questions of performativity, citationality, and even the "human-ness" of sexuality itself. The result is a turn towards the circuit board logic of computational management, the machinic, and the inherent fascism of code. What emerges is a scrambling and blurring of sexual preference and agency, and the imbrication of sexual desire within affective economies that ensure platform success and capital gain. As so much of our sexual exploration occurs online - in solitude, in a masturbatory mode, and in the absence of a "stage" or any sense of dramaturgy - it is prudent to investigate the ways that erotic platforms structure our sexual experience while simultaneously contesting the boundaries of heteronormativity and Queerness or their intelligibility as sexed/gendered phenomena. In this thought-space, we are confronted with Ahmed's mirror image or upside-down doppelganger: the propensity for code, algorithm, information, and archive (as opposed to the subject) to shift their trajectories, stray from the "straight path" and (re)orient themselves in relation to the human.

Author(s): *Brian Richard Schram, University of Waterloo*

#### **4. Nobody's Business: Banal Evil in the Age of Nuclear Weaponry**

This paper takes up the discussion from *Understanding Genocide: Advancing a Sociology of Thinking for Theory and Culture* presented by Lily Illayanova last year at the CSAs Symposium for Early Career Theorists. Illayanova proposes that the study of genocide would benefit from a greater focus upon thinking and developing a sociology of thinking that can address gaps between specialized and everyday ways of understanding. For this presentation the emphasis upon the importance of thinking as a way to analyze genocide is considered to be on point. However, the point of departure from this observation will be to follow Hannah Arendt's description of thinking as activity that can be demanded of each one of us without any degree of specialized knowledge. In this sense thinking involves a concern for the impact our actions have upon the lives of others; an understanding that is reflected in Arendt's famously controversial assertion that Adolf Eichmann's lead administrative role in organizing the Final Solution is representative of the "banality of evil" - a term she also uses synonymously with thoughtlessness. The focus of this presentation will be to reflect upon the presence of nuclear weaponry in the modern world as a case study to work out an appreciation of what thoughtlessness, and thinking, could mean. The main source for this investigation will be Daniel Ellsberg's book *The Doomsday Machine: Confessions of a Nuclear War Planner*, in which Ellsberg discusses his involvement as a scientist working for the US government in the early stages of its development of a nuclear weapons program. In short, the guiding question for this discussion will be: Is nuclear weaponry a form of technology that makes compliance with banal evil unavoidable for those living in the modern age?

Author(s): *Benjamin Waterman, University of Waterloo*

### **Theory and Method in Historical Sociology**

Session Code: THE3

Research Cluster Affiliation: Social Theory; Comparative and Historical Sociology

Historical research was foundational to the discipline of sociology. From Marx's materialist theory of history, to Weber's comprehensive analyses of the origins of eastern and western institutions, to Durkheim's inductive



comparative historical method, "how we got to now" was intended to be part and parcel of sociology's analysis of society. Yet the contemporary practice of sociology often treats history as empirically factual; that which came before provides context to our engagements with the world 'here and now' as opposed to being an integral element of the present deserving of theoretical and methodological elaboration. With the exception of Foucault's archaeology, historical researchers in sociology have found few resources available for informing our historical methods and methodologies. Many working in the critical, historical tradition in sociology have been sidebarred by dominant methods foci in quantitative and qualitative procedures of collecting research. This panel aims to affirm the place of history in the theory and method of sociology in Canada and beyond. It responds to two perceived needs: to provide a forum for historical research and to engage in discussion about historical research methodology in sociology.

Organizer(s): *Ariane Hanemaayer, University of Cambridge and Brandon University; Kathryn Barber, Brandon University and York University*

Presentations:

**1. Beyond Foucault's blindspot on the 'liberal art of governing'; the 'working classes' as a counter-conduct**

Although Foucault's later lectures, at the college de france, provide both an examination of various forms of governmentality (pastoral power, regime detat and the liberal art of governing) and the counter-conducts which challenge these regimes, Foucault was curiously silent on the emergence of counter-conducts to the liberal art of governing. This paper, a chapter from a forthcoming manuscript, argues that we can not only propose the working classes (at least in England) as one such counter-conduct, and one which formulates itself as a field of intelligibility against this art of governing, but that we can use material from the History from below tradition to substantiate this claim. Thus the paper re-examines the work of Thompson on men, Clarke and Taylor on women, and Creighton on children, to suggest their usefulness for this project. However, it also suggests that these scholars fail to understand utilitarianism as a technology of governing, and thus we need to go beyond them as well, in order to provide an accurate portrayal of the exact time of emergence of this counter-conduct as a field of intelligibility.

Author(s): *Nobby Cj Doran, University of New Brunswick*

**2. Systematic Historical Analysis - A Morphogenetic Application**

Historical methods have been long forgotten by traditional economists and many economic sociologists in favor of abstract mathematical models or advanced statistics. Yet, statistical approaches typically ignore phenomena that take place over-time. Furthermore, in-time dynamics in the form of parsimonious economic models are not adequate to account for the complexity of social life. Despite these limitations quantitative methods cannot be ignored, yet they should be put in their place along with a variety of qualitative and historical data. However, haphazardly treating non-quantitative data is also problematic. Rather, qualitative and historical data should be treated with equal rigor and precision as quantitative data and more importantly structure and agency should be embodied within any realistic model of analysis. Taking a historical approach inspired by the Morphogenetic Approach of Margaret Archer (1995) and Critical Realism generally, I will discuss the application of a historical model embedded in a digital tool to ensure that rigor and transparency are built into the method. This tool enables researching complex cases and systematically examining both qualitative and quantitative data synchronically and diachronically using time as a theoretical variable to underscore how structure and agency can be imbued theoretically and methodologically within a case.

Author(s): *Brandon Sommer, International Institute of Social Studies - Erasmus University*

**3. Moments of Secularization**

In recent years religion has come to occupy an increasingly central place in both popular and scholarly debates concerning citizenship in Quebec. In order to understand and begin to contend with the challenges that religion poses for citizenship both conceptually and practically, it is necessary to engage with discourses and practices of secularisation in their historical specificity. To facilitate this, this paper proceeds on two fronts. First, it distinguishes between what it refers to as three moments of secularisation in the history of Quebec, arguing that we are presently witnessing a distinct third moment of secularisation. Second, the paper offers an alternative approach to questions of citizenship and religion that is not grounded in the notion of secularisation as a singular transhistorical process. Such a perspective provides an opening for rethinking the possible forms of mediation between citizenship and religion.

Author(s): *Ian Anthony Morrison, The American University in Cairo*

## Grounding Critical Social Theory: Facing Institutional Barriers to Social Justice Praxis

Session Code: THE5

Theme: Social Theory

This session covers sociological works by social theorists, social service practitioners, community leaders, and activists-scholars who concertedly mobilize critical social theory and praxis in order to illuminate where, how, and why connections between theory and practice falter. Together, these papers highlight how prevailing discourses of exclusion and oppression evolve to maintain their hegemony in the face of resistance. By considering how various processes of oppression sustain a culture of exclusion within institutional and public realms, the works featured here help to facilitate a dialogue aimed at strengthening existing connections between critical social theory and social justice praxis.

Organizer(s): *Jade Crimson Rose Da Costa, York University; Giovanni Hernandez-Carranza, York University*

Presentations:

### 1. Beyond activism: doing militant research for environmental and social justice

Russell (2015) challenges all academic researchers working on environmental issues to radically re-think their engagement with climate justice. My paper begins by reviewing different perspectives on engaged research, including being a public intellectual, service research (students and researchers enter communities as participant-observers) and activist research / praxis (students and researchers are not saviours but rather ethical learners to facilitate social change). Russell suggests that the most important principle for academics committed to social change is to make strategic interventions collectively with the social movements we belong to. Militant research does not take the university as a referent, it is irrespective of the university. Militant research is the conscious and deliberate attempt to make movements MOVE - through a reflexive critique of their own praxis. The 'impact' of militant research is its capacity to disrupt, discredit and dismantle neoliberalism and instead open up new possibilities for hope in what the future(s) could look like.

Author(s): *Susan O'Donnell, University of New Brunswick*

### 2. Barriers to addressing normative constructions of masculinity in sexual violence prevention efforts at Canadian universities

Based on my analysis of policies and prevention efforts at Canadian universities, I have observed that sexual violence tends to be framed as an identity-neutral, depoliticized interpersonal issue. While some institutions include references to intersectionality in their policies, they are generally limited to recognizing the uneven distribution of vulnerability to violence and do not necessarily translate into practice. There is little acknowledgement of the gendered nature of perpetration and few Canadian universities have implemented prevention efforts focused explicitly on engaging male students and addressing normative constructions of masculinity. Instead, prevention efforts are typically framed in a way that aims to be palatable to male students and often reproduces these norms. Drawing on the findings of my postdoctoral research, this paper considers barriers to the implementation of sexual violence prevention efforts that are grounded in intersectionality and challenge normative constructions of masculinity, ranging from the practical to the political.

Author(s): *Emily M. Colpitts, York University*

### 3. Educating in Prisons: A pedagogy of liberation in confinement

Educators who work in prisons are expected to conform their practice to meet institutional restrictions, while responding to students' learning needs and mitigating their imprisoned realities. Modern prison education is grounded in critical adult education; which states that learning is best situated in the contexts of one's life. In uncovering power imbalances in their lives, critical adult education ultimately supports learners to achieve a form of praxis, reflection/action. In prison, adult educators must maintain the delicate balance between creating space for this type of education, while respecting or upholding the oppressive power of the prison. This presentation will provide the results of a study about how educators learn to teach in prisons. Based on survey responses (n=11) and interviews (n=8) with college instructors who have taught in provincial prisons, a key finding was that prison educators require support and preparation for what they will experience. It will describe the initial experiences of prison educators as well as their reflections on the training and support they were (or were not) provided in their first months of teaching. I conclude with a series of recommendations aimed at supporting prison educators' efforts to teach in what is often a challenging setting.

Author(s): *Nicole Patrie, University of Alberta*

#### **4. Locating Agency within the Agency: On Doing Social Justice Work with a Sociological Imagination**

Over the past twenty-years, I have teetered between the pursuit of academic degrees and working on the front-line helping children, adolescents and adults with developmental disabilities. This paper outlines a balanced description of my theory-to-practice, professional framework, including highlighting the works of theorists who have influenced my thinking and the practice modalities that shape my work. This professional framework has emerged from my experience of shifting between academic work and front-line work, studying both policy and direct practice, and employing both social research methods and social work modalities. I will explore 'social justice' in terms of social theory and practical social work. I will draw on the works of Reynolds (2011), Baines (2011), Finn (2016), Fook (2016) to articulate my position vis-à-vis the concept of social justice. How and why are these compatible with my use of the works of contemporary sociological theorists such as Giddens (1979), Bourdieu (1990), Smart, (2008) and Beck and Beck-Gernsheim (2001). How does a background in sociology and the use of my 'sociological imagination' inform my clinical judgement regarding how 'social problems' are defined and address in policy and practice? Where do the qualitative sociological methods that I have relied upon, intersect or diverge from the modalities of direct interventions I rely upon in practice? I will explore how I use my personal agency within my social work role to be able to co-create and re-negotiate social justice with individuals within their social environments and under the current neo-liberal political climate. Specifically, I will discuss practical examples of social justice work in relation to naming ceremonies and intersectionality, social inclusion/exclusion and social cohesion and individualization. This reflexive piece will demonstrate how I might leverage my knowledge of social theory and methods to do the anti-oppressive social justice work more effectively from a variety of modalities.

Author(s): *Kelly Ruest, Graduate of Carleton University*

#### **Alternative Outputs: Mediated and Arts-based theorising beyond the academy**

Session Code: THE6

Research Cluster Affiliation: Social Theory; Sociology of Culture

Arts-based project outputs are making their way into traditional academic spaces, including recognition of their value by external funding sources and in tenure and promotion portfolios. This work, however, has a long history beyond the academy among activists trying to reach broad numbers and multiple audiences. This panel features those working within and beyond the academy who are engaged in projects of social change and societal critique, broadly defined. The format for the session will ask Panelists to present some of their arts-based outputs and comment on the theoretical and political commitments that guide their work. Panelists will also be asked to speak about their objectives in producing arts-based or media outputs and the conversations they aspire to incite. Those interested in learning more about theorizing beyond the confines of ivory-tower articles and written outputs for their projects will find this session of interest for a number of reasons, including interrogating the connections between theorizing and arts-based outputs; considering the forms of various political engagements beyond academic spaces; and designing arts-based outputs.

Organizer(s): *Arianne Hanemaayer, University of Cambridge and Brandon University*

Panelists:

- SubMedia Collective: Jay-R (producer), L-Zee (producer)
- Re•Storying Autism: Patty Douglas (Re•Vision Centre for Art and Social Justice at the University of Guelph), Raya Shields (storyteller and collaborator)
- Project CREATeS: Allison Crawford (Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, University of Toronto)

#### **Theorizing Social Justice Praxis**

Session Code: THE7

Theme: Social Theory

This session covers sociological works that broadly address questions of social struggle and resistance. While divergently focused, each paper in this panel considers the ways in which social justice agents can or should resist

the institutional or structural forms of oppression that they examine. Taken together, the works featured here highlight the many forms that social justice praxis can take, while also drawing attention to the distinct role that oppressive social structures and institutions can play in animating counter sites of resistance and agency.

Organizer(s): *Jade Crimson Rose Da Costa, York University; Giovanni Hernandez-Carranza, York University*

Presentations:

**1. Bargaining with the 'Dajjal' : Agricultural Inputs and Small Rice Farmer's Resistance in Northern Bangladesh**

Following independence in 1971, Bangladesh has sought to increase rice production by introducing high yield varieties (HYVs), which require intensive irrigation and other external inputs such as seeds, chemical fertilizers and pesticides - since then, ensuring access to consistent agricultural input supplies remains a significant challenge for smallholders. Earlier, traditional rice cultivators had to rely mostly on access to land to ensure cultivation. However, now they are becoming more dependent on a range of external inputs and a wider range of actors by which to access them (including landowners, money lenders, water lords, government agencies, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and the market). Thus, the domain of agrarian politics and actions taken by the small farmers have changed significantly. The land remains an essential factor in agrarian politics but is no longer the determining one (Harris 2013). How smallholders engage these actors and the resulting power relationships that are formed create complex spaces of vulnerability and dependency, which small farmers regularly face, adapt to and challenge through different means, i.e. resistances, negotiations and adaptations. Smallholder protests and political actions, however, are diverse and contextual. There were several symbolic protests regarding rice farming that had occurred in the study area, located in the Northern part of Bangladesh, which had not been published/broadcasted in the media or acknowledged by the relevant authority. While the classical agrarian questions highlight the marginalization and proletarianizations through the agrarian capitalism and see 'overt resistance' inevitable, the 'covert resistance' forerunner (especially James Scott 1976, 1985 and 1990) and the followers worship the 'everyday forms of resistance.' In response to this debacle, this paper aims to examine the way small rice farmers in Northern Bangladesh bargain with the "superordinate class.

Author(s): *Atm Shaifullah Mehedi, Queen's University*

**2. Hip-Hop Based Youth Interventions in Toronto**

This paper looks to explore how racialized youth build resistance identities through hip-hop culture, and explores the applicability to youth in Toronto through social service settings. A Critical Race framework is employed to place an emphasis on both race and social location. Focus is paid to the political, cultural, and economic roots of hip-hop culture, a counter-culture created by Black and Latino youth in impoverished 1970's Bronx, New York. Extreme alienation from mainstream society, inspired these young people to mine their breadth of social capital in the face of those claiming they were merely societal blights. Today, hip-hop culture is used to help Black youth critically engage with the world around them within the classroom through Hip Hop Based Education, HHBE. Yet, critical hip-hop based youth engagement, which help youth identify and articulate community social issues have not seen implementation within mainstream social service organizations. This paper explores the applicability of HHBE within youth homeless servings agencies in Toronto. Though adapting programs and policies steeped in the values and mission of HHBE, youth serving agencies can create relevant programs that engage youth on a deeply personal level. The feasibility of an HHBE approach to social policies is couched in an assessment of the social and political climate in Toronto, noting larger trends in both anti-Black racism and Black resistance movements in the city.

Author(s): *Anna Lippman, York University*

**3. The Implementation of Bill 132: Analyzing Sexual Violence Response Processes at Ontario University Campuses**

University campuses can be sites for sexual violence since they attract "the highest risk age group" of individuals who experience sexual assault. Thus, on March 8th, 2016, the Ontario government gave royal assent to Bill 132: Sexual Violence and Harassment Action Plan Act (Supporting Survivors and Challenging Sexual Violence and Harassment). The Bill instituted a framework for all Ontario universities to create sexual violence policies and to hire Sexual Violence Response Coordinators. Drawing from Crenshaw and Collins, and using an intersectional feminist framework, this paper examines and compares the resolution processes and supports available for students after they experience a sexual assault at ten Ontario university campuses. Results show that the policies

cannot provide protection on their own; there is a disconnect between what is expected from the policies (what is written) and how the policies are experienced by survivors (how processes are practiced). As Godderis and Root argue in "Addressing Sexual Violence on Post-Secondary Campuses is a Collective Responsibility", we need to take a collective stance on sexual violence on university campuses because it is a structural issue and one Sexual Violence Response Coordinator cannot bridge any lack of trust between the survivor and the system on their own.  
Author(s): *Vanessa Bragagnolo, York University*

#### **4. On Shifting Moral Codes and Moving Toward the De-Stigmatization of Substance Use through a Praxis of Hope**

Substance use that is perceived to be problematic -i.e. an addiction that inhibits self-control with harmful consequences - has resulted in the creation of knowledge of social deviance, invited moral scrutiny and stigmatization of the individual who uses, and may be criminalized. Poverty, meanwhile, is subject to similar discursive constructions and social responses. Between 2016 and 2017, I conducted in-depth interviews with 28 people who were sober, in recovery, or engaged in use of drugs (illicit and prescription) or alcohol while on Ontario Works. My interest was in the experience of living with addiction whilst simultaneously living a life overseen and conditioned by social assistance policy rules and regulations and shaped by poverty. As I continue to interpret participants' stories, I am drawn to their significance for re-imagining moral construction of and responses to substance use and addiction. While others may see substance use as deviant, criminal, morally wrong, or abnormal, my participants' stories of all the facets, events, and responsibilities that make up their selves and daily lives prompt me to clearly see substance user as but one identity of many - people are not their addiction. I contend that when we begin from this premise, the stigmatization of addiction seems largely incomprehensible; moral codes applied to substance use (and users) become entirely questionable. In this paper, I offer that de-stigmatization is possible through a shift in the framing of substance use and ruminate on how this may culminate in a collective praxis of hope that produces fruitful opportunities for treatment for those who seek it and social inclusion for any person living with addiction.

Author(s): *Amber Gazso, York University*

### **Undergraduate Roundtable I: Borders and Boundaries**

Session Code: UND1A

Theme: Undergraduate Research

This panel features undergraduate research on the experiences of Syrian refugees to Canada, as well as considerations of the boundary-enforcing ideologies of counterterrorism programs and the cultural deployment of border enforcement in the spread of right-wing ideology.

Organizer(s): *Tina Fetner, McMaster University*

Presentations:

#### **1. Syrian Refugee Teens' Identity Formation in Canada: A Preliminary Analysis of Refugee Integration Stress and Equity Team Data at University of Toronto**

Approximately 21,550 Syrian refugees under the age of 17 have found home in Canada between 2015 to 2019 (IRCC 2019). They have resettled during a time rife with sentiments of Islamophobia (Beirich and Buchanan 2018) and xenophobia (Ipsos 2019) across the West. The question of Islamic compatibility with the West is a concern among policy makers and the general public. Understanding how this group of adolescents acculturate in Canada provides a lens into Canadian multiculturalism and our ability to welcome newcomers. This paper examines how adolescent Syrian refugee males construct their identity in relation to their homeland and Canada and asks how the construction of identity influences their acculturation preferences. My findings are based on 15 interviews conducted in 2019 with Syrian adolescent males as a member of the Refugee Integration Stress and Equity team at the University of Toronto. My findings focus on teens' critical period of individuation, and how they navigate identity formation in this Canadian context; I add to the concept of cultural contestation (O'Brien 2017) by holding it against the Canadian case. My findings suggest that most of the adolescent males follow integrationist or ethnic acculturation strategies, while Canadian multiculturalism mitigates sentiments of cultural contestation.

Author(s): *Mohamed Anyman Afify, University of Toronto*

## **2. Private Sponsorships and Syrian Refugees In Canada**

Canada's private sponsorship program (PSR) allows citizens or permanent residents the opportunity to resettle refugees from outside the country. PSR groups may take shape as a Group of Five, Sponsorship Agreement Holder, or a Community Sponsor. PSR as a resettlement program has grown significantly since its initial creation in 1978 and is projected to continue in this trajectory. 42 percent of Syrians resettled in Canada since 2015 have been privately sponsored according to the Canadian Government in 2019. Syrian newcomers face many challenges in adjusting to a new country, culture, stressors, and environment; those who are PSR may need particular supports from sponsors to thrive against these challenges. Drawing on recently conducted interviews with 49 Syrian newcomer moms in Peel and Toronto regions, the paper explores how divergent sponsorship types may impact mothers' integration and satisfaction with resettlement in Canada. The questions that motivate the paper include: What types of relationships do Syrian newcomers form with their private sponsors? Compared to supports provided to government-assisted refugees (GAR), how do private sponsors help families resettle? And what are the different acculturation challenges for government versus privately sponsored refugees?

Author(s): *Mohammed Nabils, University of Toronto*

## **3. How Syrian Refugee Youth are Integrating in Canadian Schools**

In response to the Syrian refugee crisis, the Canadian government has welcomed up to 60,000 Syrian refugees (IRCC 2019). Around half of them are school-aged children and adolescents who have experienced war, forced migration, and/or have limited education (Guo, Guo, and Maitra 2019). In Canada, the integration of Syrian refugees in schools is considered a settlement need (Chuang and Canadian Immigrant Settlement Sector Alliance 2010). However, federal refugee resettlement programs have historically overlooked the needs of refugee children and largely focused on adult refugees' labour market integration (Kanu 2008). Interestingly, in 2016, within a year of the first Syrian refugee families arriving, the Canadian government admitted that they were unprepared for such a large number of refugee children (Glowacki 2016). Teachers and school administrators also echoed concerns that schools are ill-prepared to cope with the large influx and psycho-social needs of Syrian refugee students (Laroche 2016; Rolfson 2016). Canadian schools still struggle with transitioning Syrian refugee students smoothly (Ratkovic et al. 2017). This is problematic because poor school integration for youth can result in societal disintegration and poor future social/economic outcomes (Wilkinson 2002). Given the sheer number of Syrian refugee youth, their premigration trauma, and how important school integration is, this study investigates the following question: how are adolescent Syrian refugees integrating in Canadian schools? This study, based on two waves of interviews with 30 male and 30 female adolescent Syrian refugees in Peel and Toronto regions, identifies how Syrian refugee middle school and high school students are academically and socially integrating in Canadian schools.

Author(s): *Fatima Al Saadie, University of Toronto*

## **4. The Prevent Duty in Practice: Analyzing the Effects of Legislation on a Vulnerable Population**

This research paper will analyze the Prevent duty as defined and mandated by the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act of 2015, as set out by the Department of Education under the United Kingdom government. The Prevent duty is a piece of legislation mandating all teachers and childcare providers to ensure children do not become vulnerable to terrorist ideology. My research will seek to understand how the Prevent duty operates in practice and what the effects of this mandate encompass. After evaluation and analysis of the piece of legislation itself, this research will turn to peer-reviewed literature to review how the legislation operates and effects those under its influence. Concluding this research will be a summary of the legislations proposed intent and the evidenced effects documented in pertinent literature.

Author(s): *Chelsea Anne Jeffery, King's University College at Western University*

## **5. How Are Fascist Ideologies Being Spread Through Right-Wing Social Media Discourse in the United States?**

How are fascist ideologies spreading through right-wing social media discourse in the United States? This presentation will focus on my undergraduate honours thesis conducted at the University of Manitoba. Through an exploration of the militarization of the US border and mass incarceration of African American men in Texas, this paper shows how this ideology is at the heart of the division in America. Christian Nationalism and Evangelical support cannot be understated. The Christian Right's values and their relationship to fascism are also explored, including the belief in traditional gender roles, homophobia, xenophobia, and a strong relationship with the military. By using public Facebook posts and President Trump's Twitter account and public speeches, this study



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highlights the importance of social media in understanding the relationship between Americans today and why he continues to have support from Christian Nationalists no matter what decision he makes.

Author(s): *Avery Hallberg, University of Manitoba*

### Undergraduate Roundtable II: Culture and meaning in sociological research and practice

Session Code: UND1B

Theme: Undergraduate Research

This panel features undergraduate analyses of cultural processes including identity, self-concept, education and policy. It examines the praxis of sociologists as they engage with empirical questions in the real world.

Organizer(s): *Tina Fetner, McMaster University*

Presentations:

#### **1. Gatekeeping in a Magazine Production Art World: An Autoethnographic Critique of Exclusion**

The creation of art is a socially stratified endeavour that creates divides between who is deemed an artist and who is termed "support personnel" (Becker, 1974). Artists reap rewards - social, economic, and symbolic - for their work, often to the exclusion of those who are involved behind the scenes in the creation of art. Howard S. Becker (1974) argues that art is the result of collective action, but the dichotomy between the artist and the support personnel privileges artists, who receive formal and public credit for their work. As the Editor-in-Chief of a student-run magazine publication, my own art world would not be possible without the support of many student writers, designers, photographers, etc., yet it is my name that goes on the front page the publication and I reap the subsequent rewards. I am the de facto gatekeeper to my art world and hold an immense amount of power in determining who does and does not belong in my art world. My gatekeeping power is fueled by a culture of systemic racism and sexism that exists in news media, one that continues to go unchallenged in mainstream settings (see Wilkinson, 2020; Miller, 2006; and Roberts, 2019). By not actively trying to disrupt the hegemony I am a part of, I continue to reinforce the dichotomy of artists and support personnel through a white, patriarchal lens. Using an autoethnographic approach, my paper critically questions my role in excluding racialized and gender-diverse artists from my art world and explores possible remedies to overcoming and eliminating these barriers, as a way to support these artists in receiving the symbolic, social, and economic benefits associated with the title of "artist".

Author(s): *Monica Lockett, University of Lethbridge*

#### **2. Learning, Throwing & Meaning Making: A Phenomenological Account of Student Meaning-Making Processes and Academic Outcomes**

As income inequality continues to rise in Canada, the growing problems associated with this distribution of wealth are not experienced by citizens equally. For many Canadian children, living in low-income conditions can significantly impede school readiness, influence academic outcomes and follow them throughout their educational trajectory to limit their likelihood of success (Statistics Canada 2009). Drawing on Maurice Merleau-Ponty's concept of embodiment, this paper works towards establishing a phenomenological lens through which we can understand the disparity in the academic performance of students from low-income households compared to those of their peers. It explores the significance and implications of being-in-the-world to argue that the consideration of people's lived experiences, especially as they influence one's self-concept, is essential to the amelioration of differences in students' academic achievement and success. Considering the constant state of learning that humans are engaged in, I illustrate the important and immense potential for change that the theory of embodiment implies for an improvement of the student academic achievement gap.

Author(s): *Laura Tang, Queen's University*

#### **3. Examining and Comparing Education Policies and Programs in Two Contexts, Edmonton and Lviv**

Research has identified a clear relationship between low socioeconomic background and low educational attainment, specifically high school completion, and that this relationship exists across international contexts. This is problematic, as high school completion has been linked to increased employment opportunities, income, and

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wellbeing. The authors take a critical approach to examine and compare education policies and programs in two contexts, Edmonton, Canada, and Lviv, Ukraine. This presentation addresses two questions: How does socioeconomic background impact high school completion (or relevant) in Edmonton, Canada, and in Lviv, Ukraine? In both locations, what educational programs are in place and aim to compensate for socioeconomic based educational inequalities? This presentation is part of an ongoing project for both authors that combines a Field School Course, involving travel to Lviv, and an independent study course.

Author(s): *Erika Dubrule, Grant MacEwan University; Luke Timms, Grant MacEwan University*

### 4. The Realities of Research

An in-depth study of the Toronto Police Service's Neighbourhood Community Officer Program led for us to be hired as Research Assistant's (RA's) by Humber College's Faculty of Social and Community Services. Under the guidance of Dr. Doug Thomson and Dr. Joanna Amirault, we engaged in a journey that forever altered the way in which we view academics. Interacting with various communities via fieldwork and working with various personalities within our team has provided us with valuable experiences that provided us with insight regarding what to do, and what not to do when conducting field research. This has and will continue to influence the way in which we apply our knowledge to our field of study, as well as how we conduct research in our future endeavours, whether it be through the workplace or postgraduate studies.

Author(s): *Trisha Harber, Humber College; Dominika Kubica, Humber College; Danielle Liwanag, Humber College*

## Conviviality and Conflict in Public Spaces

Session Code: URS1

Research Cluster Affiliation: Urban sociology

The last decade has seen a worldwide explosion of research on conviviality in everyday urban life. This work is inspired in large part by Paul Gilroy's (2005) definition of conviviality as 'processes of cohabitation and interaction that have made multicultural an ordinary feature of social life.' Beyond anthropology (Germaine 2013; Radice 2016), little Canadian research has taken up the 'convivial turn' (Neal et al 2016). Given that Canada's population growth is overwhelmingly focused in cities, deepen our understanding of everyday urban life has never been more pressing. Researching conviviality provides insights into not only collective bonds but also exclusions. As Back & Sinha (2016) argue, we must seriously attend to the 'paradoxical co-existence of both racism and conviviality in city life.' In this session we feature papers that explore the varieties of co-existence expressed in and through everyday encounters in urban public spaces.

Organizer(s): *Mervyn Horgan, University of Guelph; Saara Liinamaa, University of Guelph*

Presentations:

### 1. Managed Attention: Sharing the Public Bus with Others

Social theorists of urban life have long viewed modern cities as, fundamentally, concentrations of heterogeneous populations where inhabitants routinely encounter "strangers" - people they do not know, people who might even seem "unknowable." But how do people deal with diverse social encounters in the course of daily life? I argue that public buses serve as an important space of encounter between strangers in the city. The public bus represents a particular kind of social situation - one demanding that bus passengers simultaneously remain "involved" in the situation, and attentive to the needs of other bus passengers, and yet at the same time not focused on other bus riders in an intrusive or unwelcome way. This is effectively a balance between what Erving Goffman (1963) called "civil inattention" (Horgan 2019) and a level of "accessibility" that makes people ready and willing to interact with strangers. Drawing upon observations of bus rider behaviour and interviews with bus riders in Vancouver, I describe how interactions between strangers are organized on the public bus, and I explore how bus riders think about and experience such encounters, both welcome and unwelcome. I hope to demonstrate that one of the important, urban "social skills" that many bus riders acquire and put to use on public transit is a willingness to engage strangers in an collaborative effort to maintain the mundane courtesies and affordances that the "situation" of public transit requires. More broadly, management of attention and openness to interaction represent key elements of living together, with strangers, in the modern city.

Author(s): *Amy Hanser, University of British Columbia*

**2. Carnival, conviviality, and conflict in everyday life in New Orleans**

Carnival festivities are generally understood as extraordinary times, when social orders are inverted through parody and satire, social tensions are released through partying, and social interactions are made strange through masking and performance. However, in a city like New Orleans, where carnival is so enmeshed in the social fabric that it could be understood as a total social fact, the influence of carnival spills over into everyday life outside of the festive season. Drawing on long-term ethnographic fieldwork among carnival-makers and carnival-goers in New Orleans, this paper explores what effects the practices associated with carnival have on everyday encounters in urban space. It seeks to identify how carnival moulds local habits of conviviality and refracts conflict in public space. It also asks whether the conviviality and conflict of a carnival city offer lessons for better understanding coexistence in other urban places.

Author(s): *Martha Radice, Dalhousie University*

**3. "You wanna to roll?" : Negotiations of Social Difference and Conviviality in Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Gyms**

Urban-dwellers contend with highly diverse encounters across a complex array of intersecting social boundaries. While fleeting public encounters are a significant aspect of living in hyper-diverse contexts, the decline of truly public spaces for communal socialization has meant that semipublic spaces are increasingly important sites for negotiating conflict and conviviality. This paper draws on a comparative ethnographic study of two Brazilian Jiu Jitsu (BJJ) gyms located in the urban cores of Toronto, Canada and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil to examine the role of semipublic spaces in everyday negotiations of social difference. BJJ gyms are particularly compelling sites for exploring urban conviviality as they bring individuals who might never otherwise engage in sustained interactions, into extremely intimate, physical contact. This extreme intimacy (in terms of the speed at which it occurs, and the level of physicality it involves), amplifies and brings to the fore processes of interaction that might be otherwise overlooked. This paper analyzes how encounters across differences of race, gender, sexual orientation, and political ideology are negotiated at the two gyms. Drawing comparisons across the gyms, it further explores how contextual-level features of semipublic spaces can shape how interactions inside these spaces may seep out and influence everyday encounters.

Author(s): *Brigid E.K. Burke, University of Toronto*

**4. Seasonal sociability in a 'winter' city**

Images of urban public life typically picture strangers interacting in scenes and settings during the warm and dry seasons. This paper considers types of sociable and solidaristic encounters between strangers that take shape during the cold, dark, and frozen season. In recent years, an Edmonton municipal initiative has sought to forge a positive winter seasonal cultural identity of sorts, challenging the temptation to remain indoors and under cover. Prompted by such an initiative, this paper considers the uniquely seasonal forms of sociable coexistence, solidarity, and also exclusion that are opened up by winter conditions. It analyzes public images and encounters between strangers, drawing upon representations and observations from outdoor winter festivals across the city of Edmonton.

Author(s): *Tara Milbrandt, University of Alberta*

**5. Negotiating Shared Space on the World's Longest Uninterrupted Seawall**

Vancouver's seawall pathway is used daily by walkers, runners, children, commuters, pets, tourists, and people in wheelchairs, on bikes, rollerblades, skateboards and scooters. As a mixed-mode pathway occupied by diverse groups of people, users must frequently negotiate narrow and congested spaces with users moving along at varied speeds. This project examines the negotiation of shared public spaces from the perspective of the urban leisure cyclist riding along this seawall. Theoretically, this research applies the six factors of Tim Cresswells Politics of Mobilities to examine mobility in action on the seawall as well as being grounded in the mobilities scholarship of Rachel Aldred, Mimi Sheller and John Urry. This study offers a unique display of cyclists' embodied experiences and perspectives navigating shared user space along this seawall. Using mobile video ethnography and semi-structured interviews, this project follows four urban leisure cyclists as they navigate their bicycles along the seawall, capturing their movements on film in order to better understand how individuals negotiate moments of conflict as well as how they interact and communicate with other users of this space. Findings display how cyclists and other users engage in a constant negotiation of space and power, how they fit into the hierarchy of users and communicate with other users in a variety of ways, the impact of art, design, and nature in their perception and enjoyment of that space, the emotional and behavioural impacts of negotiation and mobile experiences, ways that individuals attempt to perform the "good cyclist" and the overall embodied experience of being a cyclist in a busy,

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sometimes chaotic and at times conflict ridden shared public space. Overall, this research projects provides insight into the ways in which individuals interact and negotiate communication and conflict in mixed-user public spaces.  
Author(s): *Sharlie Eicker, Langara College*

### Urban Social Change I: Gentrification and the City

Session Code: URS2A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Urban Sociology

Many Canadian cities have undergone a process of gentrification where the character of a neighbourhood has changed through rapid redevelopment/revitalization and an influx of financial capital and affluent residents. This session brings together work that focuses on different forms, politics, and everyday experiences of gentrification occurring in today's Canadian cities. The presentations cover a range of topics including racial banishment, housing renovations, and condo and main street (re)development.

Organizer(s): *Daniel Kudla, Memorial University; Zachary Hyde, University of British Columbia*

Presentations:

#### **1. Fences and Defences: Neighbourhood-level responses to a volatile housing market**

A heated housing market has led to tremendous instability in urban neighbourhood communities across Canada as older homes are renovated, replaced or 'flipped'. By examining interactions documented in videos of municipal zoning hearings in Toronto, this research asks about ways neighbours confront this volatility as they talk about specific building projects. It finds their response is not merely a not-in-my-back-yard (NIMBY) reaction to urban development (Manville and Osman. 2017). Instead, they talk about memories, interpersonal relationships and incidental experiences arising from the particularly urban condition of living near neighbours. Professional and lay participants alike address these cultural pragmatics (Alexander, 2006) of urban interaction as resources for setting up a common situation for decision-making. Talk of 'fit' or 'neighbourhood character' then supplies a standard of propriety to assess a building project. Engagement with neighbourhood change thereby entails a collective yet situated method of civic discourse grounded in the everyday cultural experiences of urban living. Simply, this shows a greater interest in narratives of urban experience is needed not only to identify justified forms of self-preservation, but to expose prejudicial, racist, and xenophobic inclinations as neighborhoods struggle with the on-going marketization of cities.

Author(s): *George R. Martin, York University*

#### **2. Social Tectonics: Revealing the Fault Lines of Urban Intentions.**

This paper explores the intentions and outcomes of urban 'revitalization' through the concept of social tectonics (Robson and Butler, 2001) as a London, Ontario neighbourhood is re-formed in ways intended to manage, or displace, the poorest residents in favour of a reimagined other. After undergoing a multi-million-dollar renovation, Dundas Street was recently rebranded 'Dundas Place' by the City of London intended to re-situate the much-maligned core as a vibrant, welcoming, cultural hub with appeal for the middle-class consumer. Today, a craft beer distillery, dog grooming parlour and locally-sourced organic restaurant surround a faded hair salon, cheque-cashing store and the City's Intercommunity Health Centre which provides care and support to the community's most marginalised populations. Two women carrying yoga mats and lattes smile awkwardly as they skirt around a grocery cart, laden with the belongings of a person experiencing homelessness, revealing an uneasy co-habitation of a neighbourhood in flux, and a crack in the facade of social mixing. Through observation of the everyday movement and interactions of those deemed desirable and the disinvested others I survey the fault lines and tensions that underlie London's present urban development.

Author(s): *Stephanie Brocklehurst, Western University*

#### **3. The Liveable City: The Social Politics of Urban Development in Ottawa**

In 2019, the City of Ottawa revised its Official Plan with the goal to transform Canada's capital into North America's most "liveable" mid-sized city. The announcement coincides with the redevelopment of the Herongate neighbourhood. Under the direction of landlord Timbercreek Asset Management, hundreds of racialized and

lower-income tenants have been evicted and their affordable townhomes bulldozed to construct new apartment buildings offering “resort-style living.” Experiences at Herongate prompt a critical reconsideration of Ottawa as a liveable city, begging the question -liveable for whom? I critically engage with the notion of the liveable city as it relates to the production of space and belonging in the City of Ottawa to understand how urban liveability is mobilized as a discursive device in the pursuit to produce life, enjoyment, and fulfillment for some, while creating conditions of death, marginality, and displacement for others. While dominant actors attempt to harness the notion of liveability, as a positive indicator of urban social change in the remaking of cities and neighbourhoods, efforts to determine belonging - who gets to live where and who does not - are acutely contested.

Author(s): *Andrew Crosby, Carleton University*

#### **4. “I don't think they care about us” : An Ethnographic Inquiry into Leisure, Sport and Gentrification in Montreal**

This urban ethnography considers how gentrification is lived in-and-through everyday activities, such as sport, recreation, and leisure -activities long claimed to be vital to community health and cohesion. The setting is a historically industrial sector of Montreal's Cote-des-Neiges neighbourhood that is home to a significant new immigrant population. In recent years, this sector has experienced substantial urban change due, in part, to the construction of nearly 3,000 luxury condominium units. Such developments have contributed to rising living costs, as well as numerous other changes in the neighbourhood. Our presentation will focus on the use and exchange of the local public park (De la Savane Park) situated across the newly built residential units. We raise important questions about how gentrifying pressures affect: peoples' opportunities for sport, recreation, and leisure; recreation programming funding; access to recreation facilities and green space; community sport participation.

Author(s): *Gabrielle Dalia Valevicius, McGill University; Jordan Koch, McGill University*

### **Urban Social Change II: Spatial Inequality and Conflict**

Session Code: URS2B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Urban Sociology

Inequality and conflict is inherent in urban spaces. Many urban scholars note that urban spaces have been subject to a process of neoliberalization that commodifies and transforms cities in accordance to market logic. As a result, marginalized groups and those living in poverty are often displaced through various forms of socio-spatial regulation. This session brings together work that focuses on various forms of inequality and conflict in today's Canadian cities. The presentations cover a range of topics including territorial stigmatization, urban movements, environmental injustice, and public transportation disinvestment.

Organizer(s): *Daniel Kudla, Memorial University; Zachary Hyde, University of British Columbia*

Presentations:

#### **1. Upsetting Constructions of Safety: Auto-Ethnography of a Suburb**

This article excavates how we come to understand certain neighbourhoods as safe neighbourhoods by conducting a walking, auto-ethnography through and around the suburb in which I spend most of my time. This work is done in contrast to a previous ethnography done in the heavily stigmatized core of Windsor, Ontario (Chapados 2019). The messages that societies receive and internalize about people who experience poverty are primarily constructed out of neoliberal institutions who uphold the idea that those who live in poverty are there by choice. These neoliberal discourses devalue the lives of those in poverty by suggesting that they are morally, physically, or mentally incapable of being responsible for themselves. While any of us could potentially experience homelessness or poverty, the relational constructs of wealthy and poor or upper-class and under-class create a metaphorical divide that requires deep re-thinking in order to transcend. When we demarcate spaces as unsafe or violent, we are also marking other spaces as safe and secure. I discover that controlling outward appearances, marketed fear of the unknown, and sacrificing community all feature in our constructions of suburban areas as safe in relation to the construction of core areas as unsafe and insecure.

Author(s): *Sydney Chapados, University of Windsor*

## **2. 'Multi-level mapping' - a viable methodological approach to researching urban movements?**

Cities are environments of everyday life and practices of identification, as well as of everyday struggles and conflicts. With the shift toward flexible accumulation and increased capitalisation on land and real estate, cities all over the world increasingly become sites of open conflicts, addressing marginalisation, exclusions and cultural hegemony. Autonomous cultural centres - 'unplanned' grassroots appropriations of urban spaces of transformation - make these conflicts palpable and observable: they are concrete sites of 'doing space' and 'performing the city' as the activists envision it; resisting hegemonic urban governance, harbouring the marginalised and pushing for change. In the proposed paper, I want to sketch out a methodological strategy I developed for my PhD project, termed 'multi-level mapping' and discuss its potentials and shortcomings for the study of these urban movements. 'Multi-level mapping' is a combination of Grounded Theory, Situational Analysis and Qualitative Interview Research, with an emphasis on spaces and their cultural dimensions. Through applying this strategy, I aim to learn how meaning 'spatialises' and how spaces become meaningful in the cases I'm looking into (Arena Vienna 1976, AT Rog Ljubljana 2006ff and/or Gängeviertel Hamburg 2009ff). I would like to discuss the viability and applicability of this approach to a wider range of urban phenomena.

Author(s): *Xenia Kopf, Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies, University of Alberta*

## **3. A Genealogy of Extreme Enclosure: Urban Poverty and Climate Vulnerability**

The spatialization of climate disaster and vulnerability provokes deep-seated questions for urban sociological theory. How do we account for the social and spatial boundaries of urban zones of climate vulnerability? How can sociological explanations depict the unintended consequences of modern capitalist development as an intricate part of urban place-making? In this paper, I debate the theoretical significance of the spatialization of urban poverty and climate-related vulnerability. Numerous environmental studies document how certain areas become "sacrifice zones" where, under climate denial and profit-driven development, unprecedented injustices are on the rise (Lerner 2010; Sze 2007). Furthermore, the environmental injustices faced by these communities is routinely banalized by dominant discourses (Taylor 2009). Still, while sociological research depicts the overwhelming relegation of environmental harm on the poorer, additional research is needed to elicit the meaning of climate change injustices for sociological theory. As a contribution to this issue, I debate the concept of "closure" defined as the set of practices, symbols, rules and regulations that a given collective mobilizes to restrict access to opportunities for others. Such a process is accomplished by drawing on an array of imagined or assessed characteristics of those who are made to be excluded. My presentation follows two themes. First, through a genealogy of poverty in North America, Wacquant (2007) claims that the US has passed into an era of advanced marginality, a new system of socio-spatial relegation and closure. Second, this genealogy implicates a new landscape of urban vulnerability taking the shape of a climate apartheid; a hardening of borders against those who are victims of environmental harm (Dawson 2017). My goal is to illustrate the significance of spatialized climate vulnerability for urban sociological theory.

Author(s): *David Champagne, University of British Columbia*

## **4. Public Transportation a Form of Systemic Racism**

My research aims to look at how financial decisions made at the policy level by cities contribute to inequality and systemic racism in society. It is evident from the provincial budget that cities like Calgary are going to have to make cuts in order to keep deficits to a minimum. What cities often cut are the services that support minorities who tend to have low incomes. These cuts reproduce inequality and are indicative of the systemic racism that exists in cities. Racism is alive and well it just has taken on new forms, one of those being transportation policy. The following research will explore the recent public transportation cuts in Calgary and how it reproduces inequality. This study offers insight into how financial decisions made by cities perpetuates inequality and systemic racism in Calgary. Whether cities knowingly or unknowingly participate in systemic racism, I hope to bring awareness of how their current financial decisions affect the most vulnerable groups of people who live in their cities.

Author(s): *Erik Mohns, University of Calgary*

## **5. From Urban Structural Change to Urban Social Change: A Case Study of Doroud**

New big constructions in an urban area change the circulation in a city, communication among people and places, and the dynamics of urban social life. We argue how constructing a bridge over a railway in a small city in Iran changed urban social life. Disregarding the social justice and the history of the city during urban development in Doroud made the bridge as the symbol of inequality and injustice. A bridge does not only affect people's perception of urban inequality but also affects decision-makers' performance in the city. We conducted 30 in-depth interviews



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with people from various social groups who were living or working near the bridge to understand and analyze the urban social changes in Doroud.

Author(s): *Pouya Morshedi, Memorial University; Foroogh Mohammadi, Memorial University*

### The State of Canadian Urban Sociology

Session Code: URS3

Research Cluster Affiliation: Urban Sociology

Urban sociology offers a unique disciplinary approach that explains urban reality through various theoretical and methodological frameworks, research sites, and levels of analysis. Urban sociology, however, is often dominated by scholarly work from the US and Britain that differ from the Canadian context in significant sociocultural respects. There are also opportunities for Canadian sociology to engage with the “global turn” in urban studies through comparative research with cities in the global south, patterns of immigration and questions of colonialism in the Western context. The purpose of this panel is to discuss important and unique insights Canadian urban sociologists make to “urban studies” at large. This panel will be structured around the following types of questions:

- How is Canadian urban sociology distinct from the US and Britain?
- How should we think about Canadian urban sociology within the global turn in urban studies?
- What is unique about urban sociology and how does it differ from urban geography?
- How has Canadian urban sociology evolved over time and what direction is it heading?
- What issues/themes should today's Canadian urban sociologists be addressing?

Organizer(s): *Daniel Kudla, Memorial University; Zachary Hyde, University of British Columbia*

Panelists:

- Sonia Bookman, University of Manitoba
- Harry Hiller, University of Calgary
- Mervyn Horgan, University of Guelph
- Cheryl Teelucksingh, Ryerson University

### Representations of Violence

Session Code: VLS1

Research Cluster Affiliation: Violence and Society

Representations of violence shape, and are shaped by, broader social understandings and responses to violence. How violence is documented, reported, and portrayed in various mediums has implications for the individuals and communities involved as well as broader societal practices for defining, responding to, and preventing violence. This session features papers that analyze representations of violence as sociological phenomena.

Organizer(s): *Jordan Fairbairn, King's University College at Western University; Myrna Dawson, University of Guelph*

Presentations:

#### **1. Colorblind Coverage: Mainstream Media Erasure of Intersectionality in Large-Scale Cases of Anti-LGBTQ Violence**

Despite extensive critique calling for greater acknowledgement of intersectionality, the LGBTQ community in North America continues to foster a white, upper- and middle-class, gender-normative culture. The community is dominated by narratives of homonormativity that privilege acceptance and assimilation into heteronormative institutions. Media discourse has perpetuated these narratives by downplaying the racism inherent in events centering homophobic violence against racialized LGBTQ people. Through a content analysis and discourse analysis of national and local news sources, this study seeks to explore the hesitation of media sources to explicitly

acknowledge the intersectionality of race and LGBTQ identity in two North American instances of large-scale anti-LGBTQ violence targeting predominantly racialized members of the community. The Bruce McArthur case in Toronto, Ontario involved the serial murder of mostly racialized gay men, while the Pulse nightclub shooting in Orlando, Florida was a mass shooting that took place on Latinx night at an LGBTQ nightclub. In both cases, despite superficial acknowledgement of the victims' demographics, the media minimized the racial component and, in some cases, even the inherent homophobia of the violence.

Author(s): *Isabel Lucy Krakoff, York University*

## **2. The Representation of Sexual Violence Through University Policy**

This research explores how Canadian post-secondary institutions create representations of violence through policy and policy enforcement. Drawing on the framework on policy analysis set forth by Bacchi (2009), a university's sexual violence and related policies have been analysed for how sexual violence committed among students is represented. Additionally, findings from semi-structured interviews with a sample of campus community members at a medium-sized southern Ontario university suggest that perceptions are divided on whether universities should be involved in responding to forms of online sexual violence, as well as physical forms of sexual violence. When the Canadian government introduced the Protecting Canadians from Online Crime Act, they officially acknowledged the harms associated with online behaviours such as cyberstalking and online harassment. With this bill, the Canadian government presents representations certain online behaviours as analogous to physical or otherwise "in person" violence. Although Ontario institutions now have sexual violence policies, these policies continue to only reference physical violence and ignore online behaviours. This research seeks to ascertain how campus community members perceive online forms of sexual violence and how their institutions can/should respond to incidents of it.

Author(s): *Shaina McHardy, University of Waterloo*

## **3. Representations of Indigenous Resistance: an Examination of Colonial Discourse in the Media**

Indigenous resistance to the Canadians' governments' encroachment on treaties has occupied media attention for decades. From coverage of mass mobilization to block the 1969 White Paper to more recent focus on the Wet'suwet'en resistance to the Coastal GasLink pipeline, Indigenous peoples are frequently portrayed as impeding progressive Canadian capitalist society. Positing Indigenous resistance as inherently violent to and incompatible with settler populations, media discourses reproduce colonial ideologies of settler pre-eminence. Situated within Didier Bigo's 'Ban-Opticon' theory, my research shows how the media and State work together to create a 'state of unease' through tactics of social control. This is done through the construction of minorities as threats, allowing for public assent in restricting the liberty of Indigenous action. Not only does such 'unease' serve to distract from the capital motivations driving colonial media representations, but it is further propagated in the name of security. This serves to create spaces in which the suppression of Indigenous reclamation of sovereignty is not only acceptable, but essential to advance to the next stage of modernity. It is clear that media representations of Indigenous resistance are intended to reproduce the age-old colonial project of total ideological assimilation.

Author(s): *Alana Glecia, University of Saskatchewan*

## **State Violence: Social Science Engagements with Violence-as-Work**

Session Code: VLS2

Research Cluster Affiliation: Violence and Society

The state's monopolization of legitimate coercive force (Weber 1919 [2004]) leads to markedly different appraisals of deployments of violence by state actors relative to citizens (Elsey, Mair & Kolanoski 2018). When the state enacts violence, through the police or military, distinct moral and/or legal frameworks are employed to evaluate the necessity and propriety of that force. That said, recent years have witnessed a proliferation of public exposure to state violence, through the lenses of various cameras, through foregrounding the experience of victims of violence in either legacy or social media, or through protest and objection to state use-of-force. This has drawn increased scrutiny to how violence-as-work is appraised by both the citizenry and legal or administrative bodies charged with evaluating state use-of-force.

Organizer(s): *Patrick Watson, Wilfrid Laurier University; Carmen Nave, Wilfrid Laurier University*

Presentations:

**1. The violence of nonviolence: A critical, comparative analysis of Canada's sanctions policy**

A range of key health documents and initiatives, including the Constitution of the World Health Organization at the wake of World War II, the Alma Ata declaration at the height of the Cold War, and the Health in All Policies initiative in the current neoliberal era, have proposed that virtually all areas of policy affect health. Foreign policy, which includes areas as diverse as trade, immigration, and matters of peace and war, is a case in point and has arguably dramatic, well-documented implications for human health. However, few areas of public policy have received such scant attention as foreign policy, an aspect of which is the imposition of sanctions by one nation on another. And yet, the economic, social and health effect of sanctions have been well documented: they include the collapse of local currency leading to widespread poverty and unemployment, severe food shortages, and barriers to lifesaving medical care, to name a few. Nevertheless, sectors of Canadian society -both state and non state actors, even those ostensibly averse to the use of military force - neglect, when not altogether ignore, the utter devastation caused by sanctions, considering them to be nonviolent ways of pressuring governments -- 20 at the moment of this writing -seen as involved in violation of, or reluctant to abide by, international norms. Drawing from Marxist, decolonial and anti-imperial theories and methodologies, we perform a critical, comparative analysis of Canada's sanctions policy and investigate its implications for the health and well-being of three contrasting nations targeted by Canadian sanctions: Iran, Nicaragua and North Korea. Our data include publicly available documents, historical sources, fieldwork and personal experience. This paper is part of the first author's program of research addressing the social and health implications of Canadian foreign policy.

Author(s): *Claudia Chaufan, York University; Nils McCune, Asociacion Trabajadores del Campo; Payman Salamati, University of Teheran*

**2. Violence-as-Work: Using Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis to Study State-Created Danger and Police Violence.**

Using Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis (EMCA), I examine the body-worn camera (BWC) video of the shooting of black motorist Samuel Dubose by a white police officer Ray Tensing as an example of state-created danger: situations where an officer's unsound or reckless tactical decision-making creates the danger leading to the use of force. Such cases typically result in acquittal due to use-of-force law which focuses on the reasonableness of the officer's belief in the need to use force rather than on the reasonableness of the officer's actions which should include whether de-escalation measures prior to using deadly force were employed and whether the officer engaged in conduct that increased the risk of deadly confrontation (Lee 2016). The paper explores violence-as-work through an interactionally grounded understanding of reasonableness and action by analyzing: a) how the officer's in-car computer is an important resource for police surveillance practices and contributes to the interactional asymmetry and escalating tension in the encounter; b) how the action of "pulling someone over" is closely monitored by the officer and mobilizes officers nearby to reflexively constitute the impending stop as "dangerous" and; c) how tactical errors create the danger used by the officer to justify the killing. Implications for studies of Violence-as-work using EMCA approaches are discussed.

Author(s): *Albert J. Meehan, Oakland University*

**3. Contagious Terror: Violence, Haunting and the Work of Refugee Protection**

This article argues that contrary to its humanitarian semblance, state-controlled refugee protection is a project of substantial violence, and that the violence of refugee protection is continuously disseminated through and across a wide range of unlikely actors and institutions. Drawing on Avery Gordon (2008) and Franz Fanon (1965) I show that the violence of refugee protection makes itself known in its haunting effects on those who come in contact with it in various capacities: those who carry through the work of refugee protection, such as refugee claim decision makers, lawyers and support workers, are plagued by psychological ailments that manifest in periodical burn outs, anxiety, melancholy, alcohol abuse, and unrelenting moral and emotional dilemmas. These ailments reveal the violence of refugee protection not just in relation to refugees, who are often construed as the exclusive subjects of violence, but also towards non-refugees who come into contact with "protection" work.

Author(s): *Azar Masoumi, Acadia University*

**4. Distributing Accountability in State Violence: Finding Culpability in Police Violence Against Citizens with Lessons From, and Applicability to, Military Violence**

The Canadian Criminal Code, along with statutes in various US states, recognizes, to a degree, the institutionalized status of individual police officers criminally charged with on-duty violent offences, in particular a prohibition

against first-degree murder charges for on-duty killings. However, despite this affordance, on-duty violence is still reduced, in criminal proceedings, as an interaction between one individual officer and the victim(s), rather than investigations and distributions of criminal culpability through the command-and-control structure of the police ranks and the institution of policing. A remarkable example of this issue is the police execution of Daniel Shaver by officer Philip Brailsford, January 18th 2016 in Mesa Arizona. Brailsford did pull the trigger and was the only officer (on a team eight responding) who lost his job and faced criminal charges for the incident - this despite the fact that that Brailsford was a subordinate officer in chaotic and tragically botched attempt to bring Shaver into custody. Our argument here, following a similar argument by Caton (2010) in his commentary on the Abu Ghriab atrocity, is instances such as Brailsford fall in an area between intentionality and contingency, and culpability extends beyond Brailsford himself to the institution of policing and the conduct of superior officers on scene. This is legally problematic, as the criminal code in Arizona affords only a restricted view of culpability to the individual who pulls the trigger, not the organization that facilitates the killing. Analyzing the interaction between Shaver, Brailsford, and officer-in-charge Charles Langley gives us purchase on extending notions of criminal culpability through the ranks and into the institution of policing, rather than depositing culpability with a single officer.

Author(s): *Patrick Watson, Wilfrid Laurier University; Carmen Nave, Wilfrid Laurier University*

### **5. Punishing a Failure to Assimilate: Sentencing Disparities between Afro-Canadian and Black Immigrant Offenders in a Canadian City**

The over-representation of Black offenders in Canadian correctional institutions is a well-established reality. Here, we problematize the monolithic construction of Blackness implied in this description. We argue that, in line with the larger understanding of Canada as a settler colonial state that seeks to enforce law and order only insofar as it affects state violence to discipline the non-settler, the punishment of Black offenders will split along settler lines. Immigrant Black ethnics, we posit, are treated as less inherently criminal than their native-born Afro-Canadian counterparts and subject to comparatively less carceral violence. We investigate this through a mixed-methods analysis of pre-sentencing and sentencing data in a single, mid-sized Canadian city, one of two with a sizeable historic Afro-Canadian community. Quantitative data is statistically analyzed to estimate the effects of Afro-Canadian identity on the duration of incarceration. Content analysis of pre-sentencing reports suggests understandings of the likelihood of recidivism are split along ethnic lines. Findings suggest that sentencing disparities along lines of nativity in the treatment of offenders racialized as Black represent a significant additional penalty faced by Afro-Canadians for not having disappeared into the Whiteness of the settler nation.

Author(s): *Natalie Delia Deckard, University of Windsor; Camisha Sibblis, University of Windsor*

## **Violence as a Cultural Process I: Institutional Constructions**

Session Code: VLS3A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Violence and Society

How do people construct the meanings they attach to violence? One on end, sociological studies of violence and culture have looked at how cultural institutions represent violence; on the other end, symbolic interactionists have looked at how people participate in and enact violence. This session aims to advance sociological theories, methods, and empirical explorations of how people come to see various experiences as violent -whether lived, observed or distant. What conceptual frameworks and experiences enhance or prevent various meanings of violence? Part I of this session focuses on the role of institutions in creating meanings of violence.

Organizer(s): *Lily Ivanova, University of British Columbia*

Presentations:

### **1. The Social Construction of 'Victim' and 'Crime' in Genocide: Who Does It Leave Behind?**

Becker's (1963) interactionist theory of deviance proposes that values inform both rule creation and rule enforcement. This paper is the first to utilize the aforementioned theory to identify values and examine their comparative influence on the creation and enforcement of the UN Convention for the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide (OHCHR, 1948). Some harms are worse than others and the ideal victim inform the evolution of the concept of genocide as a process encompassing lethal and non-lethal deviant acts aimed at the physical, biological,

and cultural destruction of a target group into a narrow legal definition that privileges the act of killing, consequently denying victim status to many who suffer genocidal harms. A conflict between the values is identified and addressed, proposing a return to Lemkin.

Author(s): *Irina Levit, Ontario Tech University; Hannah Scott, Ontario Tech University*

## **2. Terror Fatwas and Counter-Terror Fatwas: Minimizing the Religious Legitimation of Violence**

Fatwas are religious edicts that influence large segments of the Muslim community preoccupied with attaining paradise by adhering to prescribed and proscribed actions. Fatwas help oversee all aspects of human behavior, and while they are usually issued to address moral issues encountered by followers, some fatwas calling for war and jihad also have been issued. Even in recent history, cases abound where fatwas inciting terrorism have been issued, and with devastating consequences. While terror fatwas have been effective in inciting terrorist actions, counter-terror fatwas seeking to do the opposite seem to have been far less efficacious. Situated within a sparse and problematic research literature, this paper argues that counter-terror fatwas have been ineffective because they do not interact directly with the scriptural core of Islamist terrorism ideology. They have not challenged the Qur'anic verses that endorse violence. Further, the counter-terror fatwas have not received the digital news coverage required to succeed. These conclusions stem from the analysis of a data set of these fatwas, using a four-fold typology. This analysis is supplemented by interviews with counter-terror fatwa issuers, an Islamic law scholar, and a religious cleric to enhance the findings, and ends with suggestions for how the counter-terror fatwas might become more effective.

Author(s): *Nima Karimi, University of Waterloo*

## **3. Consciousness and Reduction: The Multiple Effects of the Campaign against Gender-Based Violence in Malawi**

Research on the effectiveness of interventions to reduce intimate partner violence against women is plagued by selection effects: by naming the issue and encouraging people not to be silent, interventions may lead more people to report the abuses they experienced. Further compounding the problem, most international survey data on intimate partner violence stem from cross-sectional surveys. I conduct a natural experiment by leveraging the fortunate overlap between the timing of the data collection period of the Malawi 2015-16 Demographic and Health Survey and the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign in Malawi from November 25-December 10, 2015. Comparing those interviewed before versus after the campaign, I find that self-reports of experiencing intimate partner violence in the past year decreased after the campaign yet self-reports of having experienced such violence at some point prior to the past year increased. Self-reports of violence experienced from the past year were most likely tied to recent experiences, including the time period since the campaign. Their decline suggests that the campaign likely reduced actual violence. Conversely, the increase in self-reports of being abused previous to the past year demonstrates that the campaign contributed to a combination of increasing women's consciousness and confidence of their own past victimization and reducing the stigma of being a victim.

Author(s): *Jeffrey Swindle, University of Michigan*

## **4. Connecting Southern Theory to the Sociological Study of Violence: Theory, Methods, and Application**

Sociology plays a crucial role in our understanding of how violence shapes conceptions of everyday experience, interpersonal and interstate relations, crime, governance, and social change. Despite the rich conceptual understandings and meanings of violence from across the global south, however, sociological analyses remain grounded in histories and experiences that centre the knowledge and expertise of the metropole. Such analyses may thus be conceived as not only products of violence but also sites of violent reproductions in the world economy of knowledge. In this paper, I draw on southern theory to argue that violence must be understood from the historical contexts, experiences, and theories emanating from the global south. By doing so, I demonstrate how such knowledge may not only contribute to expanding our conceptual understandings and interpretations of violence but also challenge the intellectual hegemonic violence of the metropole.

Author(s): *Pedrom Nasiri, University of Calgary; Pallavi Banerjee, University of Calgary*

## **5. The Binary Difficulties of Turkish and Kurdish Identities in the Context of the Discursive Use of Violence**

In the context of building identities, comment on the topic as saturated, on the one hand, becomes an exceptional functionality of the identity-building discussion, on the other, a cultural interpretation of saturated and its results becomes a central issue of public debate. The Kurdish and Turkish people present some proven empirics for original reasoning, sociological new concepts and the prevalence of current concepts in the field of the field. We

have starting materials from field empirical materials discussing saturation as problems of mutual identity construction in a dichotomous concept. Look at how they look legitimate, which is saturated, which dichotomously produces an effect and the other saturated is not legitimate. This dichotomy in the context of the identity construction and destruction is of utmost importance in order to be able to use whatever can help one and to destroy the other identity. We base our fundamental observations on violence itself to get out, check out the sociology of violence with regard to the test that remains while working to interpret and legitimize hegemonized public debates, the cultural representation of the saturated, and to carry yourself itself effects on cultural construction. In the discussions of culture and in the legitimacy of being an average Kurdish and a Turk in the public space, use the topic of my information intensely as a sociological main factor.

Author(s): *Yashar Abdulselayamoglu, Sofia University*

### Violence as a Cultural Process II: Lived Experiences

Session Code: VLS3B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Violence and Society

How do people construct the meanings they attach to violence? One on end, sociological studies of violence and culture have looked at how cultural institutions represent violence; on the other end, symbolic interactionists have looked at how people participate in and enact violence. This session aims to advance sociological theories, methods, and empirical explorations of how people come to see various experiences as violent -whether lived, observed or distant. What conceptual frameworks and experiences enhance or prevent various meanings of violence? Part II of this session focuses on how lived experiences shape meanings of violence.

Organizer(s): *Lily Ivanova, University of British Columbia*

Presentations:

#### **1. A Qualitative Inquiry into Economic Abuse Among Women in Ghana**

Economic abuse occurs when an intimate partner deprives or threatens to deprive their partner access and control of financial and economic resources. Emerging evidence indicate that women in sub-Saharan Africa, including Ghana experience higher levels and various types of economic abuse. Notwithstanding, academic research on this topic remains scant and very few studies document the lived experiences of women with economic abuse. Using qualitative data collected in 2019 from 45 women in the Greater Accra, Ashanti and Northern regions of Ghana, this paper explored the causes, consequences and coping strategies of female survivors of economic abuse. Results indicate that economic abuse is common among Ghanaian women, although they were often oblivious about these types of abuse. Women narrated experiences of exploitation, deprivation and sabotage in attempts to control various aspects of their lives. While some women indicated incidences of husbands preventing them from engaging in gainful employment, others complained about financial extortion from their partners. Husband's unemployment, their controlling behaviors, drunkenness, jealousy and their cultural factors. were major causes of these types of abuse. Economic abuse negatively affected the jobs and businesses of female survivors, their food security, and often led to physical violence. Women coped with these types of violence by relying on external family networks for economic survival. Findings suggest the need for policymakers to include programmes that educate women on economic abuse and a call for programs that empower them to be economically and financially self-sufficient.

Author(s): *Jessica Dansowa Boateng, Memorial University; Eric Y. Tenkorang, Memorial University*

#### **2. Institutional Trustworthiness: Disclosing Experiences of Violence**

Trustworthiness and power are factors that potentially influence the decision-making process of disclosing intimate partner violence. The perspective from victims, particularly on the institutional factors which influence their decision to disclose as well as how they assess institutional trustworthiness has received little attention. Institutional trust and trustworthiness, mutually interacting concepts, engages with and critiques the power dimension of social interactions and trust during the decision-making process of disclosure (Luhmann, 1990; Luhmann, 1979). In this paper, rhetorical disadvantage and epistemic injustice are lenses used to further understand women's disadvantaged voices in the healthcare system (Govier, 1993; Origg, 2012). The paper also



offers insight into the difference between interpersonal and institutional trustworthiness in the disclosure of intimate partner violence (Rowe, and Calnan, 2006; Campos-Castillo et al, 2016). The paper offers insight into further empirical research for future studies.

Author(s): *Rebecca Linzner, University of Windsor*

### **3. Impact of Parental Consciousness towards Juvenile Delinquency in Punjab (Pakistan)**

The objective of present empirical study was to see an association between parental consciousness and juvenile delinquency in Punjab Province (Pakistan). Five jails were selected from four major cities (Multan, Bahawalpur, Lahore and Rawalpindi) of the province through purposive sampling. The primary data was collected from all juvenile delinquents (e.g. 250 out of 260 where 5 respondents disagreed for interview, 5 were not available) aged 11-18 years present in the jails at the time of study through interview schedule. The study proved a majority of the juvenile delinquents had frequent interaction with the deviant peer group due to the less consciousness of their parents towards them. Furthermore the study found that they could neither get even basic needs (e.g. education, pocket money, time, love etc) nor proper supervision or guidance from their parents. The study also concluded that this least consciousness of parents lead them towards delinquent behavior.

Author(s): *Azeem Sarwar, International Islamic University Islamabad; Syed Zuhaib Aziz, University of Peshawar*

### **4. Indigenous Women's Storytelling: Informing a Decolonizing, Anti-Racist Model for Trauma Informed Care in Healing from Violence**

This study uses a decolonizing praxis by blending Indigenous Feminism and Indigenous Storytelling as cultural representation to understand the context of Indigenous women within urban culture and shelter life to increase understandings about how they construct and understand culturally safe support and its impact on helping them to address their experiences of violence. The women as Storytellers show that attaching "Indigenous" to "shelter" changes the very way that women feel the shelter needs to engages with and support them. This means re-framing the cultural safety as providing culturally informed care that is inseparable from decolonizing, anti-racist, trauma-informed practices - which in turn, are key to building trusting relationships that is so important for healing from violence.

Author(s): *Nicole A. Eshkakogan, University of Alberta*

### **5. Attitudes toward gender based violence in Afghanistan: The role of religion and empowerment on perspectives of violence against women**

Feminist theory has demonstrated that women and men are both negatively impacted by patriarchal ideologies. Embedded within that is that lack of opposition to views supportive of violence against women in a society have an impact on the actual amount of violence committed against women. This research examines the factors impacting views supportive of violence against women. Religion has been found to have a complex relationship with views on violence against women. In addition, studies examining the consequences of violence against women point to how men and women may be differentially impacted in terms of well-being and empowerment. This paper uses the first systematic quantitative data set collected in Kabul, Afghanistan (N=900) which included questions on gender equality, violence against women, empowerment, and self-esteem. We examine multiple factors which alter the level of opposition to violence against women with attention focused on the role of religion, self-esteem, education, and empowerment. Specifically, the study's findings points to 1) the importance of how religious actors (who have a strong presence in the public sphere and civil society in Afghanistan) can be potential allies in actions and interventions to shift perspectives on violence against women; and 2) that expanding educational and socio-economic opportunities for both women and men are integral in enhancing well-being and empowerment of Afghanistan women.

Author(s): *Amin N. Amin, The University of the South Pacific; Tanya E. Trussler, Mount Royal University*

## **Domestic Homicide Among Vulnerable Populations**

Session Code: VLS4

Research Cluster Affiliation: Violence and Society

Domestic violence is a major social and public health concern primarily affecting women, cross-cutting race/ethnicity, indigeneity, immigration status, age, religion, geographical location, and other social identities.

There is growing attention to understanding risk factors and barriers to safety for groups of women at greater risk of domestic homicide, relative to the general population. This session investigates women who experience higher rates of domestic violence and homicide from an intersectional lens, specifically focusing on risk factors and safety strategies. Papers in this session will consider how racism and colonialism may compound the risk of domestic violence perpetrated by men against women.

Organizer(s): *Julie Poon, Western University; Danielle Bader, University of Guelph*

Presentations:

**1. Examining Non-Urban Women's Responses to Male-perpetrated Intimate Partner Violence**

Women living in non-urban settings (i.e. rural, remote, northern) experience high rates of male-perpetrated intimate partner violence (IPV) (Northcott, 2011) and intimate partner homicide (Northcott, 2011; Hotton Mahony et al., 2017). Safety planning is critical for women and their children because it involves developing strategies in advance to avoid, de-escalate or escape male-perpetrated IPV (Davies et al., 1998; Goodkind et al., 2004). Safety planning strategies have been helpful and crucial for women living in dangerous and unpredictable situations (Bell and Kulkarni, 2006; Harris et al., 2001; Weisz, 2005). However, existing research about strategies used by women to protect themselves and their children from male-perpetrated IPV is primarily derived from women living in urban areas; therefore, the experiences and responses of women living in other geographical contexts (i.e. rural, remote, northern) remain largely unexamined. More specifically, little is known about how Indigenous women respond to violence perpetrated by intimate male partners. Non-urban women's experiences of male-perpetrated IPV and responses are influenced by contextual factors including geographic and social isolation, limited access to formal services and supports, high relationship density as well as colonization. This study draws from qualitative semi-structured interviews with a sample ( $n = 20$ ) of women living in two non-urban communities in Ontario who experienced male-perpetrated IPV. Integrating intersectionality (Crenshaw, 1991; 1993) and social ecology (Bronfenbrenner, 1977; 1979; Heise, 1998) provides a framework for illuminating how individual, social and structural factors overlap and influence non-urban women's responses to male-perpetrated IPV. The findings of the current study highlight how sexism, racism, poverty, and other structural inequalities impact non-urban women's ability to protect themselves and their children from violent men.

Author(s): *Danielle Bader, University of Guelph*

**2. Safety planning among domestic violence service providers: A call for an intersectional approach**

In this paper, we provide an intersectional analysis of safety planning practices. We describe data collected from service providers working with one or more of four populations identified as experiencing increased vulnerability for domestic homicide: Indigenous; immigrants and refugees; rural, remote, and northern populations; and children exposed to domestic violence. We draw from data collected as part of the Canadian Domestic Homicide Prevention Initiative with Vulnerable Populations comprising semi-structured interviews in which service providers explored how they use safety planning strategies and tools. Our findings indicate that service providers are critically aware of the various structural barriers to safety vulnerable populations face and in turn highlight the multiple forces in their lives that intersect to prevent them from staying safe (i.e., living in isolation and poverty while being an Indigenous woman). However, this intersectional approach to safety planning is at times missing from the actual safety planning practices and strategies put in place for these individuals. We aim to improve upon current safety planning practices and suggest that an intersectional approach provides more space to understand and meet the unique needs and experiences of vulnerable populations and create effective safety plans for these individuals.

Author(s): *Meghan Gosse, Dalhousie University; Diane Crocker, Saint Mary's University; Myrna Dawson, University of Guelph*

**3. Understanding Familicide in Canada**

Familicide, defined as the killing of multiple family members by another member of the family, has received minimal attention in literature until this point. Familicide can manifest itself in several ways, however the most common type involves a current or former female partner and one or more children who are killed almost exclusively by a male perpetrator. Although familicide is a relatively rare occurrence, the high victim count and context surrounding these killings underscore the need for further research and understanding of the topic. While some studies have explored familicide in the United States, it has rarely been explored focusing on the Canadian population. Using secondary data collected from an ongoing project focusing on homicide in Ontario, the purpose

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of this presentation is to describe what the data show regarding familicide in Canada to inform academics and the general public on the issue, with a particular focus on common characteristics, risk factors, and motivations for familicide. The findings from this research will contribute to existing literature as they will draw attention to familial mass killings and hopefully aid in preventing them from occurring in the future.

Author(s): *Ciara Boyd, University of Guelph; Myrna Dawson, University of Guelph*

### **4. Examining Methods of Killing in Canada: Are Women More at Risk of Firearms-Related Homicide?**

Firearms present a significant risk to the health and safety of Canadian women in violent relationships. This study investigates the role of firearms in the homicides of female and male victims to address the primary research question: are women more at risk of firearms-related homicides than men in Canada? This study hypothesizes that women will be more at risk of firearms-related homicides than men in particular contexts. Specifically, this research will consider whether the role of firearms is conditioned by victim-offender relationship (i.e. intimate partner and non-intimate partner) and place (i.e. rural and urban) when understanding gender differences in firearms-related killings. Through a feminist perspective, which draws from Crenshaw's (1991) intersectional feminism and Pruitt's (2008) feminist geography, this study aims to inform the research literature by comparing how women and men are victimized by firearms-related homicides in Canada. By analyzing homicide data from the Canadian Geography of Justice Project, this study addresses the present gap in research on gender and firearms-related homicide victimization in order to inform discussions on risk assessments and safety planning strategies for women.

Author(s): *Angelika Zecha, University of Guelph; Myrna Dawson, University of Guelph*

## Violence and Abuse in Later Life

Session Code: VLS5

Research Cluster Affiliation: Violence and Society

With the growth in our aging population, the World Health Organization has identified violence and abuse of older persons as a matter of global concern. Taking multiple forms, occurring across settings, and perpetrated by diverse individuals, elder abuse results in unique outcomes/consequences. Presentations examine abuse of older women in intimate relationships in Bangladesh, violence against elders in tribal households in Patiala, a socio-ecological framework for understanding elder sexual assault, trends and patterns of femicide of older women in Canada, medical assistance in dying as a form of institutionalized femicide, and a socio-legal examination of statutory responses to elder abuse in BC.

Organizer(s): *Amy Peirone, University of Guelph; Myrna Dawson, University of Guelph*

Presentations:

### **1. Examining Older Women's Physical Intimate Partner Violence Experience in Bangladesh: A Cross-Sectional Study**

In Bangladesh, little is known about the violence against older women including their experiencing physical intimate partner violence (IPV). Although the government is committed to eliminate all forms of violence against 'all women' to meet the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5.2 by the year 2030, the category of elder women remains largely absent in violence against women research and praxis. To address this gap, this cross-sectional study examined the prevalence rates and factors of older women's experiencing physical IPV in the past 12 months (i.e., their present IPV experience). I used a sample of 849 currently married women of age 60 years or above from a nationally representative, population-based Violence Against Women survey conducted in 2015. The modified conflict tactics scale, physical violence sub-scale, was used to measure IPV. Descriptive statistics and multinomial logistic regression analyses with survey weights were carried out using Stata 15.1. Interestingly, one-in-five women had experienced physical IPV presently, while one-in-three of them had experienced this IPV previously but they no longer suffered from it; and only 45% of them had never encountered such violence. Such high prevalence rates underscore the importance of focusing on the elder women's experience of IPV. In addition, the regression analyses revealed that women who (a) earned an income and (b) had spouses of similar age were more likely to experience violence presently than those who had earlier but no longer encountered IPV. Second, in

comparison to women who had never experienced IPV, women's current IPV experience was tied to their (a) earning an income and (b) poverty. Therefore, researchers, programmers and policymakers need to reach out to the older women and design interventions with and for them, especially for the older women who are poor, engaged in income generating activities, and married to spouses of similar ages.

Author(s): *Laila Rahman, University of Toronto*

## **2. Violence against Elders in the Tribal Households of Patiala**

Violence, in general, is a coercive mechanism to impose one's will over another, in order to prove or feel a sense of power. Violence is a multi-disciplinary term as different social scientists have used it in their own way. Violence has been defined as "injurious and distractive behavior which damage the victim physically, mentally and /or financially". Abuse, violence and neglect against men and women have for too long remained a relatively "unseen" part, being a social problem internationally and even in India. The violence may happen between any relations within family. The rising proportion of elderly in India exhibits concern for the well-being of this section of the population. Abuse against elderly is recognized as an important challenge to elderly health, but it determinates are not yet well understood. In the vast majority of cases, the victims are elders who are bettered by their children. As violence in the family is found to be a serious problem these days the purpose of the paper is to acquaint ourselves with an understating of violence against elders in the tribal households its causes, frequency, nature, types and impacts on elders.

Author(s): *Harjeet Kaur, Punjabi University Patiala Punjab*

## **3. Elder sexual assault: An overview of what we know and what we need to know**

Elder sexual assault represents one of the most under-identified and under-reported types of abuse among older adults who live in the community, and who reside in long-term care (LTC) facilities or other forms of assisted living residences. With the rapid growth in our aging population, and the finding that older adults represent the fastest-growing demographic in Canada, it is pertinent that we understand not only the nature of, risk factors for, and consequences of elder sexual assault, but also the strategies and recommendations for increasing access to justice for older victim-survivors of sexual abuse. Drawing from the elder sexual abuse literature, elder abuse literature, and sexual violence literature, this presentation will showcase the findings from a three-year research partnership with the Canadian Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (CNPEA), that focused specifically on increasing access to justice for older victim-survivors of sexual assault. By using the social-ecological model as a framework for organizing dominant themes and key findings, this presentation will provide an overview of what we know about elder sexual assault, including what constitutes elder sexual assault, its prevalence, risk factors for victimization and perpetration, barriers to reporting and intervening, and practical strategies and multi-level recommendations for the prevention, identification, and intervention of elder sexual abuse. Gaps in the literature and our knowledge base will also be highlighted with key recommendations for future research.

Author(s): *Amy Peirone, University of Guelph; Myrna Dawson, University of Guelph*

## **4. Understanding trends and patterns in femicide of older women in Canada**

With a rapidly aging population in Canada and globally, concerns have emerged about the social, physical, and mental vulnerability of older persons, especially women given that they tend to live longer than men, but often do so in poverty and isolation with chronic health and disability issues, and other factors exacerbating their marginalisation. Despite this, there is an international research gap on violence and abuse of older women reflected in Canada as well. This study focuses on femicide - or the killing of women - aged 55 years and older in Canada during the past four years (2016-2019) and examines the characteristics of those involved and the circumstances surrounding the incidents. The study begins with a broad description of femicide involving older women before examining whether circumstances vary by age of older women and across various femicide subtypes including femicide-suicide, intimate partner femicide, familial femicide perpetrated by adult male children, and stranger femicide. The study concludes with a review of the unique vulnerabilities faced by older women and suggestions for potential intervention strategies.

Author(s): *Myrna Dawson, University of Guelph*

## **5. Medical Assistance in Dying: Institutionalized femicide?**

MAID has been allowed under federal law under Bill C-14 since 2016, providing eligible patients the right to request the administration of, or prescription for, a substance to cause their death. The Quebec Superior Court has recently advanced the Truchon decision, which effectively removes the imminent death clause of the requirements for receiving MAID. For feminist disability activists, this decision confirms the government's lack of commitment

in improving the life conditions of marginalized people. MAID must be discussed in the context of male domination and ableism, as well as other relations of power, that limit women's ability to access resources and care, and make end-of-life decisions. Feminist activists and scholars urge the medical, legal, and political communities to consider the social forces that underlie MAID, and the extent to which they replicate other forms of gendered violence that lead to femicide. This paper outlines key indicators from MAID cases and other types of killings of older women that challenge the notions that the decision to die is necessarily a free and autonomous one, and to situate these decisions in sexist, ableist, and racist social relations that underlie violence against women and femicides.

Author(s): *Valérie Grand'Maison, University of Guelph*

## Gender-Based Violence along the Migratory Pathway

Session Code: VLS6

Research Cluster Affiliation: Violence and Society; Feminist Sociology

Gender-based violence (GBV) is a major violation of women's human rights and a significant source of gender inequality globally. GBV against migrant and refugee women is widespread, but often invisible and under-analysed both in academic research and in policy-making. The papers in this session draw on empirical research to describe diverse forms of GBV against women at various stages along the migratory pathway and the implications for policy.

Organizer(s): *Catherine Holtmann, University of New Brunswick; Evangelia Tastsoglou, Saint Mary's University*

Presentations:

### **1. South Asian Women's participation in migration decisions and processes: a multi-country study**

There is evidence to show that immigrant women's experiences of Gender Based Violence (GBV) in Canada can begin post-migration or change/remain the same as their premigration states. Understanding women's vulnerabilities to GBV in the context of migration requires an examination of the conditions that create or reinforce gender inequitable attitudes towards women. The points-based system of selecting skilled migrants to Canada, introduced in 1967 to eliminate racism and sexism from the immigration policy, have in fact deepened gender-biases in ways that are disadvantageous to women. Using data gathered from immigrant women, immigration lawyers and consultants, and bureaucrats implementing immigration policy in three South Asian countries of origin for migrants to Canada, this paper examines South Asian women's (inequitable) participation in skilled migration pathways, the factors that reinforce gender inequitable attitudes towards women throughout the migration trajectory, and its implications for immigrant women's vulnerability to GBV post migration in Canada.

Author(s): *Vathsala Illesinghe, Ryerson University*

### **2. Gender Based Violence In the Forced Migration Journey: Asylum Seeking Women in the Eastern Mediterranean**

Drawing upon "key informant" interviews with policy makers and service providers in Greece which are contextualized in International and European Human Rights instruments, jurisprudence, and NGO reports, this paper focuses on the socio-legal factors generating or aggravating gender based violence (GBV) in the refugee journey of women seeking asylum in the Eastern Mediterranean. GBV is understood as intersecting with violence based on social memberships and identities other than gender. It is conceptualized in systemic / institutional but also interpersonal terms. The absence, misinterpretation or inadequate enforcement of law on the one hand, but also state and social / community practices at various levels (local, national, international) on the other contribute to (i) creating barriers to protection, while increasing the precarity of particular groups, before, during and after the refugee journey; (ii) aggravating culture specific gender and intersectional vulnerabilities; and (iii) translating as GBV at the interpersonal level. The particular manifestations of GBV are population and stage specific, as the displacement process is conceptualized as a journey, with temporal, spatial and legal status specific dimensions.

Author(s): *Evangelia Tastsoglou, Saint Mary's University*

### **3. Religion and Immigrant Women's Experiences of Gender Based Violence: Implications for Public Policy**

Religion is an important component of the identity of many women who have immigrated to Canada in recent years (O'Connor 2014). Many assume that religion, particularly patriarchal religion, puts women at higher risk of gender based violent victimization. There is little evidence, however, that religion increases the risk of immigrant

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women experiencing gender based violence. Qualitative research with Christian and Muslim immigrant women in the Maritimes has shown that religion plays an important role in the conceptualization and aftermath of violence. Religious beliefs and practices can increase immigrant women's vulnerability and/or augment their resiliency when violence occurs (Holtmann 2016). This paper will outline how religion supports and/or thwarts immigrant women's agency in situations of intimate partner violence (IPV) in Canada. It will also argue that systemic ethno-religious discrimination creates additional barriers for immigrant women who experience GBV when seeking help. Examples of systemic barriers that will be addressed include the federal Zero Tolerance for Barbaric Cultural Practices Act and Quebec's Bill 21.

Author(s): *Catherine Holtmann, University of New Brunswick*

### Care Work and Caring Labour

Session Code: WPO1

Research Cluster Affiliation: Work, Professions, and Occupations

This session focuses on different aspects of care work and caring labor within societies. Presenters will explore different dimensions of care work within Canada and in international comparative perspective. The focus will be on gendered patterns of work and social inequality within the areas of health, education, social work, and domestic services. In particular, it will focus on how care work intersect with gender, race, class, nationality, and citizenship status and the implications of this.

Organizer(s): *Naomi Lightman, University of Calgary*

Presentations:

#### 1. "Island Girls" Care: Caribbean Care Workers in Canada

Historically, Caribbean migrants have been relegated to the occupational niche of care work as nurses, nurses' aides, domestics, and other service-related positions. Before and after the introduction of the Caribbean Domestic Scheme in the 1950s, women from the Commonwealth Caribbean were the majority of domestic workers in Canada. Although the "island girl" that was once associated with the work of being a nanny, domestic, or housekeeper now has a different face, the continued presence of Caribbean women in Canada (either Caribbean-born or ethnically identifying) begs many questions regarding their labour market participation and overall integration into Canadian society. This paper examines this subset of the Caribbean population in Canada. Descriptive statistics are used to provide an updated view of the characteristics of immigrant and ethnically identifying Caribbean women in Canada, specifically their occupational sector involvement and economic outcomes. Using logistic regression, it also explores the likelihood of Caribbean women to work in care as compared to other similarly situated women in Canada. Finally, OLS regression is used to understand whether there are earnings or occupational penalties related to their intersecting racial, ethnic, gender, and low-wage worker identities.

Author(s): *Carieta Thomas, University of Calgary; Naomi Lightman, University of Calgary*

#### 2. Early Childhood Educators and the Effects of the Split Shift

While there is substantial research outlining the low wages and undervaluation of Ontario's Registered Early Childhood Educators (RECEs), there is no known research on the effects that split shifts have on workers in this sector. Split shifts, when viewed by a worker as problematic, were found to be detrimental to overall health for bus drivers (Ihlström, Kecklund, and Anund, 2017). It is not yet known whether the same could be determined for RECEs. Given this noted gap in research, there is a need for this particular study to be conducted. Notably, care work is both undervalued and gendered (Langford, Richardson, Albanese, Bezanson, Prentice, and White, 2017). RECEs are implicated in this, given that their professional duties are care work. Additionally, 98% of Ontario's RECEs self-identify as women (College of Early Childhood Educators, 2019). This study aims to address this noted absence of research on the split shift for this predominantly female workforce performing care work. In order to do so, 10 RECEs who self-report working a split shift will be asked questions through in-person, semi-structured interviews. These questions will gather insight regarding how RECEs perceive the split shift affects them



professionally and personally, as well as what they believe could be done to address this scheduling style. All interviews will be transcribed and coded with the intention of highlighting reoccurring themes.

Author(s): *Erica Saunders, Ryerson University*

### **3. The Foundation to Providing Good Care: Understanding Relationship-building in Home Care Settings**

The structure of home care systems is influenced by neoliberal policies which prioritize efficiency over individual client needs. However, the practices home healthcare aides use in building relationships with clients appear to counter such values. In this research I apply an interpretive approach to understand the meanings home healthcare aides attribute to relationship-building, and explore how healthcare aide's interactions with clients can be viewed through the lens of Relational Ethics. My inquiry also seeks to understand how this process might constitute a form of resistance against increasingly neoliberalized home care structures. I draw on qualitative secondary analysis of eight semi-structured interviews with home healthcare aides working in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Findings suggest that healthcare aides consider relationship-building as the foundation to providing good care. Although these workers may not view their actions as political, this work does effect change within, or even challenge, existing systems, for instance, as aides' practices challenge the time order of their work and re-prioritize client needs.

Author(s): *Danielle Saj, University of Manitoba; Genevieve Thompson, University of Manitoba*

### **4. Consequences of Care: Wage and career development for young informal care providers**

Previous research on informal eldercare has often focused on the experiences workers ages 45 and over, who are typically at later stages in their career. Until recently, little work has considered the impacts of providing eldercare on young workers in the early, or formative, stages of their careers. Focusing on the experiences of young workers, as well as how they perceive and experience its related penalties, acknowledges a substantial and growing cohort of caregivers whose needs and voices are not fully reflected in academic discourses or organizational policies. I use the Canadian General Social Survey - Caregiving and Care Receiving Cycles to examine how workplace penalties for eldercare, including wages and promotion rates, differ by age, gender, and type of care. Preliminary results suggest that younger workers are more likely than older workers to turn down promotions or take less demanding work in order to prioritize their informal care demands, which can lead to longer term wage and earning implications. Given the growing population of young eldercare providers, exploring and understanding the implications of care provision for those in the early and formative stages of their career is imperative. In considering how employees navigate the balance of work and caregiving at different points in their careers, my research advances theoretical understandings of the penalties of eldercare.

Author(s): *Christina Treleaven, University of British Columbia*

### **5. De-commodified Self-Care: Inadvertent Intersectional Feminism of Refugee Women in Rejecting Western Commodified Self-Care Norms**

Sara Ahmed, in her writing on feminist killjoy, posits the concept of "Selfcare as Warfare" and makes a scathing indictment of neoliberal feminism's relationship with self-care. Ahmed directs our attention to how self-care has been colonized through a Western dispensation towards consumerized and commodified self-care that is inaccessible to the most marginalized women and is built on the back of the most powerless. To combat this model of warfare selfcare, she calls for an intersectional praxis of self-care. This presentation analyzes narratives and practices of 87 recently arrived Yazidi and Syrian refugee women's self-care routines in their agentic rejection of the commodified self-care that Ahmed indicts. This study shows that participants of this study who are some of the most trauma-affected migrants in Canada discard the commodified care provisions offered to them upon migration and insist on an alternative form of care labour. In reassembling of their selves and the community in the aftermath of war and genocide in the new country, they engage in what Ahmed calls "care assembled out of the experiences of being shattered." They engage in building communities of support for each other, actively engaging in care labour towards each other and the self to craft care that uplifts the community instead of being focussed on only individual needs. In so doing, I argue that this community of refugee women are inadvertently engaging in the intersectional praxis of self-care.

Author(s): *Pallavi Banerjee, University of Calgary*

## Integrative and Inclusive Openings for Immigrant Healthcare Professionals in the Canadian Workplace

Session Code: WPO2

Research Cluster Affiliation: Work, Professions, and Occupations

Failure to recognize the skills and talents of internationally educated healthcare professional (IEHPs), including medical doctors, for career-related jobs in Canada is a conceivable waste of valuable human resources and an injustice to humanity. Canada's immigration policy attracts highly educated professionals. However, once they arrive in Canada, professional recertification to a career pathway becomes almost impossible. This experience leads to economic instability, loss of dignity, life-long career and undue personal, emotional and psychological stresses. This session aims at exploring and rethinking new perspectives for an alternative, outside-the-box and inclusive openings to support integration of IEHPs in the Canadian healthcare workforce.

Organizer(s): *Cindy Sinclair, OISE, University of Toronto; Rashida Haq, St. Michael's Hospital-University of Toronto; Njoki Wane, OISE, University of Toronto*

Presentations:

### 1. The Unsung Story of Immigrant Medical Doctors

The number of immigrant medical doctors (IMDs) accepted for medical recertification in Canada has continued to decrease in the last two decades. Today, only about 10% of IMDs are selected for a retraining residency programs to practice medicine in Canada. As a staff in two different postgraduate residency program at the university level for two years, I was the first point of contact for IMDs arriving in Canada and seeking medical recertification. I saw the radiant excitement in IMDs' faces as they arrived at my office with credentials in hand, ready to start a new life in Canada. Years later, I would see some of these same IMDs still studying and preparing for medical exams or searching for observerships or fellowships to gain Canadian exposure to medicine. As a sociology and equity studies and workplace learning student, I gravitated towards the issues of IMDs. What was happening to the large number of IMDs who were not granted a retraining residency program? How are their lives impacted after the road to recertification became less possible and termination of life-long career became inevitable? Applying a critical sociological lens, I conducted a qualitative research study with one-on-one interviews of IMDs from countries around the world to gain an understand of the challenges IMDs face. The stories from participants were heart wrenching. Anecdotal comments from IMDs who attended two IMD Forum I organized with my advisors to provide professional development support to IMDs echo the voices of my IMD study participants and their struggles and frustrations with integration in Canada. I make recommendations to re-imagine new modalities to support IMDs' integration in the Canadian workforce and economy. In this presentation, I will the present the "unsung" stories of "qualified, yet denied" IMDs and progress for change we are working on.

Author(s): *Cindy Sinclair, OISE, University of Toronto*

### 2. Developing and delivering effective, responsive career development services for internationally-educated healthcare professionals through collaboration with stakeholders in the healthcare sector

Creation of effective career programming for newcomer internationally-educated healthcare professionals (IEHPs) is a complex process. While Canadian federal and provincial governments fund settlement and integration programs for newcomers, this is carried out through short-term funding mechanisms that make robust, long-term planning difficult. Developing effective career development services for this population requires significantly more evidence based research than is currently available. With three years' experience in career development services to IEHPs, and preparing to enter into an additional five years of services, ACES Employment is exploring an integrated research program model. To develop a process to bring together academic research and service-provider communities to support knowledge creation activities that contribute to the improvement of career development practices for IEHPs. To translate this knowledge into career development services in ways that contribute to bringing about a fully inclusive labour force that reflects the diversity, skills and experience of Canadas population This integrated research program delivery model will involve significant collaboration between ACCES Employment and a team of academics from the healthcare sector, with service delivery creating a pool of no less than 300 IEHPs who can be recruited into the research conducted by the collaborators. Where clients permit the sharing of their data for research purposes, large qualitative and quantitative data sets will be made available to the academic team to assist in their research efforts. Research conducted under this collaboration will develop employment baselines; explore racialized IEHP's labour market journeys; and produce

evidence of the effectiveness of varying training interventions. By mobilizing knowledge created through our service delivery and effectively engaging researchers in knowledge creation, we will accelerate research that can be applied to addressing barriers faced by IEHPs in communities across Canada.

Author(s): *Cameron Jacob Moser, ACCES Employment*

**3. Redirecting “immigrant” medical doctors in substitution non- licensure health care career pathways through an education-to-workplace program**

Accessible healthcare for all citizens is a priority for the Canadian government and the health care system. Patients of all diversity and cultural backgrounds face challenges throughout their care continuum due to shortages of health care professionals. “Immigrant” medical doctors (IMDs) face unprecedented barriers in securing a license to practice medicine in Canada. This leads to unemployment, underemployment, inequity, and underutilization of IMD’s skills and training which could be harnessed to improve different areas of the Canadian health care system. To provide IMDs with up-to-date knowledge and exposure in substitution non- licensure health care jobs to integrate into the Canadian Healthcare System. The intervention is a 3-month part-time education-to-workplace program (2 cohorts of 20 participants each) comprising a combination of theoretical and evidence-based learning and networking opportunities, delivered by academics and healthcare professionals. A mixed-method design with pre and post questionnaires, focus groups and personal interviews with participants and stakeholders, will be used to evaluate the effectiveness and feasibility of establishing a long-term education-to-workplace program. This program will be a unique stepping-stone for IMDs to transition into alternative non-licensure healthcare-related jobs without the further experience of devaluation of professional and personal abilities. It also aligns with our interests in fulfilling our civic responsibilities and care for humanity. This project will provide valuable evidence to continue research on the integration of IMDs into the healthcare field and provide employers with a rich pool of talented IMDs who have applicable education and transferrable skills in the health care field.

Author(s): *Rashida Haq, University of Toronto; Cindy Sinclair, University of Toronto; Pauline Gulasingam, St. Michael’s Hospital; Rebecca Wong, University of Toronto; Umberin Najeib, University of Toronto; Mihai Csaki, Rimax Consulting Inc.; Arno Kumagai, University of Toronto*

**4. The experiences of brain waste of female black African health professionals in Canada and the USA : A comparative intersectionality approach**

The phenomenon of brain waste of health personnel is one of the fundamental challenges of the international migration of healthcare professionals. Internationally trained health professionals, because of the lack of recognition of their credentials and qualifications, face several constraints in working in their field of expertise in receiving countries, practicing in low paid jobs (such as cab drivers) or other occupations that do not match with their skills and competencies. Considering that most originate from low-income countries characterized by understaffing of the health workforce and that destination countries that host them are facing a looming crisis in health workforce, the brain waste problem requires increasing attention of national and international policymakers. This presentation revolves around the following specific objectives: a) Understanding the migratory paths and experiences of female Black health professionals in the US and the USA experiencing brain waste, their conditions of settling in Canada and the USA, links with the origin and the host country, the mechanisms leading to the construction of the figure of “brain waste” of female African health professional migrants in Canada and the USA from an intersectionality perspective. b) Understanding their perceptions of brain waste, deskilling, and discrimination, the inequalities behind this phenomenon and their coping strategies and future migration plan. c) Understanding their perceptions about policy responses to address the brain waste situation and their suggestions and viewpoints about effective alternative policies and measures in this respect.

Author(s): *Ibrahima Amadou Dia, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)*

**Work, Professions, and Occupations I: Precarious Work**

Session Code: WPO3A

Research Cluster Affiliation: Work, Professions, and Occupations

Precarious work is increasingly prevalent in the Canadian economy and worldwide. As a result of the decline in the standard employment relationship, a large number of individuals face challenging labour-market and workplace realities. This session explores different dimensions of precarious work. Papers address issues such as: the difficult working conditions and inadequate employment rights or protections of precarious workers; the

tensions between flexibility and security in the labour market and labour process; the deleterious consequences of hyper-flexibility; the impacts of precariousness on the health and well-being of workers; and, strategies developed by workers to collectively and individually resist worsening precarity. Together, the papers draw out the similar but also different ways that growing precariousness affects workers depending on their backgrounds and identities, and on their occupation and location in the labour market.

Organizer(s): *Vivian Shalla, University of Guelph; Tracey L. Adams, Western University; Karen Hughes, University of Alberta*

Presentations:

**1. Describing patterns of precarious employment in Nova Scotia**

There is a lack of research on precarious working conditions among employees in Atlantic Canada, and in Nova Scotia in particular. Employees in Nova Scotia face long work weeks, low minimum wage rates, and fewer statutory holidays compared to other jurisdictions in Canada. These are among the factors that contribute to conditions that lead to precarious employment. Using data from the Statistics Canada's public use 2018 Labour Force Survey file, we describe the workforce in Nova Scotia with an emphasis on precarious work. We include the following work conditions as being precarious: part-time, non-permanent, non-unionized, job tenure of less than one year, and being employed by a small firm (fewer than 20 employees). We also consider how many people work in multiple jobs. The population of Nova Scotia is aging and has one of the highest proportions of people over 65 in Canada. Additionally Nova Scotia has seen an increase in immigration over the last few years. Women, younger and older workers, and recent immigrants tend to have higher participation rates in precarious employment.

Author(s): *Rebecca Casey, Acadia University; Remy Bradley, Acadia University*

**2. Understanding tensions between flexibility and security: A comparative study of home care work**

Precarious employment scholarship emphasizes that flexible labour markets generate insecurity for workers because legislation, and unions, take the 'standard' employment relationship and the factory as the norm. Through comparative, qualitative analysis of four cases of home care -based on over 300 interviews with elderly and disabled people who receive help with daily activities, workers who provide these services, employers, government representatives, union and disability advocates -the study uncovers recipients' distinct claims for flexibility and workers' unique calls for security in intimate service and labour. This presentation uses two Ontario cases to illustrate the importance of analyzing flexibility and security at the labour market and labour process levels, of conceptualizing tensions between home care recipients and workers based on their claims for flexibility and security at both levels, and of placing tensions within the social organization of work. This analysis confirms the labour market flexibility-security trade-off highlighted in precarious employment scholarship and extends it to consider tensions between flexibility and security in intimate labour processes. It underscores the need for collective organizations that recognize tensions and support compromises in the labour process, as well as labour market intermediaries and adequate state funding to limit the tension between labour market flexibility and security.

Author(s): *Cynthia J. Cranford, University of Toronto*

**3. On-Demand: Worker's Career Narratives in the Gig Economy**

In recent years the intensified rise of precarious work has combined with maturing digital platform technology to give rise to the "gig economy". This term refers to a loose collection of app-based digital platforms that use information technology to connect customers with independent contractors. However, the sociological literature on the gig economy has so far said little concerning the personal consequences of such hyper-flexible precarious work. This study involved nineteen semi-structured qualitative interviews with Uber drivers in the greater Toronto area, guided by the question: How do workers in the Gig economy understand their personal career narratives? Findings from this study suggest that while their relationships varied, most spoke about Uber as a form of working welfare trap, an economic floor which helps make ends meet in the short term that simultaneously traps vulnerable workers into low-paying service jobs through incentivizing overwork, excessive burden of risk, and minimal company support.

Author(s): *Kristopher D. George, Dalhousie University*

**4. Uproar at the Museum: Museum Workers and the Fight Against Precarious Employment**

This presentation investigates museums not merely as places of education or consumption, but as places of work. Though the museological field has rapidly professionalized, with employees in even the lowest ranking positions

expected to obtain post-secondary education and continuously acquire new skills and competencies, workers are increasingly confronted with declining levels of compensation, insecure employment, and shrinking labour protections. How does this tension play out in museums, particularly in terms of worker autonomy and advancement? How are workers responding, both individually and collectively, to growing employment insecurity, privatization, and labour commodification in museums? And how do these actions intersect with workers' experiences of race, class, gender, and nationality to produce discourses of resistance, empowerment, and social change? Here, I explore a key strategy enacted by museum workers as they confront an increasingly unpredictable world of work through a case study of the activist collective Museum Workers Speak, a largely informal network of labour activists who promote discourse and awareness through informal discussion sessions and social media. I argue MWS exemplifies an emerging politics of cultural labour in which workers are experimenting with new forms of collective action to agitate for improved livelihoods, greater social protections, and a more equitable workplace.

Author(s): *Davina DesRoches, University of Winnipeg*

**5. "I'm not working, but I'm a professional" : Precarious employment and racialized immigrant women's resistance**

Racialized immigrant women in Canada are overrepresented in precarious employment (Block, 2013), which is characterized by low wages, insecurity, fewer entitlements, and a higher risk of ill health (Vosko, 2006). Physical and mental health can be compromised in various ways, including exposure to stress and hazards, and increased risk of poverty (Amable et al., 2007). This paper presents findings from a doctoral study that explored the impact of precarious employment on the health of racialized immigrant women. Guided by a feminist methodology, 21 women from Kitchener, Waterloo, and Guelph participated in semi-structured interviews, of whom 11 also participated in focus groups. Participants were recruited through convenience and snowball sampling, and compensated for their time, as well as childcare and transportation costs. Data were thematically analyzed using an iterative, reflexive approach, and viewed through an intersectional feminist, and social determinants of health lens. A key finding from this study, is that the negative health effects of precarious employment appear to be mediated by different forms of resistance; including, various strategies employed by the women to minimize exposure to precarious employment, such as quitting jobs, as well as efforts to resist negative constructions of immigrant workers, by, for example, retaining professional identities.

Author(s): *Elizabeth C. Watters, Wilfrid Laurier University*

**Work, Professions, and Occupations II: The Changing Reality of Professionals**

Session Code: WPO3B

Research Cluster Affiliation: Work, Professions, and Occupations

Professional workers in Canada face a wide range of challenges in a rapidly changing employment environment that is having significant impacts on their health and well-being as well as on the shaping of their profession and their professional identities. This session delves into the increasingly difficult realities experienced by professionals. Papers address issues such as: factors affecting the mental health of professionals and barriers to improving mental-health outcomes; the reconstitution of professional boundaries and identities; and, challenges to the retention and integration of professionals. Collectively, the papers highlight systemic barriers that professionals encounter as they pursue or seek to pursue what promised to be highly rewarding careers. The papers also point to strategies and policies that have the potential to foster better outcomes for professionals.

Organizer(s): *Vivian Shalla, University of Guelph; Tracey L. Adams, Western University; Karen Hughes, University of Alberta*

Presentations:

**1. The impact of workplace context on mental health issues for professional workers: Comparing the case of physicians, midwives and dentists**

Research on professional work has paid insufficient attention to mental health challenges faced by workers. This paper examines the experience of mental health issues amongst physicians, midwives and dentists, highlighting their perceptions of the source of their mental health concerns, and how this influences their decisions about

taking a leave of absence from work. Data are drawn from an ongoing pan-Canadian study that includes stakeholder interviews and an online survey and in-depth interviews with workers from the three professions. Our findings reveal that work-related factors such as long hours, heavy loads, and difficult clinical cases are key factors contributing to workers experience of mental health issues. The stresses associated with balancing job and domestic/familial responsibilities were particularly notable for women professionals, especially at certain points in their career trajectory. The nature of the professional workplace (e.g., being practice owners), lack of institutionalized policies for dealing with mental health problems, and financial constraints were identified as key barriers for taking a leave of absence from work. These findings have important implications for workplace mental health policies and programs for health professional workers.

Author(s): *Jelena Atanackovic, University of Ottawa; Elena Neiterman, University of Waterloo; Cecilia Benoit, University of Victoria; Kellie Thiessen, University of Manitoba; Angela Freeman, University of Waterloo; Caroline Chamberland- Rowe, University of Ottawa; Chantal Damers, University of Ottawa*

## **2. Psychological Health in Academia: A gender analysis of policies and programs addressing accommodations, leaves of absence and return to work**

In this presentation, we report preliminary findings from the Academia case study of the Healthy Professional Worker Partnership, a SSHRC-CIHR funded initiative. With a specific focus on gender, we examine policies and programs in Canadian universities that address the psychological health among faculty, as well as accommodations, leaves, and return to work. Drawing on Smiths Institutional Ethnography (2005) as an interpretive tool, we present an analysis of documents (e.g., leave and return to work policies) and interviews with stakeholders -- people who have knowledge about the formation, delivery, and consequences of such policies and programs (e.g., Faculty Union Grievance Officers, Human Resource Staff, Equity Officers). We show how policies and programs operate as textual “ruling relations,” producing psychological health and illness and coordinating options in the context of gendered and increasingly neoliberal work environments. We conclude with some reflections on the implications for presenteeism, accessing accommodations and leaves, and returning to work among faculty.

Author(s): *Christina Young, University of Toronto; Nicole Power, Memorial University; Janet Mantler, Carleton University; Yvonne James, University of Ottawa; Chantal Demers, University of Ottawa; Christine Tulk, Carleton University; Ivy Bourgeault, University of Ottawa*

## **3. Between Empirical and Organizational Reduction: Neuroscience and the professional status of psychiatry**

Psychiatrists declare their profession is in crisis due, in part, to its “failure to bend the curve in the mortality and morbidity” of mental illnesses. That is, unlike other medical fields, psychiatry has been unable to substantially improve patient outcomes. Psychiatrists suggest that neuroscience provides an avenue to improve their disciplinary standing. This paper draws on 74 in-depth interviews with psychiatrists, psychologists, and neurologists to detail how psychiatrists navigate the benefits of empirical reduction with the risks of organizational reduction. Specifically, findings demonstrate how psychiatrists use empirical reduction to reduce mental illnesses to “brain diseases,” which they perceive as elevating their profession by emphasizing that mental illnesses are real, empirical, and amenable to scientific study. However, if mental illnesses are “brain diseases,” psychiatrists also risk losing their professional domain to neurologists. The paper explains how psychiatrists resist this organizational reduction by emphasizing the complexity of mental illness, arguing that these conditions cannot be reduced to neurophysiology alone. Accordingly, mental illnesses are characterized in different terms to achieve different professional aims. The paper discusses how the “neuro revolution” in mental health is not simply about biological reduction or medicalization, but is also shaped by professional politics, interests, and practices.

Author(s): *Michael Halpin, Dalhousie University*

## **4. How to Retain Midwives in Canada: Results from a Pan-Canadian Study**

The profession of midwifery in Canada has grown in popularity since its legalization in the early 1990s, yet the retention of midwives in the workplace continues to pose a challenge. The goal of this paper is to examine factors that shape midwives’ decision to stay in the profession and to offer suggestions to ameliorate retention of midwives in the workforce. Results are based on the qualitative analysis of 29 interviews with registered midwives conducted as part of a mixed-methods pan-Canadian study. Analysis of the interviews demonstrated that midwives’ intention to leave the profession can be understood through an ecological lens as shaped by an inter-related factors situated at micro (e.g., personal and interpersonal circumstances), meso (e.g. institutional/clinical



practice arrangements), and macro (e.g. government/policy) levels. In conclusion, we provide a list of recommendations that can be implemented at these three levels to improve retention among midwives in Canada. Author(s): *Elena Neiterman, University of Waterloo; Farimah Hakem Zadeh, York University; Isik Zeytinoglu, McMaster University; Johanna Geraci, College of Midwives of Ontario; Jennifer Plenderleith, McMaster University; Irina Oltean, CHEO; Derek Lobb, McMaster University*

#### **5. Benefits and shortcomings of the Bridging Programs that intend to integrate Internationally Educated Professionals in their Professions**

New immigrants to Canada have higher levels of education but their integration into the economic system has been a cause of concern and apprehension (Grant, 2016). The Ontario Government has invested millions of dollars to ease the gap of integration by establishing numerous “bridging programs” in Ontario. These bridging programs are short term courses of varying lengths to help Internationally Educated Professionals (IEPs) address and overcome the challenges of economic integration. Utilizing qualitative research and an interpretivist lens, it has become apparent that although these programs were of benefit to some participants, they fall short in addressing the systemic challenges many IEPs face. They identified issues of inconsistencies, instability and short sidedness surrounding them while failing to address the systemic issues of discrimination and racism. This study also identifies neoliberalism as a potent ideology that drives the development of such programs. A renewed commitment to social justice by all stakeholders is required to address the ongoing plight of the so many new immigrants who cannot practice in their professions.

Author(s): *Abdulhamid Hathiyani, OISE, University of Toronto*

### **Work, Professions, and Occupations III: Health, Risk, and Well-Being**

Session Code: WPO3C

Research Cluster Affiliation: Work, Professions, and Occupations

Health, risk, and well-being associated with workplace organization, relations, and culture is a topic of increasing importance in the literature on work. Such research is critical given growing expectations placed on workers in various types of workplaces. This session investigates the multi-faceted and complex nature of health, risk, and well-being. Papers address issues such as: the impact of prejudice and stigma associated with mental illness and invisible disabilities; media representation of workplace injury and illness and its role in legitimizing, rationalizing, and celebrating risk-taking in the workplace; the relationship between workplace stressor exposure and overall work stress; and, the impact of the ideal worker norm and work-family conflict on the health and well-being of workers. Collectively, the papers underscore deep-seated problems associated with structural demands and organizational culture of the contemporary workplace, and point to the need to change both structure and culture to ensure the health and well-being of workers.

Organizer(s): *Vivian Shalla, University of Guelph; Tracey L. Adams, Western University; Karen Hughes, University of Alberta*

Presentations:

#### **1. “It’s all Window Dressing:” Canadian Police Officers Perceptions of Mental Health Stigma in their Workplace Culture**

In a workplace culture where mental health illness is perceived as weakness, stigma can lead to a reluctance to report symptoms to peers or employers. Research indicates that police officers often perceive reporting mental health symptoms as high risk, both socially and professionally. This can lead to poor coping mechanisms and a reluctance to seek assistance. There is a growing acknowledgement by police services, researchers, and the Canadian government that mental health in the policing community is a pressing concern. Officers’ perceptions of mental health, features of the workplace organizational culture associated with stigma, and an assessment of recent tools adopted by some police services (e.g. support groups, education, increased mental health resources) are areas identified that require more scholarship. Data obtained from in-depth interviews (N=115) and survey data (N=727) with active duty, on-leave, and retired officers across Canada address these gaps. Using gendered theories of work, this study explores the cultural and organizational features officers most often reported as barriers to stigma reduction in their workplace: traditional masculinity, competition and individualism, leadership, and organizational policies. To varying degrees, officers report that awareness, education, and an

increase in resources have been somewhat successful in shifting their workplace culture to be more accepting of mental health. However, many continue to perceive a significant amount of stigma which impacts their willingness to report their symptoms and/or engage with programs. Those who did report often experienced stigmatization, isolation, and were subjected to workplace processes that increased and/or prolonged their symptoms. This study reveals that despite the introduction of education, programs, and resources aimed at reducing stigma in some police services in Canada, significant barriers remain, most notably in officers' lack of trust and faith in organizational responses. Recommendations based on officers' suggestions and research in the field will be discussed.

Author(s): *Lesley J. Bikos, Western University*

## **2. Being Invisibly Disabled in the Workforce: Fibromyalgia (FM), Workplace Policies, and Discrimination**

Drawing on my PhD research on people's experiences of Fibromyalgia Syndrome (FM) in Canada and the United Kingdom, this paper examines the issues invisibly disabled people face in the workplace. Both Canada and the UK have policies that are meant to protect disabled people from workplace discrimination and to facilitate them to continue working by providing necessary accommodations. Despite these policies, qualitative interviews with 31 people living in Canada and the UK who have FM reveal that people who are invisibly disabled encounter prejudice and difficulties getting the assistance they need to continue working. Because people with FM appear healthy/non-disabled they must first disclose that they have a disability to qualify for workplace accommodations. Disclosure carries risks as is reflected by the interview participants who found their jobs were terminated after they told their employers about their disability. When disclosure does result in disability-related accommodations, people with FM describe being subject to scepticism, harassment, and surveillance contributing to a hostile working environment. The participants describe how they live in fear that they might lose their jobs if their capability and productivity were to come under scrutiny. I argue that invisibly disabled workers who disclose being disabled must negotiate a difficult "balancing act" once they disclose having a disability; that is, they must continually prove that they are "disabled enough" to require (and have the right to) disability-related accommodations, but they must also demonstrate to employers and co-workers that they are not "too disabled" to do their jobs. Finally, in this paper, I discuss how some of the participants chose not to disclose being disabled and instead "push through" the pain and fatigue, thus passing as non-disabled, because they do not want to risk the potential negative consequences of disclosing having a disability in the workplace.

Author(s): *Tiffany Boulton, University of Calgary*

## **3. The Industrial Athletes of Cold Water Crabbing: An analysis of injury and risk acceptance in the work-based reality television show, Deadliest Catch**

Media representations play a critical role in shaping peoples perspectives about work. Where work involves injury and fatality, media can influence how people understand the sources of these events and how they are addressed. Media representations of workplace injury and illness appear in a variety of formats including news, feature films, documentaries, and reality television shows. Using a qualitative content analysis, we examine messages about injury and risk acceptance from 8 seasons of the reality television show, *Deadliest Catch*. We find that workers' messages about injury and risk acceptance are informed by four elements of the work experience: structural constraints (risk is necessary for achieving group cohesion, securing permanent employment, and fulfilling economic productivity pressures), structural rewards (risk is acceptable for earning [high] income, upward mobility, status), crab fishing competence (e.g., poorly performing crew members create hazards), and fate (risk is an inevitable part of fishing). Workers are celebrated as 'industrial athletes' who, enduring physical hazards and psychological stressors, expend their individual health capital for wealth accumulation (for themselves and their employers), and reap the economic rewards of silent suffering. The series' portrayal of crabbing celebrates individual responsibility, competition, and entrepreneurialism, each of which helps to reproduce the neoliberal workplace where worker health and management of risks are individualized responsibilities.

Author(s): *Shane Dixon, Wilfrid Laurier University; Tim Gawley, Wilfrid Laurier University*

## **4. The Stratification of Patterns of Stressor Exposure Among Canadian Workers**

This study identifies patterns of stressor exposure among Canadian workers, their stratification by occupational and social location, and their relationship to overall work stress. Using latent class analysis and data from the Canadian Community Health Survey we examine the intersection of six stressors, identifying five distinct patterns (Few stressors, Multiple stressors, Physical, Monotonous, and Chaotic patterns of stressor exposure). Results show that stressor exposure is stratified by gender, education, income, age group, and occupation and further suggest that stressor exposure has a strong non-linear relationship with overall work stress.

Author(s): *Vesna Pajovic, Western University; Kim Shuey, Western University*

### **5. Leave Family at the Door: How the Ideal Worker Norm Shapes Work-Family Life and Health**

Workplace cultures influence employees' nonwork lives and well-being. The ideal worker norm is one prominent characteristic of workplace culture that reflects a deeply entrenched belief that requires employees to prioritize the work role above their personal and family needs. However, there is surprisingly little research that examines how workers' perceptions of the ideal worker norm is associated with health, and whether strains in the work-family interface help explain this link. Drawing on the 2019 Canadian Quality of Work and Economic Life Study (C-QWEL), a nationally representative sample of Canadian workers, we use structural equation modeling and find that the ideal worker norm is associated with distress and sleep problems indirectly through role blurring and work-to-family conflict. We situate these results within a synthesis of several guiding frameworks including the stress process model and border theory.

Author(s): *Philip Badawy, University of Toronto; Scott Schieman, University of Toronto*

## **Work, Professions, and Occupations IV: Transformations, Challenges, and Exclusion**

Session Code: WPO3D

Research Cluster Affiliation: Work, Professions, and Occupations

Transformations and challenges shape experiences of work as well as experiences of labour market marginalization and exclusion. This session examines differential and potentially significant impacts of these transformations and challenges on workers and organizations. Papers address issues such as: the impacts of technological advancements on the nature of work; the complex role of emotional labour in digital work; occupational racial diversity in organizational decision-making; the role of faith in shaping women's career aspirations and in navigating exclusionary practices; and, the impact of disabling social and economic contexts on the experiences of women with mental health problems. Together, the papers provide a deeper understanding of the realities faced by workers as they navigate workplace transformations and labour market uncertainties.

Organizer(s): *Vivian Shalla, University of Guelph; Tracey L. Adams, Western University; Karen Hughes, University of Alberta*

Presentations:

### **1. The changing nature of work in Canada amid advances in automation technology**

Rapid advances in artificial intelligence and machine learning have raised questions about the future of work in recent years. Debates have primarily focused on the possibility of job loss resulting from automation, with less attention given to how automation may change the nature of workers' jobs. This study investigates two aspects of the changing nature of work in Canada by employing a task-based approach. First, changes in the importance of 16 work activities between 2011 and 2018 were examined, providing insight into how recent technological advancements may have affected the nature of Canadians' specific work activities. Second, changes in the share of workers employed in four different occupational task groups were examined between 1987 and 2018, with a focus on the degree of routine or non-routine and cognitive or manual tasks required of workers' occupations. The results indicate that work activities that are complementary to automation, such as non-routine analytical and interpersonal tasks, were increasingly important in Canadians' jobs between 2011 and 2018. However, the evidence is less clear on routine and non-routine manual tasks, which automated technology may be able to replace in certain instances depending on technological feasibility and other factors. Moreover, the magnitude of these changes was generally quite small. Further evidence reveals that clearer, but more gradual shifts have been observed over the longer term.

Author(s): *Kristyn Frank, Statistics Canada*

### **2. 'A life built on getting likes' - The emotional labour of YouTube content creators**

Creating videos for YouTube is no longer merely hobby-work. For many individuals, creating videos has manifested into careers. For these content creators or "influencers" work is producing content, generating likes on videos, obtaining and retaining subscribers, earning remuneration on content, and gaining sponsorships from brands. Yet, researchers have not examined how these influencers also perform high levels of emotional labour in order to build fan bases and gain popularity. The power of these influencers should not be minimized as they are changing the landscape of media and information dissemination, shifting the power to impact consumers away from big corporate entities to individual creators. This paper presents the results of content analysis on 30

YouTube videos from influencers discussing why they “quit” YouTube. The findings highlight the complex emotional dimensions surrounding content creation. In particular, influencers negotiate between building emotional bonds with viewers, while also commercializing these bonds for profit. However, because the demarcation between portraying authenticity and being your authentic self is blurred within content creation, many of these individuals’ report feeling disconnected from themselves, and their audiences. As well, difficulty coping with negative comments from viewers, and experiencing problems in real-world such as financial burdens have contributed to increased anxiety and other mental health issues. Others report that YouTube’s community guidelines are restrictive, and many feel emotionally censored, unable to express their true emotions (i.e. anger through use of vulgar language) for fear of having their content (earning power) de-monetized. Our findings extend broader theories of emotional labour to the discussion of how individuals navigate digital work in a social media dependent society.

Author(s): *Lyn Hoang, University of Western Ontario; Tracey Adams, Western University*

### **3. Race Composition, Group Decision Making, and Risk in Finance Organizations**

Recent scholarship has explored the effect of compositional diversity on risk outcomes in finance organizations (Van Staveren 2014; Lenard et al 2014; Maxfield et al 2010). Although most of this work has focused on sex composition, empirical studies have suggested race composition is another important factor to consider. The effect of compositional diversity on decision-making processes in work organizations is unclear. We know that under some conditions, group diversity enhances the process of decision-making and improves outcomes; however, others have found that diverse groups can negatively influence group decision-making or have no effect whatsoever (Phillips and Loyd 2003; Galinsky et al 2015). The conflicting evidence is due, at least in part, to the fact that the effects of compositional diversity on decision-making are difficult to observe and measure, but also because cultural context plays an important mitigating role. In this paper, I seek to answer the question of how occupational racial diversity affects decision-making around financial risk, net of organizational cultural or industry influences. Drawing on 10 years of race composition and financial violation data from the population of securities firms in the United States, I present a series of regression models with fixed-effects to evaluate the effect of racial diversity on a firm’s financial violations. Ultimately, I find that firms with greater racial diversity in professional occupations have better decision-making outcomes around financial risk. This is true when controlling for organizational context and industry norms, suggesting that the racial diversity of professional occupations has a positive effect on decision-making, regardless of cultural context. Conversely, I find that firms with increased racial diversity in their management ranks have worse decision-making outcomes around financial risk. The implications of these findings are discussed.

Author(s): *Hazel Hollingdale, University of British Columbia*

### **4. Islam at Work: What role does faith play in shaping Muslim women's career aspirations?**

Misconceptions surrounding the relationship between Islam and gender inequality have led to the perception that Muslim women’s participation in the public sphere - including employment - is constrained by their religion. Despite their high levels of educational attainment, existing research suggests that second-generation Canadian Muslim women do experience alarming rates of un(der)employment and poverty, however, the reasons behind these patterns remain largely unexamined. Drawing on interview data from 52 second-generation Muslim women living in Ontario, this paper seeks to understand how Islam influences the occupational fields Muslim women choose to pursue, the challenges they encounter in their work, and the decisions they make around their long-term career trajectories. Findings reveal that Islam plays a central role in Muslim women’s desires to engage in work that allows them to make meaningful contributions to society. While structural practices of exclusion pose various challenges to these women’s full participation at work, they often draw on their faith to help guide them as they navigate these difficulties. By placing participants perspectives at the forefront of this analysis, these findings also shed light on the ways in which Muslim women contest common assumptions about their identities at work as well as the diversity of the Muslim population.

Author(s): *Awish Aslam, Western University*

### **5. Understanding the Experiences of Women Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) Recipients with Mental Health Problems**

Mental health problems are the leading cause of disability in Ontario, with anxiety and depression fuelling the mental health crisis and the spike in ODSP growth. Anxiety and depression are twice as common in women as in men, and studies show that women’s experiences of anxiety and depression are rooted in their struggle to balance demands of work with caregiving responsibilities, which is exacerbated by neoliberal workplace and labour

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market transformations, cutbacks to social programs, and demographic changes. Gender is therefore significant in how we understand shifting experiences of mental health, disability, and processes of disablement. This paper examines experiences of women who have a mental health problem and receive ODSP benefits. Focusing on increasingly disabling social and economic contexts, this study challenges individualized and medicalized definitions of mental health and disability. The integration of a social model of disability with an intersectional feminist political economy framework facilitates a deeper understanding of the complex circumstances that lead women to apply for ODSP (particularly their experiences with paid work, caregiving responsibilities, financial struggles, and personal/familial health concerns), and of the ways women's lives change once on ODSP, taking into consideration the barriers they encounter due to the nature of their disability.

Author(s): *Rebecca J. Acton, University of Guelph; Vivian Shalla, University of Guelph*

### Work, Professions, and Occupations Roundtable: Unions in a Changing World of Work

Session Code: WPO3E

Research Cluster Affiliation: Work, Professions, and Occupations

Unions face major challenges in their efforts to protect workers' rights and remain relevant under current economic and political conditions as well as workplace changes. Renewal is a high priority for unions as is the pursuit of equality for its members. Guided by feminist perspectives, this roundtable explores key issues pertaining to the changing realities of unions. Papers address: the role of communications in union renewal strategies; and, barriers faced by women in the struggle for gender equality within the labour movement. Together, the papers underscore the importance of understanding the strengths and weaknesses of unions given their critical role as agents of change. They also point to the complexity and multi-dimensional nature of unions in contemporary society.

Organizer(s): *Vivian Shalla, University of Guelph; Tracey L. Adams, Western University; Karen Hughes, University of Alberta*

Presentations:

#### **1. Union Communication and Relevance**

In response to declining membership density faced by unions in the last 30 years, many studies have attempted to highlight union renewal strategies. One area that needs more attention is the role of union communication in union renewal. This presentation follows the communications of a nurses' union in Alberta from 2010 - 2015. It covers a number of union communications materials including union newsletter and social media accounts, and incorporates interviews with union staff, highly involved members, and general members. The various communications avenues the union uses highlights their dedication to communicating with members and how they define their relevance for members. The participant interviews provide key information including motivations behind different communication avenues and strategies, and how members interpret the union's communications. Approaching the data with a feminist political economy perspective combined with collective action frame highlights how union communications echo the kind of unionism practiced by the union and also demonstrates some of the struggles around how nurses and unions are represented and defined. Union communications offer a valuable site for unions to express their functions and relevance to members and the wider public, and a chance to showcase their activities beyond bargaining and servicing collective bargaining agreements.

Author(s): *Susan Cake, University of Alberta*

#### **2. "Not There Yet" : Gender Equality in the United Steelworkers Union in Canada**

Notwithstanding women's growing membership in unions, their demands for equal treatment over the past half century, and unions' formal language, policies and structures to counter gender inequality, women continue to face inequality within the labour movement. Over three decades ago, the United Steelworkers union (USW) created the Women of Steel initiative in Canada to address problems experienced by the increasing number of women joining the union, especially in light of its successful organizing drives in white-collar and service-sector workplaces. Despite positive changes under this initiative, problems persist. This paper examines gender

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(in)equality in the USW in Canada, with a particular focus on barriers to the achievement of equality and on the implications of these barriers for women's access to leadership positions and their role in decision-making within the union. The study draws on in-depth interviews with women members of the USW. The analysis takes shape around three key themes: leadership and women's issues; affirmative action, women-only spaces, and women's voices; and, masculine culture. The paper uses insights from the literature on women and the labour movement in Canada and globally to better understand women's current reality within the USW. It engages with the socialist feminist framework that points out that, despite being progressive social agents, unions continue to be sites of power structures and relations that disadvantage women (Briskin, 1989, 2011, 2014; Fonow 2003). A feminist standpoint epistemology (Harding, 1983; Smith, 1997), which places women's experience as central, guided the research and analysis. The paper develops a critical analysis of the subordinate and marginalized position of women within unions.

Author(s): *Liz Cherry, University of Guelph; Vivian Shalla, University of Guelph*

### Issues in Workplace Bullying/Victimization

Session Code: WPO4

Research Cluster Affiliation: Work, Professions, and Occupations; Violence and Society

Papers in this session will look at all aspects of workplace bullying and/or victimization (also known as workplace mobbing, victimization, harassment, employee abuse, workplace aggression, workplace incivility, workplace trauma, workplace physical and/or sexual abuse, and scapegoating). Papers will examine any and all aspects of this phenomenon.

Organizer(s): *Hannah Scott, Ontario Tech University (University of Ontario Institute of Technology)*

Presentations:

#### 1. Resisting Abuse in the Commercial Kitchen

There are an estimated 3.73 million cooks and chefs in Canada and the United States (Bureau of Labor Statistics 2019; Restaurants Canada 2019). A survey of American kitchen workers found one in four experience physical abuse in the workplace (Unilever Food Solutions). While shocking, this ratio fails to account for the additional psychological and sexual violence that has long plagued commercial kitchens and how widespread it is. Abuse, in its many forms, has been academically documented in Canadian, Scottish, English, Scandinavian, French, and Australian kitchens. However, since 2017, the industry has witnessed a resistance to this norm. Triggered by the #MeToo and Order's Up movements, a handful of famous chefs and restaurateurs (e.g. Mario Batali, Michael Noble, John Besh, and Ken Friedman) have been facing legal, economic, and social ramifications for their behaviors. But are lawsuits and police reports the only way kitchen workers fight back and resist? Using data from 50 in-depth interviews, 250 survey responses, and participant-observation of chefs and cooks, as well as analysis of food media, this presentation will highlight other methods of resistance in the kitchen, the changing attitude towards abuse, and what progress has been made in the industry.

Author(s): *Ellen T. Meiser, University of Hawaii at Manoa*

#### 2. What can the Duluth Model of domestic violence tell us about experiences and strategies for dealing with workplace bullying?

Structural inequality, racism, and colonialist ideals are often reinforced through acts of bullying in the workplace. The Scott (2018) workplace bullying power-control wheel shares with the Duluth Model of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) the idea that offenders of Workplace bullying (WB) are motivated by the need for power and control over their targets. This, in turn, suggests a number of hypotheses should also be supported with respect to target health and safety. Given the current lack of research of targets of WB in the victimological literature, this paper tests the hypothesis that strategies used by targets of IPV, as documented in the extant literature, may be able to inform targets of WB on strategy effectiveness of various options available to the target. Strategies targets may exercise to manage abuse in the workplace include leaving their job, detection avoidance, challenging or countering the abusers claims, calling HR or other authorities, and the use of offender-target counselling/mediation to resolve conflict. It is suggested that if we accept that power-control motivates offenders,



these strategies may not work. This article asserts that while the environment in which the abuser may change, offender motivation may not. Further, the power-control model argues that threatening to separate (i.e., leave the workplace or initiating lateral moves within the workplace), may threaten the power-control relationship of the offender and, in fact, put the target more at risk for abuse. The Duluth model predicts that early intervention when abuse is first identified is key for target health.

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### **3. Workplace Violence and Life Satisfaction: A study of citizens and non-citizens in Canada**

Workplace violence, victimization, bullying, harassment and the multiple other versions of the same sad story is by no means a neglected topic. Workplace violence has been reported by multiple scholars, advocates, and government officials to have devastating impacts on the lives of those who experience it. However, when mixing workplace violence with a precarious citizenship status what may result could be as simple as one hating their job or as complex as one's severe dissatisfaction in their own life. Workplace violence could be experienced by a variety of people, each experience leading to a different level of life satisfaction. In this paper, i will use the 2016 Canadian general social survey (n = 19,609) to ask: how does the experience of workplace violence affect the level of life satisfaction amongst citizen and non-citizens in Canada? I anticipate finding a relationship between workplace violence and lower levels of life satisfaction specifically amongst Canadian citizens. Whereas, my expectation would be that workplace violence amongst non-Canadian citizens will not be viewed in a similar manner and thus will not have such strong relationship to the level of life satisfaction overall. I will use a multivariate analysis to examine the relationship while controlling for race, gender, age, visible minority status, education level, and way of entry to Canada.

Author(s): *Merna Fatohi, York University*

## **Les inégalités raciales sur le marché du travail : entre domination et émancipation**

Session Code: WPO5

Theme: Work and Professions

Comme de nombreux travaux l'ont mis en évidence ces dernières années, les marchés du travail sont des espaces sociaux où se jouent et rejouent les inégalités et discriminations racistes (Chicha, 2009 ; Eid, 2012 ; Soussi, 2013). En effet, l'organisation du travail salarié est hiérarchisée selon la « race », en imbrication avec d'autres rapports sociaux, notamment ceux de genre (Nakano Glenn, 1992 ; Armstrong et Armstrong, 2016 ; Galerland et Gallié, 2018). Selon cette littérature, ces divisions inégalitaires s'expriment notamment et principalement au Canada par la présence disproportionnée de groupes racisés dans des emplois précaires où les travailleur.ses font l'objet d'une (sur)exploitation et, souvent, d'une déqualification. Ce faisant, le monde du travail représente sans contredit un espace privilégié pour observer les dynamiques de (re)production des inégalités et des rapports sociaux qui les sous-tendent. Si le travail constitue un lieu de domination et d'oppression, l'histoire nous montre également qu'il peut être un terrain de lutte et d'émancipation des travailleur.ses leur permettant d'obtenir de meilleures conditions d'emploi et corolairement d'accéder à de meilleures conditions matérielles d'existence. Dans le cadre de cette séance, il s'agira de réfléchir cette tension entre domination et émancipation par et à travers l'organisation du travail, de mettre en débat et de discuter différents terrains et approches théoriques dans ce champ de recherche. Les propositions pourraient s'inscrire à travers les quatre questionnements suivants : (a) comment les marchés du travail contribuent-ils à (re)produire des inégalités raciales ? (b) comment constituent-ils des terrains possibles et potentiellement subversifs de luttes contre ces inégalités. (c) comment penser l'imbrication des rapports sociaux dans ces contextes ? et enfin (d) quels sont les apports et les limites des analyses sociologiques contemporaines relatives à ces problématiques ?

Organizer(s): *Corynne Laurence-Ruel, Université de Montréal; Laurence Morin, Université du Québec à Montréal*

Presentations:

- 1. Les frontières de l'embauche des Québécois minoritaires: hiérarchie ethnique, effet modérateur du genre et discrimination systémique par le nom. Dévoiler la barrière à l'emploi par un testing à Québec**

Combinant offres d'emploi réelles et CV construits par les chercheurs, la vaste tradition de recherche construite autour de la méthode du testing permet de mesurer précisément l'ampleur de la discrimination à l'embauche. Malgré l'adoption de lois, chartes et politiques pour contrer ces expériences d'injustice, les récents tests menés à Québec montrent que ce fait social reste omniprésent, et ce, même en contexte de rareté de main-d'œuvre. Nuisant à l'intégration socio-professionnelle des minorités racisées au Québec, cet obstacle interroge la réalité du principe de l'égalité des chances sur les marchés de l'emploi. De manière analogue au précédent testing mené à Montréal, nous avons effectué un test de correspondance inspiré de l'approche intersectionnelle pour analyser la situation des minorités racisées dans la région métropolitaine de Québec, lequel permet d'explorer l'impact croisé du genre et de l'ethnicité. Avec un échantillon totalisant près de 2 000 CV et 700 offres d'emploi, les résultats montrent que la discrimination à l'embauche est marquée par une hiérarchie ethnique, mais modérée par le genre féminin. Globalement, les candidates minoritaires ont obtenu un meilleur taux de rappel que leurs pairs masculins de la même origine, la candidate latino-américaine étant même non discriminée par rapport au candidat de référence masculin. À l'opposé, le candidat noir est discriminé deux fois sur trois, et ce, en raison de son nom qui évoque une origine autre que québécoise.

Author(s): *Jean-Philippe Beauregard, Université Laval*

## **2. Immigration et défis de l'insertion professionnelle au Québec : vécus des immigrants iraniens de ce parcours et de ses effets sur la vie familiale**

L'insertion professionnelle est un défi majeur auquel sont confrontés les nouveaux immigrants au Québec comme ailleurs au Canada. Les difficultés à trouver des emplois qualifiés correspondant aux expertises et aux formations des immigrants ainsi que leurs conséquences sur la vie de nouveaux arrivants ont été bien documentées au Québec (Boulet et Boudarbat, 2015 ; Cousineau et Boudarbat, 2009). Basée sur l'analyse des récits de vie recueillis auprès de 19 hommes d'origine iranienne établis dans les régions métropolitaines de Montréal et de Québec, notre recherche de nature qualitative cherche à livrer une analyse compréhensive des problèmes vécus sur le marché du travail, des stratégies utilisées pour trouver le bon point d'entrée sur le marché d'emploi qualifié et des effets de ce processus sur la vie individuelle et familiale des immigrants iraniens dont les expériences migratoires ont été faiblement étudiées au Québec. En partant de la réalité concrète des personnes interrogées et de leurs expériences, nos résultats indiquent que pour confronter les défis d'insertion économique, ces personnes ont eu recours aux multiples stratégies dont entre autres suivre des stages, reprendre des études, changer de programmes de formation et donc se lancer dans une nouvelle trajectoire éducationnelle et professionnelle. Les trajectoires des êtres humains étant interreliées, nos résultats mettront également en lumière que les difficultés vécues sur le marché et le stress de la précarité professionnelle figurent parmi les facteurs ayant engendré des impacts négatifs sur le bien-être familial de nos répondants.

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