



CSA-SCS Student Concerns Subcommittee Bulletin

Welcome to the Canadian Sociological Association Student Concerns Subcommittee's Monthly Bulletin.

Before we officially begin the 2026 – 2027 academic year, we would like to take a moment to recognize some incredible students. Students make up over 50% of the CSA membership so we owe our success as an organization to every student that participates in the annual conference, gets involved with research clusters, supports our initiatives, and maintains their membership status. Thank you! Please take a moment to acknowledge the work and accomplishments of the students found in this newsletter.

2026 CONFERENCE WRAP-UP

Our subcommittee was thrilled with the opportunity to connect with so many of you at the 2026 Annual CSA Conference. We would like to thank all students who attended our Student Reception at Dalhousie University and our virtual panel session discussing Academic Freedom in a Polarized Time. The CSA Annual Conference is becoming increasingly important for sociology students in Canada during a time where travel to international conferences comes with increasing financial burdens, visa limitations and restrictions, and overall safety concerns when student activists are being detained and members of marginalized communities are being persecuted. We truly appreciate all of you for helping to make the 2026 Annual Conference a success!

DID YOU KNOW?

The CSA is committed to supporting student participation in its Annual Conference. To help reduce financial barriers to attendance, the CSA provided approximately \$14,000 in financial assistance toward eligible travel and accommodation expenses in 2026. The Funding Programs for 2027 will open in the winter, so keep watching our newsletters and the CSA website for more information about this year's applications.



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CONFERENCE EVENT STAFF

The 2026 Annual CSA Conference wouldn't have been possible without the tremendous work done by the students who worked as Conference Event Staff! You may have seen Event Staff wearing their black "Committing Sociology" shirts in Halifax, but there was also a crew of Event Staff working hard behind the scenes at the virtual conference, making sure all of the technology was running smoothly. Thank you to all the Event Staff!

The team of Event Staff in Halifax helped with tech issues, directed folks to session rooms, ensured a seamless registration process and answered so many questions. We couldn't have run the conference without them!

Dalhousie Student Event Staff:

Mariana Carneiro, Kathleen Daly, Shekara Grant, Rachel Kimmelman, Nic Kuzmochka, Hanna McCamon, Tasha Moller, Ceiran Munn, Emma Nelson, and Eli Springthorpe



If you attended any of the virtual conference sessions, you might not have seen this amazing team of Event Staff, but they were there, working behind the scenes to make sure the Zoom rooms were open and operating flawlessly throughout the virtual conference. The tech operations couldn't have happened without them!

Virtual Student Event Staff:

Susan Goli, Shayan Morshedi, Isla Parker, Reece Ronan, Molly Sutherland, and Fatemeh Zahmatkesh





CSA-SCS Student Concerns Subcommittee Bulletin

2026 BEST STUDENT PAPERS



An award is presented annually to the student whose paper, presented at the Annual CSA Conference (in-person or virtual section) in the year of the award, is judged by the Association's Awards Committee to be the best among those received for adjudication. This year, there were a record-breaking number of submissions for the Best Student Paper Award! This resulted in the adjudication committee needing to create an additional category, dividing the PhD category into two groups. This year's four categories included the Undergraduate Category, the MA Category, the PhD (Year 1-3) Category, and the PhD (Year 4-7) Category. For the first time ever, 4 winners were selected! Check out our website for full profiles here: [2026 Award Recipients](#)



AHMADREZA MOHAMMADPOURYAZDI

Concordia University: PhD Category (Year 4-7)

Never Exhausted All at Once: Asynchronous Mourning and Collective Endurance in the PS752 Justice Field

This was a unanimous selection and a truly exceptional paper that blended rich data with theoretical depth. This paper introduces the concept of 'asynchronous mourning' as a contribution to the sociology of grief, established through a qualitative study of the justice field surrounding the shooting down of Ukraine International Airlines Flight 752 by Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps. Blending several strains of sociological theory and abductive methodology, the paper compassionately draws out the narratives of six cases of bereaved family members and others involved in largely frustrated attempts to achieve justice or closure following the Iranian state's actions. In so doing, the paper provides both a novel contribution to sociological theory, and an approachable – while also complex – account of the life in the context of politically-contested mourning and resistance.



CSA-SCS Student Concerns Subcommittee Bulletin



ANUNEETA CHATTERJEE

University of Calgary: PhD Category (Year 1-3)

Reframing Adolescent Children of Sex Workers as Care Receivers and Caregivers using the Southern Feminist Lens of Deep Care

The adjudication committee selected this paper as a novel study that empirically captures the experiences of care giving and receiving from the perspectives of those who are truly marginalized and often fall in our blind spots. The paper makes appropriate use of existing theories and aptly adapts them to the context of the Global South to analyze its findings. There is much to learn from this paper about marginalized but also agentic forms of mothering, childhood, and caregiving.

HUMERA SYED

Ontario Tech University: MA Category

Beyond Passive Victimhood: Muslim Women's Active Negotiation of Victim Identity Amid Islamophobia



Drawing on Goffman's theory of stigma and Critical Muslim Feminism, the author demonstrates that victim identity is not simply imposed through experiences of harm but is actively negotiated through processes of interpretation, identity construction, and meaning-making. Through a thematic analysis of qualitative studies from Canada, the UK, and the US, the paper identifies how Muslim women respond to Islamophobia through cognitive reframing, faith-based meaning-making, impression management, emotional regulation, and community support. In doing so, the study reveals the complexity of victimhood by showing how agency and oppression can coexist, while centering Muslim women as active interpreters of their own experiences. The result is a theoretically grounded and empirically rich analysis that advances our understanding of how marginalized individuals navigate stigma, identity, and resilience in everyday life.



CSA-SCS Student Concerns Subcommittee Bulletin



TARA TSENG-WEST

University of British Columbia: Undergrad Category

Reorganizing Collective Memory: Commemorative Narratives and National Identity in Canada, 1967–2017

This paper employs a longitudinal comparison of Canadian newspaper coverage of the 1967 Centennial and 2017 Sesquicentennial that combines qualitative content analysis with thematic and co-occurrence analysis across a dataset of 310 articles. This is an impressive methodological contribution for an undergraduate study. The author identifies a transition from collective to individualized narrative forms, where national identity is increasingly articulated through personal stories and exemplary individuals. By theorizing this shift as a reconfiguration rather than a decline of nationalism, the paper helps us better understand contemporary Canadian nationhood.

JESSICA STALLONE

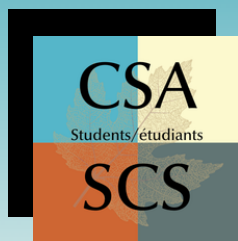
University of Toronto: PhD Category (Year 4-7)

Honourable Mention

From Emancipation to Exclusion: Secularism, Gendered Biographies, and Nationalist Reproduction among French Catholic Senior Women in Québec



The article makes an important and timely intervention by revealing secularism as both emancipatory and exclusionary: the same secular rupture that enabled women's liberation from clerical authority also equips them with the moral authority to regulate minority religions. The study powerfully demonstrates that secular worldviews are historically produced through embodied experiences of religious control, rather than simply contemporary anti-immigrant discourse. It highlights the active role aging women play in reproducing national belonging and exclusion, offering important insights for scholars of feminism, religion, nationalism, and political sociology.



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HEY YOU!

Do you have a:

- **research, postdoc, or other employment opportunity**
- **call for abstracts or other submissions**
- **upcoming event**
- **any other opportunity that might be relevant to our CSA student membership**

Feel free to reach out & share it with us!



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