
sex and gender news

March 2009

FROM THE SECTION CHAIR

By Michael A. Messner

University of Southern California

“It was the best of times, it was the worst of times...” Only in retrospect will we know if Dickens’ famous words fully capture the moment we are now living. But for me, these words have a ring of contemporary relevance to them. The spring Newsletter comes out during a moment when the economy continues to plunge toward a bottom not yet reached. Unemployment spirals up; home prices down. Wars rage; fossil fuels burn. But from within all of this tragedy and uncertainty has sprung a sense of hope, change, and new beginnings. In this issue of the Newsletter, we highlight a collection of short pieces of “Feminist Advice for the New President,” written by prominent sociologists. Together, these pieces emphasize the gigantic challenges we currently face, and draw from research to recommend boldly progressive changes in the directions of U.S. foreign and domestic policies.

The spring Newsletter also includes many of the usual bits of valuable information—from new books and articles by members, to announcements for upcoming conferences, calls for award nominations and applications for research support. I hope you will enjoy our inclusion of two feminist cartoons by undergraduate artist and athlete Robin Hextrum. Leading off this issue is our list of candidates for Sex and Gender Section offices. Thanks so much to Linda Blum and the rest of the nominations committee, and to those who have generously agreed to have their names on the ballot, to serve the Section. In our next Newsletter, we will outline the exciting Section sessions, activities and social events that you will be able to look forward to at this summer’s ASA meetings August 8-11, in San Francisco. I hope to see you all there.

2009 SECTION NOMINATIONS

The nominations were generated by the nominations committee, which is chaired by Linda Blum. One person will be elected Chair, two people will be elected to the Council, and two people will be elected to the Sally Hacker Committee. There are no nominations for the Secretary/Treasurer position since this is a multi-year term and election for this office was held last year. Members will have the opportunity to vote later this spring.

Sex and Gender Chair:

Cecilia Menjívar, Arizona State University
Jyoti Puri, Simmons College

Sex and Gender Council:

Jessica Fields, San Francisco State University
Jayati Lal, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor
Abigail C. Saguy, University of California-Los Angeles
Mindy Stombler, Georgia State University

Sally Hacker Award Committee:

Kelly H. Chong, University of Kansas
Shari Dworkin, University of California-San Francisco
Kumiko Nemoto, Western Kentucky University
Adia Harvey Wingfield, Georgia State University

Next Issue

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Feminist Advice for the New President

Compiled by Michael Messner
University of Southern California

President Barack Obama's message of hope and change continues to reverberate with millions of Americans, and likely with tens of millions of people across the globe who celebrated his victory and his recent inauguration. Many feminist sociologists are hopeful, too. But it will be some time before we know whether Obama and the Democrat-controlled Congress can or will dramatically reverse the disastrous policies of the Bush years, and turn the nation and the world into more peaceful, egalitarian and just directions. The lessons of the Clinton years should be instructive: the most progressive ideas of the early Clinton administration were to create a national healthcare program, and to end the military's policies against gays and lesbians. Clinton failed on both counts. And while some blame his naïve tactics, I would point to two contextual factors: the Republican Party is expert at mounting a fierce opposition to progressive change; moreover, many Democrats in Congress tend toward a timid centrism.

In the face of this kind of political inertia, the only way that the federal government will move in freshly progressive directions is with grassroots pressure supplying a continuous impetus. Again, history is instructive: in an equally difficult time, Franklin D. Roosevelt succeeded in launching progressive policies like Social Security, unemployment insurance, and massive spending for public works through a reluctant Congress. He succeeded not because he and Congress had boldly progressive ideas, but because there were powerful organizations, including labor unions, agitating for even more radical changes. To the political establishment, these new social programs looked like the kinds of compromises that would stave off a revolution. Suddenly pushed to the left, the political center instituted policies that continue to benefit us, three-quarters of a century later.

Today, grassroots organizations and progressive politicians can build a social agenda of peace and justice, drawing from three decades of feminist research on a range of issues—from intimate matters of sexuality, childcare and reproduction to global matters of war, peace, poverty and health. I invited a dozen prominent feminist sociologists—including ASA President Patricia Hill Collins, who provides a thoughtful Afterword—to reflect on the research in their fields, and to very briefly summarize advice they would give to President Obama. (“Very briefly,” I should acknowledge, is very difficult for an academic: it’s hard to summarize a whole field and render advice in 150 words with no footnotes or supportive data!). What follows can hopefully be used

by teachers to begin discussions, and perhaps by community groups hoping to expand dialogue with their elected representatives. Myriad studies support the “advice” given by these scholars. Those hoping to learn more might begin by connecting with these individuals’ books, scholarly articles, and websites. Rather than constituting the final word, we hope that this feminist advice to the new President will become part of a broad public dialogue about the possibilities for real change.

Women, Work and Childcare Paula England, *Stanford University*

I urge you, President Obama, to include pre-kindergarten education in the economic stimulus package. Current thinking is that the package should create jobs and invest in our nation’s infrastructure. I agree, but it concerns me when only physical items like bridges and roads are seen as “infrastructure.” I’m all for fixing them, and for remembering that human resources are the most important investment for the future. I suggest that the stimulus package set up high-quality pre-K educational childcare in which parents could elect to enroll their children. This would improve the education of poor children, who often start kindergarten behind. It would provide childcare and thus allow many poor mothers to take a job who now can’t earn enough to make work pay after they pay for child care. And the childcare centers themselves would provide jobs.

Work and Families Kathleen Gerson, *New York University*

The classic division between caretaking women and income-producing men makes little sense in a world where most families depend on women’s earnings and intimate relationships follow unpredictable paths. Amid the demise of clear gender boundaries, we need to create flexible, egalitarian blueprints for blending work and care. In place of the outdated “ideal worker” who places the job before all else, today’s workers need short and long term flexibility. Outlawing gender and “family responsibility” discrimination will help parents balance caring and earning. De-coupling benefits like health care from full-time employment will give individuals and families more options to build flexible careers. In place of a childrearing model based on a privatized household with a designated “primary caretaker” (read: mother), today’s parents need child-supportive communities. This means catching up with the rest of post-industrial world, where universal daycare, mandated paid parental leaves, and after school and enhanced educational programs are integral aspects of social policy. And instead of policies aimed at “restoring marriage,” children need direct economic support, which will actually enhance parents’ ability to strengthen their relationships. Creating egalitarian, flexible workplaces and child-supportive communities will foster gender justice, work-family integration, and child well-being.

Poverty and Public Policy**Sharon Hays, *University of Southern California***

Put Michelle in charge of addressing global poverty and make one of the first projects massive humanitarian aid for Afghanistan and Pakistan including billions in funding for schools—with all food and education monies going directly to women activists and educators at the local level. In the United States, fix (and regulate) health care, the schools, the automobile industry, create a national childcare system, provide Medicaid coverage for birth control, save *Roe v Wade*, extend unemployment benefits, and provide drug rehabilitation and jobs programs for all first- and second-time drug-related criminal offenders. Create a national public works program. As to the “welfare/TANF” program for poor parents with young children: remove the time limits on benefit receipt, offer fully-funded education opportunities and public works as an alternative to the present work requirements, provide all “food stamp” money in cash rather than coupons, and offer free education, therapy, drug rehabilitation programs, special “respite” childcare services, and job training opportunities to all families with incomes below the (new, cost-of-living-based) poverty line.

Reproductive Rights**Linda M. Blum, *University of New Hampshire***

Reproductive rights in the U.S., rather than being broadly shared entitlements, have too often become private privileges. Reversing this process involves taking at least two immediate steps: 1) Admit that “marriage promotion” and “family cap” policies don’t work. Instead of preventing poverty, they penalize low-income women for sharing the desire for children of one’s own. Restrictions on Medicaid funding for abortion services must be lifted at the same time as services funded allowing women to have children without financial coercion to stay in unhealthy relationships. 2) Admit that “Abstinence-Only” sex-ed programs don’t work. Instead of lowering teen pregnancy, abortion, and STD rates (including HIV/AIDS), European experiences with comprehensive sex-ed tied to accessible contraception and abortion services prove our punitive approaches have the reverse effect. To make our nation one in which every child is truly a wanted child, we must model the diversity of healthy sexual relationships to our youth.

Violence Against Women**Patricia Yancey Martin, *Florida State University***

Thirty years of feminist activism have diminished but not eliminated the harassment, physical battery, emotional coercion, and rape/sexual assault of women and girls by men and boys. The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) has improved the prosecution and incarceration of offenders. Yet more is needed. We need more support for services to victims, primary prevention, and basic

research. Specifically, I urge you to: 1) support VAWA’s 2010 renewal and protect it from being raided; 2) increase federal funds for services to women who are victims of violence and for research on conditions that prompt such violence; and 3) sanction international efforts to end mass rapes, honor killings, female genital mutilation, and sex trafficking. Poorer women face significantly greater risks of being victimized, and employed women whose intimate partners are not employed are particularly at risk. Our current financial and employment crises are apt to prompt spikes in violence and lower women’s ability to escape violent relationships. If you as President of the United States will forcefully declare to men and boys that violence toward women and girls will not be tolerated, we can assure women and girls safer and more fulfilling lives.

LGBT Issues**Verta Taylor, *University of California-Santa Barbara***

President Obama, your electrifying victory fulfilled the hopes and dreams of a lifetime. But for the more than 18,000 same sex couples who married in California only to have voters pass a proposition banning same-sex marriage, the moment was bittersweet. Our marriages were not simply personal acts, but political statements that lesbian, gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender (lgbt) people deserve the right to live openly, to define ourselves and our families, and to enjoy full equality. For more than two decades, the Christian right has set the agenda of the lgbt movement by demonizing lesbians and gay men and silencing those who dare to stand up to them. You began your presidential term reaching out to constituencies on all sides of the table. My advice would be for you to use this historic moment to assert moral leadership and affirm the hunger among lgbt people for change by including at that table those of us who have for so long been despised and neglected. Include us in the Obama “we.”

Gender Equity in Youth Sports**Don Sabo, *D’Youville College***

Two decades of research attests that sports are a developmental asset for U.S. girls and boys. Athletic participation is associated with children’s health and body esteem, healthy weight, popularity, quality of life and academic achievement. Children’s involvement with sports is also linked with family satisfaction in both dual-parent and single-parent families. Although girls now play sports in unprecedented numbers, a gender gap exists in sports and physical activity, especially in urban communities where girls enter sport at a later age than boys, drop out at higher rates in middle school, and exercise less often throughout adolescence. It truly does “take a village to raise a child,” and government and youth sports are part of the village. Please support policies—including renewed enforcement of Title IX—that expand girls’ access to sports and physical activity

across the country, especially in urban areas where the need is greatest.

The Worldwide HIV/AIDS Crisis

Shari L. Dworkin, *University of California-San Francisco*

While the first AIDS cases were attributed to men having sex with men, over 70% of HIV infections worldwide are now estimated to occur through sex between women and men. In 1985, 30% of infected people globally were women, and this percentage now stands at nearly 50%. Domestically, the leading cause of death among African-American women aged 15-34 is HIV/AIDS; African-American women are 23 times more likely to have HIV than white women. In 2003, President Bush signed into existence the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). Today, PEPFAR has been reauthorized at \$39 billion for HIV/AIDS work, most of which will go to global treatment and care activities. The current administration needs to pay more attention to the crucial need for domestic and global prevention, drawing from social scientific research that shows links between HIV/AIDS prevention, the promotion of women's sexual and reproductive health and rights, increasing women's control over economic and educational resources, and ending sexual and domestic violence.

Relations with the Global South

Raewyn Connell, *University of Sydney*

If we had a vote, the world outside the USA would have chosen you overwhelmingly, Mr. Obama. Your government, economy and culture are braided into our lives. Do glance at our media, and get your State Department to send over some translators. Remember Indonesia. We realize there are limits on your power, but you can do a lot for gender justice globally. Speak out for the ambitious United Nations gender equality programs, especially Millennium Development Goals #3 (promotion of gender equality and empowerment of women) and #5 (reducing maternal mortality by 75%), and UNESCO's "Education For All". Shape your trade policy to support sustainable local economies, not globalization-at-all-costs. With direct aid, support "woman-friendly states", gender-aware health, and inclusive secondary schooling, across the global South. Surprise us all, and start to close down the global arms trade! And make your own Administration thoroughly gender-equal—the world does watch, and learn.

Immigration

Pierrette Hondagneu-Sotelo, *University of Southern California*

Take the dismantling of Guantanamo one step further and stop the ICE raids and deportations, and restore civil rights and due process for non-authorized immigrants right here on US soil. Rethink the heteronormative foundations of current family reunification provisions of

immigration law, which currently work against LGBT people and women. Increase the quotas for legal permanent resident visas from Mexico, China and the Philippines and watch the nation's undocumented population immediately shrink. Allow undocumented immigrant women who experience domestic violence to actually use VAWA (see Martin, above) to get legal status without having to show unreasonable standards of proof. Recognize and reward the invisible work that women do in both settlement and integration processes, and in sustaining transnational communities. Strengthen labor regulations and enforcement in informal sector jobs where immigrant exploitation prevails. Pass the Dream Act and allow immigrant youth to study at state universities. Commit this nation to immigrant integration and end the era of militarized borders, social divisions and exclusions.

War and Peace

James W. Messerschmidt, *University of Maine*

President George W. Bush dignified himself as being the "war president" and he proceeded to live up to that self-congratulatory label by constructing a masculinity primarily through unilateral military force and occupation in order to secure the continued flow of oil from the Middle East—resulting in horrific global consequences mostly, but not exclusively, for women. Notwithstanding, you are also on record as committed to unilateral and increased military force and occupation to ensure the continued flow of oil from the Middle East. In the name of all that is good and right, I ask you to think again, to change your course, and to become the first "peace president" by constructing a masculinity through a foreign policy centered (not exclusively) on collectivist diplomacy (working with, not dominating, foreign leaders), on the withdrawal of all US forces from the Middle East and their replacement with UN-sponsored and controlled peacekeeping forces (particularly in Afghanistan and Iraq), and on energy independence (through non-polluting, non-climate altering alternative energy sources and technology).

Feminism, Families and Economic Security:

An Afterword by ASA President

Patricia Hill Collins, *University of Maryland*

One core tenet of feminism has been to take seriously issues of gender, work and family. This includes embracing multiple family forms across categories of race, ethnicity, class, sexuality and immigrant status, and challenging traditional assumptions about how family dynamics contribute to economic security.

When it comes to the American family ideal, Barack Obama's Presidential campaign illustrates an unresolved tension that, if unexamined, may affect work and family

policy. On the one hand, by sharing his own personal story of how his past upbringing was central to his success, Obama helped valorize seemingly non-traditional family structures, namely, families maintained by single mothers, extended families that include grandparents as primary caretakers, and families formed across race and ethnic boundaries. On the other hand, the campaign also signaled how Obama's current family experiences, namely, as a devoted husband and father in a racially homogeneous nuclear family, illustrate how hard work and maintaining nuclear families constitute the key to economic success.

Observers with political sympathies on both sides of the aisle have found comfort in various dimensions of President Obama's hopeful message. Yet without due diligence on the part of the Obama administration, economic security policies honed within these unresolved tensions concerning family might suggest that the path to economic success for allegedly non-standard families, for example, those headed by single Black mothers or those maintained by LGBT people, lies in embracing the new Black First Family's model of marriage and parenting. Barack Obama's impressive accomplishments could easily be recast as yet another role model recipe of how one might overcome a non-traditional past to achieve economic security through marriage. "Be like Barack and the First Family," we may be told, "and you too will find wealth, fame and fortune."

I don't think that this is the kind of change that President Obama had in mind, yet when it comes to issues of gender, work and family, this could be the kind of change he comes to represent. So my advice to the Obama administration is cautionary. When it comes to issues of work and economic security, I would hope that members of President Obama's administrative team remain focused on what families in all of their heterogeneous expressions actually need, and eschew moral judgments concerning which family forms constitute the proper the road to economic prosperity.

*****Thanks to all our feminist sociologists who contributed to this article – we hope President Obama heeds your advice!**

Do you have something you would like to contribute to the next newsletter? If so, write Valerie Chepp, Newsletter Editor, at vchepp@socy.umd.edu.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ASA Section News

We are proud to announce a new Section-in-Formation of the ASA: Disability in Society. Scholars in this field are exploring many issues of concern to those studying sex and gender, including the politics of the body, the intersection of public and private issues, the importance of (and challenges to) identity politics, political and social barriers which limit people's rights and freedoms, the medicalization of femininity and masculinity, challenges to sex/gender binaries associated with intersexuality, and so on. This new Section-in-Formation is a great place to network, engage with other scholars, discuss recent events, and pursue avenues for grants, teaching, research and service. The Disability section is also pleased to be offering FREE membership to 40 graduate students who are current members of ASA who would like to join the section. We encourage potential members to contact the chairs of the membership committee, Liat Ben Moshe: lbenmosh@maxwell.syr.edu or Mark Sherry: markdsherry@yahoo.com.

Call for Papers

THE WOMEN OF KATRINA. Editors: Elaine Enarson and Emmanuel David. This *Call for Papers* serves to attract submissions for an edited collection on women and Hurricane Katrina for which we will seek publication with an appropriate scholarly press. We welcome submissions from scholars conducting empirical research on women's experiences at any phase of the disaster cycle and from multiple disciplines. Subject areas are open but we especially invite chapters on topics such as pre-storm vulnerability, evacuation decision-making, violence against women, care work, collective organizing, faith and religious communities, housing issues, and displacement. Papers are solicited to reflect the diversity of women's everyday realities and choices. **Deadlines: Two-three page proposal—April 1, 2009. Completed manuscripts accepted—June 30, 2009.** Papers should not exceed 6,000 words, be single-spaced in 12-point font, Times New Roman, and conform to APA guidelines. Please include a brief biographical sketch with complete mailing address and e-mail. Proposals and papers should be sent to both editors. Please feel free to contact one or both to talk over your ideas or for more information: Emmanuel David, emmanuel.david@colorado.edu or Elaine Enarson, enarson@gmail.com.

The Sexual Behavior, Politics, and Communities (SBPC) Division, 2009 Graduate Student Paper Competition. Papers may be empirical and/or theoretical, and they may be on any aspect of sexuality, including sexual behavior, sexual identity, sexual politics, sex law, political activism, or sexual communities. The winner will receive a stipend of \$100, payment of the winner's SSSP (Society for the Study of Social Problems) registration fee for the 2009 SSSP meeting (to help the winner attend the meeting), and a ticket to the awards banquet. The winner will be expected to present their winning paper at one of the SBPC sessions being held as part of the 2009 SSSP meeting. To be eligible, a paper must meet the following criteria: 1) The paper must have been written between January 2008 and March 2009; 2) The paper may not have been submitted or accepted for publication (papers that have been presented at a professional meeting or that have been submitted for presentation at a professional meeting are eligible); 3) The paper must be authored by one or more students, and not co-authored with a faculty member or colleague who is not a student; 4) The paper must not exceed 35 pages including notes, references, and tables; 5) The paper must be typed using 12-point font in either Times New Roman or Courier; and 6) The paper must be accompanied by a letter from a faculty member at the student's college or university nominating the paper for the SBPC Division Student Paper Competition. Students should send five copies of their paper, with no identifying information on any part of the paper; and a letter of nomination from a faculty member to: David Foster Steele, Ph.D., steeled@apsu.edu, Austin Peay State, University Department of Sociology, Clement 151 (P.O. Box 4566), Clarksville, TN 37044, (931) 221-7519. **Deadline: May 1, 2009.**

Call for Awards Nominations

2009 Award for Career Contributions to the Sociology of HIV/AIDS. This award honors outstanding contributions to the Sociology of HIV/AIDS. The award may recognize work that has significantly advanced our understanding of social aspects of the pandemic, or that has contributed to prevention, treatment, or policy interventions. Nominees should have pursued substantial research and/or applied work related to HIV/AIDS, and should have worked in the field for at least eight years. Nominations (of yourself or others) should include a statement of up to two pages about the nominee's qualifications and an electronic copy or web link to her/his CV. Nominations (and questions) should be submitted to the committee chair, Sherry Larkins, at slarkins@mindspring.com (attachments in .doc or .pdf format only, please) **by May 15, 2009.** Scholars who have been nominated before will be automatically re-considered this year, but nominators should feel free to submit additional materials.

2009 Scholarly Activity Award. The SAN (Sociologists' AIDS Network) Scholarly Activity Award aims to nurture scholarly interest in the sociology of HIV/AIDS by supporting the work of emerging scholars in the field. One applicant will be chosen each year to receive a one-time award of up to \$250 and a year of free membership in SAN. All graduate students working on topics in the sociology of HIV/AIDS are eligible to apply. Supportable activities include, but are not limited to, research expenses (incentives, transcription, copying) and conference travel. Applicants should submit the following items to the award committee chair, Jorge Fontdevila (jfontdevila@fullerton.edu), **by May 15, 2009:** (1) A letter of recommendation from your faculty advisor; (2) A project proposal of 2-4 pages, including a description of the research, how your activity contributes to the sociology of AIDS, description of how funds will be used and when the activity will be completed, and (3) A complete budget for your conference travel, research project or other scholarly activity (including other funding applications).

2009 Martin Levine Student Essay Competition.

Sociology students are invited to submit an original, 20-page (double-spaced) essay on the social dimensions of HIV/AIDS for the annual student essay competition. The topic is broadly defined and can include any aspect of HIV/AIDS from a sociological perspective. The student must be the first author and must have written most, if not all, of the manuscript. **The deadline for submission is May 15, 2009.** The winner will receive an award of \$100 and a five-year membership to SAN (Sociologists' AIDS Network). All students who enter the competition will also receive a one year membership to SAN. Papers should be submitted by e-mail to Anne Esacove (esacove@muhlenberg.edu).

Call for Proposal

Women of Color Dissertation Scholarship Proposals.

Funding: Winner will receive a \$15,000 scholarship, a plaque and SWS (Sociologists for Women in Society) membership for one year. In addition the recipient will receive free registration for both the summer and winter meetings, along with an additional \$500 grant to enable attendance at the winter meeting. **Scholarship Purpose:** SWS has worked hard to build a coalition of women scholars who share concerns about the status of women both domestically and internationally. In keeping with that mission, SWS established a Women of Color Scholarship at its annual meeting in February 2007. The primary purposes of the scholarship are: (1) to offer support to female scholars who are from underrepresented groups and are studying concerns that women of color face domestically and/or internationally, and; (2) to increase the participation of students of color in SWS. **Selection Criteria:** Student must be a woman from a racial/ethnic group facing racial discrimination in

the United States; Dissertation must be sociologically relevant scholarship that addresses the concerns of Women of Color, domestically and/or internationally; Student must be in the early stages of writing a dissertation; Student must be "All But Dissertation" (ABD) by the time the term of the award begins. (Must be certified by the student's advisor or Graduate Director); Applicant must demonstrate a financial need for the award; Domestic and international students are eligible to apply. **Student Application Process:** Complete application packets should be sent to the SWS Executive Office at the address below. Each packet must include: A personal statement which details short and long term career and research goals; The letter must also state which racial/ethnic group(s) the applicant represents; A resume or Curriculum Vitae; Two letters of recommendation addressing the content and quality of the student's work and progress in the program. One of these letters must be from the Graduate Director or Advisor, who should address the financial need of the applicant as well as certify the date on which the applicant became or will become ABD. Each letter should be placed in a sealed envelope with author's signature over the seal. *Letters Not Included in Packet Will Not Be Accepted.* Proposal (not to exceed 5 pages) for the dissertation research which outlines: Purpose of research; Work to be accomplished through scholarship sponsorship, and; Time line for completing dissertation. ADDRESS: SWS Executive Office, University of Rhode Island, Department of Sociology, Kingston, RI 02881. **Materials due April 1, 2009.** Downloadable flyer: <http://www.socwomen.org/page.php?sss=115>.

Upcoming Conferences/Meetings

Earning and Caring: New Inequalities, Strategies for Change, Saturday, March 21, 2009, Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel, Baltimore, MD. Please join us for this all-day work-family conference in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society (ESS) organized by Janet Gornick and Pamela Stone (CUNY) with the support of ESS President Kathleen Gerson (NYU). The conference will feature: (1) Research by leading experts including Naomi Gerstel, Patricia Roos, and Phyllis Moen; (2) Lunchtime discussion on the media coverage of work and family with Leslie Bennetts, Vanity Fair and author of *The Feminine Mistake*, and Lonnae O'Neill Parker, Washington Post and author of *I'm Every Woman*; (3) Policy updates and analysis by Erik Olin Wright and Beltway insiders including Heather Boushey and Heidi Hartmann, and; (4) Plenary by ESS President and leading work-family scholar Kathleen Gerson discussing her forthcoming book on how children of the gender revolution are negotiating family, work, and gender change, followed by reception. Learn more at www.essnet.org.

Women in Politics – Global Perspectives Conference, Friday, April 24, 2009 at Ohio State University.

Themes include "women and democracy, national security, and conflict," "women's global organizing," and "women in politics – gaining access, changing institutions." The conference is sponsored by the Mershon Center for International Security Studies at Ohio State University with additional support from the Ohio State University Departments of Sociology, Political Science, Anthropology, and Women's Studies, as well as the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. Organized by Pam Paxton. For more information, see <http://www.sociology.osu.edu/wip/index.php>.

New Journal Articles and Book Chapters by Section Members

Hasso, Frances S. 2009. "Empowering Governmentalities Rather Than Women: The Arab Human Development Report 2005 and Western Development Logics." *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, 41: 63-82.

Sandole-Staroste, Ingrid. 2009. "Gender Mainstreaming: A Valuable Tool in Building Sustainable Peace," in *Handbook of Conflict Analysis and Resolution*, edited by Dennis J.D. Sandole, Sean Byrne, Ingrid Sandole-Staroste and Jessica Senehi, London and New York: Routledge.

Announcing an edited volume: "Transnational Labor Inequality: Race, Class, and Gender," in *American Behavioral Scientist*, November 2008, 52(3).

This volume explores intersections of race, class and gender in the global labor process, focusing on trends of transnational services, global politics of care, and scattered hegemonies of transnational firms. Topics include historical racializations of migrant labor in South African Bantustans and the U.S. southwest; emotional care work of Indian nurses in the Persian gulf; circular migrations and class mobility of Puerto Rican professionals to the U.S.; virtuous professionalism of Chinese women hotel staff in U.S. transnational hotels; discontinuities of corporate "diversity" programs as they travel from the U.S. to India through multinational firms; women workers under deindustrialization in the U.S. and export production in Mexico; the global formation of two-tiered urban labor markets from expanding service sectors, the informalization of labor, declining communities and incomes. Contributors include Saskia Sassen, Arlie Hochschild, Patricia Fernandez-Kelly, Edna Bonacich, Lise Widding Isaksen, Sambasivan Uma Devi, Sabrina Alimahomed, Jake Wilson, Eileen Otis, Winifred Poster, and Elizabeth Aranda, and an introduction by guest editors Winifred Poster and George Wilson.

New Books by Section Members

Boulis, Ann K. and Jerry A. Jacobs. 2008. *The Changing Face of Medicine: Women Doctors and the Evolution of Health Care in America*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.

Dworkin, Shari L. and Faye Linda Wachs. 2009. *Body Panic: Gender, Health and the Selling of Fitness*. New York: New York University Press.

Ferraro, Kathleen J. 2009. *Women's Lives*. Boston, MA: Pearson/Allyn & Bacon.

Hattery, Angela. 2008. *Intimate Partner Violence*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield.

Lorber, Judith. 2009. *Gender Inequality: Feminist Theories and Politics*, Fourth Edition. New York: Oxford University Press.

Moghadam, Valentine M. 2008. *Globalization & Social movements: Islamism, Feminism, and the Global Justice Movement*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield.

Messner, Michael A. 2009. *It's All for the Kids: Gender, Families and Youth Sports*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Narayan, Anjana and Bandana Purkayastha. 2008. *Living Our Religions: Hindu and Muslim South Asian American Women Narrate Their Experience*. Sterling, VA: Kumarian Press.

Nelson, Fiona. 2009. *In the Other Room: Entering the Culture of Motherhood*. Black Point, Nova Scotia: Fernwood Publishing.

Plante, Rebecca F. and Lis M. Maurer (eds). *Doing Gender Diversity: Readings in Theory and Real-World Experience*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, forthcoming August 2009.

Salleh, Ariel (ed). 2009. *Eco-Sufficiency and Global Justice: Women Write Political Ecology*. London and New York: Pluto Press.

***Remember to send information about new books, articles, upcoming conferences, symposia, awards and any other news about our Sections Members that you would like to appear in the next newsletter to Valerie Chepp at vchepp@socy.umd.edu.



Check out the artwork of Robin Hextrum, a varsity member of the rowing team and a Fine Arts major at the University of Southern California. Her senior project - a series of paintings, drawings and cartoons - explores the issues surrounding women's representation in sports media. To see more of Robin's work, go to: <http://modernfemaleathlete.blogspot.com>



**2008-2009
Sex and Gender Council**

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