



Sociologists for Women in Society

Congratulations 2018 Feminist Activism Award Winner

Dear SWS Members,

The SWS Feminist Activism Award, established in 1995, is presented annually to an SWS Member who has notably and consistently used sociology to improve conditions for women in society. The award honors outstanding feminist advocacy efforts that embody the goal of service to women and that have identifiably improved women's lives. The 2018 Feminist Activism Award Winner is Mindy Fried. Mindy Fried has consistently used sociology to better the lives of women.

Mindy Fried, M.S.W., Ph.D. is an applied sociologist with over 25 years of experience conducting research, teaching, and policy analysis on work and organizational issues. As Co-Principal of Arbor Consulting Partners

(www.arborcp.com), Mindy works collaboratively with nonprofit organizations and foundations to help them build their capacity and strengthen their programs and policies. She has worked on a range of issues, including: grassroots and statewide organizing campaigns fo-

ocused on employer abuse of immigrant workers; programs aimed at supporting nonprofit leaders of color; arts education programs that honor multiple intelligences of children; and work and family policies and programs that foster gender equity in the workplace. Mindy is also the Co-Executive Director of Hoopla Productions (<https://www.hooplaproductions.org>), a Boston-based nonprofit organization that produces programming aimed at building community - across the divides of race, class, culture and immigrant status - through the arts.

Mindy has been a Visiting Professor at a number of Boston-based universities (e.g., MIT, Tufts, Brandeis), where she taught courses on Gender and Work, Sociology of the Family, Sociology of Sex and Gender, Feminist Theory, and Aging. Most recently, she taught Evaluation Research in the Sociology Department at Boston College. Her published books include *Caring for Red: A Daughter's Memoir* (Vanderbilt University Press, 2016) and *Taking Time: Parental Leave Policy and Corporate Culture* (1998). She blogged for 6 years at



Mindy's Muses and then joined the Editorial Board of Feminist Reflections. Her latest project is creating a new podcast on caregiving, called *Who Cares?* that launches in late Fall, 2018. Mindy earned her M.S.W. from Syracuse University, and her MA and Ph.D. from Brandeis University.

Mindy is described as not only a conventional academic sociologist but a scholar-activist who has demonstrated to all of us the feasibility of doing important social justice research outside the academy. As a scholar-activist, Mindy's work has not only focused on class, race and gender together, but has contributed to building explicit networks of understanding across differences. Mindy goes beyond conducting research, and works with groups doing grassroots organizing and education. Many of the projects she has worked on are considered to be related to SWS's interest in impacting women's lives.

Here are some highlights from some of Mindy's nominators:

Myra Marx Ferree summarizes Mindy Fried as a multi-faceted and energetic feminist activist who brings research-grounded perspectives to intersectional issues. Mindy blogs and teaches others to blog in ways that will advance feminist research generally and SWS in particular, especially with regard to valuing care and caregivers more appropriately.

Chloe Bird highlights the feminist perspective that Mindy has brought to applied sociology and how she brings applied perspectives back to sociology as a whole. She notes that, "in addition to many of her other qualities and work, Mindy brings it back to the discipline and steps up in sharing and mentoring. Mindy has done an amazing job of reaching out and finding numerous sociologists working in the city where we are holding the SWS conference. She's taken time to meet with individual students and junior researchers and to share her experience and wisdom in a consistently constructive way."

Wendy Christensen shares that "Mindy Fried embodies feminist activism. She brings the practice of feminism into everything she works on, whether it be consulting, grassroots organizing, or working on the SWS Media Relations Subcommittee. Mindy's organizational practices and recommendations are grounded in feminist praxis. Using the tools of feminism, she is able to carefully consider how institutional practices might contribute to issues of inequality, to advocate for ways that raise marginalized voices, and to bring communities together meaningfully. In this way, her feminist activism is multi-layered. She is committed to doing feminist work, but also to doing that work in a feminist way."

Congratulations Mindy! Thank you to the SWS Awards Committee Chair, Marybeth C. Stalp, and the members of the Feminist Activism Award Committee that includes: Patricia Yancey Martin (Chair), Chardie Bird, Kris De Welde, Patricia Warren, and Tressie McMillan Cottom. Join us in celebrating with Mindy at the SWS Summer Meeting Awards Banquet on August 11, 2018 in Philadelphia.