



Network News

Spring 2021

President's Column: Mignon R. Moore

Hello SWS!

I bring you Spring greetings from the Northeast region of the U.S., where the Crabapple, Japanese Cherry, Red Maple and other flowering trees are doing nature's work to heal our hearts, brighten our spirits and offer us a glimmer of hope as we move through this pandemic. Things are beginning to open more in the United States with the wide availability of the vaccine, and I am hoping it is or will soon be the same where you live.



I want to thank everyone who participated in the 2021 Winter Meeting. It was held virtually this year, and our registration was the highest it has ever been for a Winter Meeting with 578 registered attendees! I am thankful to the Winter Program committee, led by S. L. Crawley, for their strong organizational skills and firm commitment to deadlines. This year we hosted great pre-conference workshops, paper sessions and roundtables, as well as a fun "[A Drink with a Genius](#)" discussion with MacArthur Foundation Fellowship awardee and SWS member Tressie McMillan Cottom. Book Salons offered authors a way to share their newly published work with our community, which was particularly important since many of the year's book release parties could not take place. The Book Salons were well attended and we intend to incorporate them into future Winter Meetings. The Presidential Plenaries were also popular, as we celebrated fifty years of SWS, "Dismantling Systems of Oppression Since 1971." We continued our focus on gender in leadership with [outstanding past and current presidents and executive directors](#) of universities and organizations, who were so generous with their time, insights and wisdom; and we began a hard but necessary conversation on how we might go about continuing and expanding the work of SWS over the next fifty years. And we did all of this while sipping hot beverages in our SWS commemorative gift mugs!



As a feminist, anti-racist organization, SWS goes above and beyond the professional duties that are common to disciplinary institutions. We have continued to cultivate affinities through informal, virtual get togethers, supporting one another in everything from parenting through the pandemic to writing groups, as well as cultural identity group alliances. You can learn more about these virtual social spaces on our website [here](#). When our members experience discrimination or in other ways need our help, we advocate on their behalf by signing petitions, writing letters of support, and helping to hold institutions accountable for their ac-

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Special thanks to

- Melissa Day, *Network News* Editor
- Natasha Santana, Assistant to the Executive Officer and *Network News* Layout Designer

tions. When our Winter meetings are in-person, we offer cost share opportunities for everyone; this means that we help defray expenses by returning to attendees a portion of the amount they have spent on travel. And this year, in honor of SWS' 50-year anniversary, Council has initiated three service funds that provide direct financial support to members who are in crisis. The *SWS Member Emergency Fund* allows members to request financial assistance for an economic setback; the *SWS Victim Advocacy Fund* offers help to those in need of legal services because they have been the victim of a crime or unfair treatment in the academy or in larger society; and our *SWS Systemic Racism Fund* offers support to expressly combat systemic racism faced by our members during political protests, interactions with institutions and other types of experiences. The Career Development Committee is also initiating some new programming to foster [mentoring opportunities](#). We encourage you to look into the resources and share your expertise in ways that will help create a sense of community among our members.

We are moving ahead with arrangements for our [2021 Summer Meeting](#). It will be virtual, and we have decided to host this get together Thursday, July 8th – Friday, July 9th, which is a different meeting time than the Annual Meetings of the American Sociological Association (ASA). Our summer theme, "Retaining and Building a Feminist Community," builds on the work we began during the 2021 Winter Meeting. We will share more details as the seasons unfold but mark your calendars for this special virtual convening.

I am proud and humbled to lead our organization and offer my sincere thanks and appreciation for your support.

Warmly,
Mignon R. Moore
mmoore@barnard.edu
SWS President

Message from President-Elect Roberta Villalón



Dear SWSers,

As President-Elect, I've been working mostly on designing our 2022 Winter Meeting. By now, you should all have received a survey to gather your input about its location, date, and format. Locations were selected based on each state's regulations under Covid-19. I wanted to hear from you to help assess logistics because, as much as we are all probably wishing to go back to "normal business," we are also aware of budgetary constraints and, of course, health concerns. We included a question about its format given that virtual access, I think, may be here to stay!

Regarding the 2022 Winter Meeting theme, I would like to share with you what I've been tinkering with. While the title may change, the axis of the meeting will be, "A New Feminist Sociology in the Era of Global Pandemics;" a theme that will invite us to tackle the ontological and epistemological crisis the coronavirus brought. How should we rethink the way we do social science as feminist sociologists? How can we capitalize on the valuable contributions of feminism to advance a sociology that can be more effective at promoting equality across geographical, political, economic, and intersecting social and cultural borders? The global pandemic unearthed and intensified social inequalities that, while not new to us, we continue to fail repairing. Despite all kinds of risks, social movements throughout the world have not hesitated to raise demands and say 'No More'. Feminist sociology must follow by continuing with its critical analyses and praxes and also reflect on how it can do better to restore current and prevent future crises. It is more urgent than ever to dismantle the many forces that led us to this point in history, from colonialism and capitalism (with its intimate partners, classism, racism, sexism) to the anthropocene. Let's do our part to ensure that the brilliancy of our feminist thinking becomes key to turn the page and end the era of extreme inequalities. Start thinking about the way you can collaborate in pushing feminist sociology forward. Get your panels, workshops, and abstracts ready!

I have also been developing some ideas about what to bring anew to SWS. As the second Latinx in the history of SWS Presidencies, and given my transnational research agenda, you may not be surprised to hear that my plans include internationalizing the organization while further decentering the imperial gaze by highlighting perspectives from the Global South. Some practical measures to do this will include a revision of membership costs for international feminists, the provision of translation services, and institutional alliances with sociological and feminist organizations around the world. Moreover, I would like for a SWS to amplify its reach in terms of gender, sexual, and ethnoracial diversity; for which among other initiatives, I will take on Tiffany Taylor's project of rethinking its name - a task force will be formed for this, and institutionalize alliances with transgender, and critical race and ethnic studies' organizations. Additionally, I will work on highlighting SWS' interdisciplinary character - while we are a sociological organization, we also draw on the work of and collaborate with feminists from other fields. A new Presidential Award will celebrate feminists from other disciplines who have made significant contributions to the advancement of feminist sociology and gender/sexual equality. Last, I will continue to expand on initiatives to make feminist sociology more accessible beyond close academic circles. For this, I'm thinking about strategies to better connect with activists, policymakers, teachers, younger students, and the general public (another task force will be put together for this). One idea is to create a SWS YouTube Channel where plenaries, keynotes, and presentations by our members and awardees are made freely and widely accessible.

There is more to come, so please, stay tuned and reach out to me if any of these ideas resonate and you would like to help!

Stay safe and keep up the fight!

Roberta Villalón

Vice-President of SWS

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SWS Executive Officer's Column: *Barret Katuna*



Happy 50th Anniversary to SWS! I am honored to serve as the SWS Executive Officer as we celebrate all that we have been working on to dismantle systems of oppression since 1971. Thank you, once again, to Marjukka Ollilainen, for your years of service as Editor of *Network News*. We produced some great newsletters over the course of the past four years, and you have generated some fantastic ideas that we will continue with Melissa Day, our new Editor of *Network News*. Welcome to Melissa!

SWS continues to grow and flex to the needs of our members and I want to remind you all that SWS is here for you, our growing membership. In May 2020, we had 821 members and we continue to grow with a recently reported total of 1,077 members! Thank you for continuing to spread the word to your colleagues and students about all the incredible resources that we have available and continue to expand upon. Please visit [MemberClicks](#) (the Members' Portal of our website) for more information about how to request a complimentary [Sponsored Membership for 2021](#). You can also help us grow by donating a [Gift Membership for 2021](#).

Member Engagement: While we have not been able to meet in person this year, we have continued our feminist engagement via writing groups, committee-sponsored sessions, feminist support groups, the 2021 Winter Meeting, the High School Teachers' Workshop, and SWS-South sponsored programming at the Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting. Thanks to the efforts of Heather Laube, Chair of the Career Development Committee, we have some exciting new mentoring opportunities available! See [here](#) to learn more about how you can mentor or benefit from mentorship. We are always open to your ideas if you would like to sponsor or host a virtual session on your own, or in partnership with one of our Committees. If you missed the 2021 Winter Meeting, you can find Business Meeting Minutes in MemberClicks and we also post Council Meeting Minutes there as well from the two 2021 Winter Meeting Council Meetings.

2021 Summer Meeting: Our [2021 Summer Meeting](#) will be held virtually on July 8th and 9th! Mignon R. Moore, SWS President, has some exciting plans for how we can build upon the excitement that we generated at the 2021 Winter Meeting at this second virtual meeting in 2021. Information will be updated and shared on the [2021 Summer Meeting Website](#).

Please share the opportunity to [Sponsor the 2021 Summer Meeting Program](#) with your networks. It's a great place for publishers to highlight new texts, or for departments to highlight their programs.

Learning Management System (LMS): SWS is using a LMS to help facilitate the sharing of resources and information among members. To access the LMS, members can [log in via this website](#) with your MemberClicks credentials. There you will find resources from the 2021 Winter Meeting and you'll be able to see where we are working to build sections where SWS Committees can share resources, post photos and archives, and helpful conversation threads from listserv communications. Please stay tuned as this is a work in progress!

Plans for 2022 Winter and Summer Meetings: Stay tuned for more updates as we plan for our 2022 Winter and Summer Meetings. Thank you to all who took the time to respond to the 2022 Winter Meeting Survey. I am working with SWS President-Elect, Roberta Villalón, to review the survey responses and am hopeful that we will have more information to share for the 2022 Winter Meeting by the time we meet this July.

As always, please reach out via email, text, or phone call. I am here to support you.

Best wishes,

Barret Katuna

Executive Officer of SWS

Timely Topics: “Ageism in the Academy”

By Charlotte Dunham



Charlotte Dunham is the Director of Women's and Gender Studies and an Associate Professor of Sociology at Texas Tech University. You can read more about Charlotte and her distinguished career [here](#).

I started my career as a gerontologist over 40 years ago as a young woman. At the time, I did not think about how much I was preparing myself for my own old age. Old age in “those days” was more of an abstraction that happened to somebody else, not me. But now that I am over 70, aging has become much more personal.

Getting older feels in some ways like going backward. I came of age in the 1970's when I had to struggle to be taken seriously as a woman. The lack of rights was crushing sometimes - the lack of reproductive choice made unwanted pregnancy terrifying, sexual harassment was overlooked with a wink, and the wage gap made me feel like a second-class citizen.

Now that I am older, some of those old feelings of being a second-class citizen are back. You start to notice people are treating you as if you were invisible again. The meaning of physical appearance starts to change, and you worry about appearing old because it makes you less relevant and more invisible. Some of my older friends dye their hair, not because of vanity, but because people take them less seriously as professionals when they are gray. Ageism promotes a feeling of shame about who we are and how we look (Gullette, 2017).

Applewhite (2019) says one of the damages of ageism is making people feel ashamed for things that are beyond their control. Many Baby Boomers do not have the privileges of good healthcare, an adequate income, or freedom to remake old age. A Great Recession that depleted retirement accounts has eroded many Baby Boomers' abilities to retire. These difficulties are embedded in public policy of the last 40 years that puts more of the burden on the individual to save. Yet, much of the narrative about Baby Boomers is that they failed to prepare for retirement because of their own greed.

We recognize the use of the “big lie” in creating beliefs that perpetuate other systems of oppression such as racism and sexism, but we need to recognize that some are also using a “big lie” about our elders as selfish and greedy to promote policy goals. In the 1980s, Right-wing advocates began creating the narrative that elders were mortgaging their children's future. Just a quick 21st century google search of the phrase “greedy Baby Boomers” found titles such as “Generation Xers are being stifled by greedy boomers who refuse to retire” *New York Post*, February 8, 2020.

I am increasingly concerned when I hear similar beliefs about “selfish boomers” who refuse to retire expressed by colleagues in the academy. Older faculty members are portrayed as holding academic jobs beyond their prime that should be going to younger faculty who cannot find jobs in the scarcity of the academic job market. Those who use this language are ignoring the changing structure of the academy that has reflected a decades long trend toward reducing tenure track jobs by instead hiring faculty with contingent contracts on a semester-to-semester or year-to-year basis, with less than ideal working conditions. According to a recent AAUP study, 73 percent of faculty positions are now off the tenure track. This “big lie” of blaming elder workers as selfish, greedy, and irrelevant is not only ageist, but is misleading and works against our own best interests.

Douglas (2020) suggests that feminism needs to create a space for older women and recognize the movement has not made their needs a part of the feminist agenda. Women comprise 35 percent of the faculty over 55, and therefore their needs should be visible. Rather than letting ageism be an excuse for marginalizing older women, there needs to be a realistic image of who we are, our potential, and our concerns as women. Recognizing that age is fluid, we are protecting women’s interests not just for the current generation, but for all generations.

Feminism faces a lot of challenges as we recover from the age of Trump and resist the ongoing Right-wing challenges to women’s rights. We need everyone engaged in the feminist project, which means that we need to be accepting of the wisdom and energy of older women as well as the young. Betty Friedan (1993/2006), in the *Fountain of Age*, expressed bittersweet feelings about her legacy. While appreciating the honors she was given in later life she felt the language used to describe her work, such as “founding mother,” suggested her relevance was in the past.

We need an honest discussion about the role of older women in the feminist movement by maintaining the commitment and talent of those who want to continue. We need to reject the narrative of intergenerational tensions and focus on the ability to work together (Zeisler, 2016). Douglas (2020) calls for a lifespan feminism that recognizes the concerns of women throughout life, including older women. She suggests that this can be accomplished with bridge groups of intergenerational feminists that share concerns and create a solidarity based on what we have in common, a need for social justice, and rejecting “big lies” about groups of people that perpetuate ageism and inequality.

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“Timely Topics” is a recurring short column (1,000-words) in Network News. We are looking for submissions! Send your inquiries and ideas to the Editor at swsnewsletter@socwomen.org.

Book Reviews 101: A Q&A with Dr. Kelsy Burke, Incoming Book Review Editor for *Gender & Society*

By: Melissa D. Day

The SWS Publications Committee [recently announced](#) and introduced Dr. Kelsy Burke as the new Book Review Editor for *Gender & Society* (G&S). Congratulations, Kelsy! Below, Kelsy shares her thoughts on some basic questions people might have about G&S book reviews. I hope this piece helps further introduce you to Kelsy, provides insight into what her approach to being G&S Book Editor will be, and can serve as useful information to demystify some basic aspects of “the book review”.

About Kelsy: Kelsy Burke is an Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where she studies sex, religion, and culture. Kelsy’s first book is the award-winning *Christians Under Covers: Evangelicals and Sexual Pleasure on the Internet* (2016) published by University of California Press (read more about it [here](#)). Her second book on contemporary debates over pornography is under contract with Bloomsbury Press. Kelsy is co-PI (with Dr. Emily Kazyak) on a current National Science Foundation (NSF) grant studying the relationship between religious freedom laws and LGBTQ rights (read more about it [here](#)). She is a longtime member of SWS and has served as a member of the Editorial Board of *Gender & Society*. Kelsy’s three-year term as Book Review Editor officially begins on June 1st, 2021. In the meantime, Kelsy is serving as Deputy Book Review Editor of *Gender & Society*, with Dr. Catherine R. Solomon’s team at Quinnipiac University.



Q: What is a book review and why are they important?

A: “I love a good book review almost as much as I love a good book! Book reviews give readers a glimpse of what a book is about (methods, key findings, and overall argument). Even more importantly, reviews offer perspective on how a book shapes the academy, public discourse, and our ways of thinking. For readers of *Gender & Society*, following book reviews is a great way to follow cutting-edge research in the field of gender scholarship.”

Q: How do I volunteer to write and submit a book review to *Gender & Society*?

A: “Send an email to gsbooks@quinnipiac.edu (if before June 1st, 2021) and gsbooks@unl.edu (if after June 1, 2021) with a list of your research interests and your CV attached. We will add you to our database of potential reviewers and reach out to you if we receive a book that aligns with your interests and expertise.”

Q: How can I get my book reviewed in *Gender & Society*?

A: “You or your publisher can send an email to the addresses listed above and we will determine if your book is suitable for review in *Gender & Society*. Due to the number of submitted books, we unfortunately cannot review every one. We prioritize books in the social sciences, and gender must be an integral part of the analysis. As book review editor, I define “gender analysis” broadly and am especially interested in reviewing books from interdisciplinary fields of queer and trans studies.”

Q: What advice do you have for someone who is writing a book review?

A: “A good book review does many things in under 800 words, so they can be challenging to write. It’s often helpful for reviewers to start with a draft that summarizes each chapter. A strong book review, how-

ever, is more than just a summary. In revising a review for publication, I encourage authors to use summaries and detailed examples from the text in order to evaluate the author's claims. A good book review will also explain the methods and theory guiding the book. *Gender & Society* has a longstanding tradition of evaluating books as they are written, not the book that a reviewer wishes was written. Reviewers should aim to offer a constructive assessment of a book's strengths and overall contributions to the field. Does a book accomplish what the author says is its intent?"

Gender & Society is the official journal of Sociologists for Women in Society. It is a top-ranked journal in sociology and women's studies. It features work that analyzes gender and gendered processes in interactions, organizations, societies, and global and transnational spaces. The journal publishes empirical articles and book reviews. For more information, visit the official website [here](#).

Committee Reports & News

Sister to Sister (S2S) By: Esther Hernández-Medina and LaTonya Trotter, Co-Chairs

Since the 2020 Summer Meeting, the main work of the Sister to Sister (S2S) Committee has been to contribute to the 2021 Winter Meeting, begin the work of selecting the winner for the [Chow-Green Dissertation Award](#), and to work with committee members on ways to stay connected and support each other throughout the year.

In January, SWS held its 2021 Winter Meeting and we were glad to do our part to make this happen. Thank you to Erika Hill-Yates for being the S2S representative to the planning committee and for being an important part of making the meeting a success. We were a co-sponsor, along with the SWS Career Development Committee, for the session *Intersectional Inequalities among Faculty and the Institutional Response to Current Crises*, where we learned how faculty, administrators, and universities are responding - as individuals and institutions - to the pandemic and the current political crisis. Much gratitude to the organizers of the session for inviting us to co-sponsor this event. We also worked with graduate student and faculty leaders to create the session, *Organizing Us: Lessons Learned in Building an Anti-Racist, Trans-Institutional Movement in the University*. Thank you to the panelists from *Organizing Us* who represent the future of SWS.

In February, we held our winter committee meeting, during which we shared the call for applications for this year's Chow-Green Dissertation. We also announced our first Chow-Green Dissertation Award Liaison, [Carmela M. Roybal](#), who, as the current awardee, made herself available to give advice to students preparing their applications.

At our winter committee meeting we also listened and shared ideas about how to create community in our current online environment, as well as solicited suggestions for the upcoming [2021 Summer Meeting](#). We reminded attendees that the committee has an email listserv and private Facebook group to facilitate discussion, share information, and stay connected in between meetings. The committee also expressed our appreciation and gratitude to our outgoing co-chair, Sasha Drummond-Lewis, and welcomed Esther Hernández-Medina as the incoming co-chair.

Since then, we have worked with the SWS Executive Office to update the Chow-Green award webpages

to include biographies of Esther Nang-Ling Chow and Mareyjoyce Green (read them [here](#)) so that applicants have an opportunity to learn more about the women we honor through this award. Please stay tuned as the Sister to Sister Committee is organizing programming for the 2021 Summer Meeting. If you're interested in learning more about our committee, please email us at sister2sistersws@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you!

Career Development Revamping the Professional Needs Mentoring Program

By: Heather Laube

The [Career Development Committee](#), which helps support the professional development of feminist sociologists at all stages of their careers, has been working hard to create a more robust mentoring program for the SWS membership that both supports the needs of our members and is mindful of time commitments. To this end, the [Professional Needs Mentor Program](#) is shifting to a model that focuses on meeting very specific needs through well-defined and time-limited mentoring relationships. In addition to facilitating one-to-one mentoring pairs, the program will also develop small mutual mentoring teams. Our philosophy is that ALL members have skills, experience, and insights to share, and that all types of mentor matches (e.g., peer, near-peer, junior-senior) may have much to offer all parties. You may both need a mentor and BE a great mentor!

The Mentoring Program will now have two structures for mentoring - one-on-one **Paired Mentoring** and small group **Mutual Mentoring Teams**. We hope that by helping members identify specific needs and clarifying expectations about time commitments, more members will feel able to take on these roles.

Choosing a Mentoring Program: “What do you need?” AND “What can you offer?”

Paired Mentoring is well-suited for concerns that are time-limited, especially individual, or are quite personal/require significant confidentiality. This may include, for example: substantive feedback on scholarly work, guidance about promotion, tenure or job market materials, transforming a CV into a Resume, specific needs related to navigating graduate school or tenure and promotion (including to full professor), advice on choosing service commitments, individualized help with time management and prioritizing, specific concerns related to navigating toxic departments/committees/colleagues/professors, etc.

Mutual Mentoring Teams are geared towards providing regular and longer-term mutual support and diverse perspectives. This may include, for example: general support for navigating graduate school, contingent faculty status, significant professional transitions, toxic workplaces or colleagues, discussions around managing work-life strain, teaching, collegiality, advice on scholarly activity/grants/publications, accountability committing time to achieving professional and personal goals, area specific work groups, etc. Teams may be formed based on institution type, career stage, identity, or various other characteristics and/or teams may be comprised of peers and near-peers, or a mix of experienced and less experienced members. It may be important for you to have a mentor or mentoring team with whom you share an identity. The program will work to assist you with meeting your needs as best as possible.

“Sounds great! How do I get involved?” [See our website](#) for links to forms that match your needs including volunteering for and/or requesting to be matched for paired mentoring, requesting to be put in a mentoring team, and/or requesting that a mentoring team with specific characteristics be created. Please contact Heather Laube, Chair of the Career Development Committee, with further questions, concerns, or ideas (hlaube@umich.edu)

Awards Committee: Congratulations to Our 2021 Winter Award Winners!

By: Rebecca Hanson

The SWS Awards Committee extends congratulations to winners of some of our 2021 Winter Awards. Winners were honored during a virtual reception at the 2021 Winter Meeting. For more information about all of our 2021 winter award winners check out our [webpage](#).

The Cheryl Allyn Miler Award was established to honor the late Cheryl Allyn Miller, a sociologist and feminist who studied women and paid work. The purpose of the award is to recognize a sociology graduate student or a recent doctorate whose research or activism constitutes an outstanding contribution to the field of women and work. This contribution may take the form of scholarly or policy research or activism.

Laura Adler **2021 Cheryl Allyn Miller Award**



Laura Adler is a Ph.D. candidate in sociology at Harvard University, where she works on topics at the intersection of economic sociology, organizations, gender, and cultural sociology. Her dissertation, “What’s a Job Candidate Worth? Pay-Setting, Gender Inequality, and the Changing Understanding of Fair Pay,” investigates how employers set pay and how organizations respond to pay equity laws. Laura’s article, “From the Job’s Worth to the Person’s Price: The Evolution of Pay-setting Practices since the 1950s” focuses on how the pay-setting process changed over time. She documents a major shift from the 1950s, when employers determined pay using precise measures of the internal value of each job, to today, when employers rely almost exclusively on data from the external labor market including the candidate’s own past salary, viewed as their individual market price.

Sidra Kamran **2021 Cheryl Allyn Miller Honorable Mention**



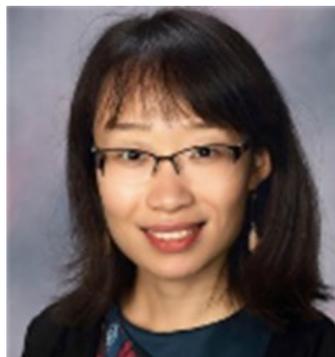
Sidra Kamran is a Ph.D. Candidate in Sociology at The New School for Social Research. Her [research](#) and teaching interests include gender and sexuality, labor, economic sociology, social class, urban life, and global social theory. She argues that working-class beauty and retail workers in Pakistan occupy a position of gendered status ambiguity, and demonstrates how these workers leverage this ambiguity to maximize their economic and social status in different ways. Sidra’s submitted article, “A Patchwork of Femininities: Fluctuating Gender Performances in a Women-only Marketplace in Pakistan,” examines gender performances in the context of social stratification and develops an account of working-class women’s gendered struggles for class distinction.

2021 Social Actions Initiative Award Winners

The [Social Actions Initiative Awards](#) are an initiative of the SWS [Social Action Committee](#) which engages SWS in projects that facilitate achieving its goals of promoting social justice through local and national activism and via members' research, teaching and community service. The awards directly support and encourage the social activism of SWS members. Awards are given out twice per year on a competitive basis until funds are fully dispersed. The social actions represented by this initiative are central to advancing the mission of SWS.



Dr. Brittany P. Battle is a scholar-activist and an Assistant Professor in the Sociology Department at Wake Forest University. The award will fund the “Defund, Transform, Abolish?: Reimagining Justice in the Era of Mass Incarceration Workshop Series,” to train local community organizers and supporters in the traditions of restorative justice (micro-level), transformative justice (macro-level), and abolition.



Dr. Ziwei Qi is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Criminal Justice at Fort Hays State University. The award will support “Breaking the Cycle of Violence—Addressing Economic Independence for Survivors of Gender-based Violence in Rural Communities,” where four Colorado/Kansas-based organizations—survivor-centered social enterprises providing housing, job training, and employment to women survivors—will lead the one-day teach-in virtual workshop in April 2021. The workshop introduces ways to provide both employment and residential assistance to survivors, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Dr. Kelly Grace is an independent researcher, consultant, and visiting scholar at Drexel University focusing on gender issues in education in Cambodia. The award will fund the first Society of Gender Professionals (SGP) Circles Symposium in March 2021. SGP “Circles,” or chapters of members, work in specific thematic/geographic areas, to network, collaborate and provide professional development for feminist academics/practitioners/activists. Circles conduct applied research, develop South-South collaborations for feminist action, and work together to raise the profile of gender expertise around the world.

2021 Undergraduate Social Action Award Winners



Alexandria Hernandez attends the University of Texas at El Paso and is working towards receiving her BA in Marketing. She plans to use her degree to work with non-profit organizations to help them reach an audience and show their full potential. A reflection of this passion is the on-campus organization she founded, Frontera Folx for Reproductive Justice. Within its first official year Frontera Folx has hosted community gatherings and virtual seminars aimed at providing a safer space for our community through educating, providing resources, and representation. Alexandria hopes that Frontera Folx will be a community resource and guide for others for many years to come.



Molly Roach is a recent graduate of Framingham State University with a major in Criminology and a minor in Psychology. She is an organizer with RacismFreeWPS in Worcester, Massachusetts. She aspires to go on to graduate school to earn her Ph.D. in Criminology with a focus on sexual and gender violence. Molly was born and raised in Worcester, Massachusetts. She attended the public-school system from preschool to 12th grade. Her time spent in the public-school system has inspired her current activism work with RacismFreeWPS. Within the RacismFreeWPS organization she is a member of the press team, co-facilitator of Zoom planning meetings, and runs the onboarding process for new members.



Reagan Williams is a senior at the College of Charleston majoring in Psychology and Women's and Gender Studies with a minor in Political Science. She began her activism in Charleston, South Carolina by becoming a student executive board member of the Gender & Sexuality Equity Center. Later, she went on to conduct New Faculty Inclusivity Orientation Trainings, Restorative Justice Circles, and other workshops centered around equity. In the Spring of 2019, Reagan co-founded a student organization, Mental Health in Melanin, that advocates for mental healthcare awareness and combats collective trauma often experienced in communities of color. She has served many campus roles as committee member of the Intersectional Cougar Action Network (I-CAN), a coalition of student organizations and campus activists to fight injustice, and committee chairman of the WGS Student Advisory Committee.

Student Caucus By: Tristen Kade and Alexis Grant-Panting

At the 2021 Winter Meeting our sitting student representative, Jax Gonzalez, finished their term of service as Student Representative. We appreciate your dedication and service to SWS, thank you, Jax! We welcomed our new Student Representative-Elect, Alexis Grant-Panting. Alexis is a third-year graduate student at Texas Woman's University studying racial and education inequality in rural communities. She hopes to create a space where undergraduates, parenting students (graduate and undergraduate), and marginalized students feel supported and valued within our field. Alexis envisions her role as one that serves equally as an advocate and voice on behalf of the students in SWS and she looks forward to working with the membership.

During the virtual 2021 Winter Meeting we hosted the annual Brunch with Scholars (aka Breakfast with Scholars). Students and scholars enjoyed a meal while connecting over conversation about a number of themes such as public sociology, non-academic careers, and intersectionality and intersectional research. We had great conversations about how undergraduate and graduate students may navigate different sectors of our discipline.

Since the Winter Meeting, we have been working to generate discussion around how the Student Caucus can support students in programs across the country and internationally. To do so, we sent out a survey to undergraduate and graduate students and held our first open committee meeting in February. The Student Caucus is exploring the initiatives that were discussed in the survey and during our open committee meeting, these included: opportunities for funding, membership drive through department scholarships, mentorship for public and government careers, mentorship for non-RI jobs, careers outside of academia, and a Student Perspective column in *Network News*!

The Student Caucus will be hosting another open committee meeting towards the end of May. Please keep an eye out for the exact date and Zoom information. If you would like to join the Student Caucus Committee, email us at students@socwomen.org or [fill out this form](#).

In solidarity,
Tristen Kade and Alexis Grant-Panting

Member Publications

Spencier Ciarall and co-authors have a new paper, "Cancer Disclosure, Stigma and Identity: Racial Differences among Older Adult, Cancer Survivors," in the *Journal of Geriatric Oncology*. Read it [here](#).

Margaret S. Kelley and co-authors have a new paper in *Sociological Forum* titled, "What Matters to You Matters: Natural Mentors and Self-valuation in School Sports." Read it [here](#).

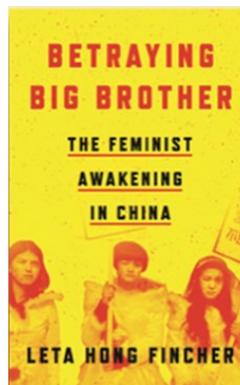
Mindy Fried has a forthcoming book chapter, "The Swan Study: Race, Gender and Identity," in *Musings on Perimenopause and Menopause: Identity, Experience, Transition* with Demeter Press. Read more and order the book [here](#).

Rebecca A. Lennox's new article, "There's Girls Who Can Fight, and There's Girls Who Are Innocent': Gendered Safekeeping as Virtue Maintenance Work," is available online first in *Violence Against Women*. Read it [here](#).

Ophra Leyser-Whalen and her co-author have a new paper, available online first, in *Sexuality Research and Social Policy* titled, "The Continuum of Sexual and Reproductive Health Talk Types Daughters have with Mothers and Siblings." Read it [here](#).

New Books!

Betraying Big Brother: The Feminist Awakening in China



Leta Hong Fincher announces the publication of the book, *Betraying Big Brother: The Feminist Awakening in China*. The [New York Times](#) writes, "In 'Betraying Big Brother,' Fincher illustrates the nascent feminist movement in China by recounting the story of the five feminist activists who were jailed for 37 days in 2015 after handing out stickers protesting sexual harassment. She argues that misogyny is at the core of China's authoritarian regime and that a feminist movement, if not suppressed, could prove to be the country's 'most transformative movement.'" The book has also been [featured in the Washington Post](#). Read more about the book and order it [here](#)

The Pornification of America: How Raunch Culture is Ruining Our Society



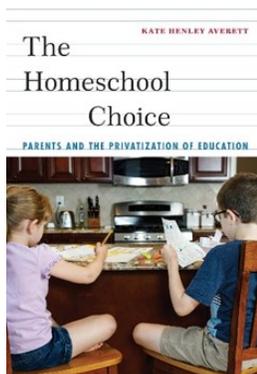
Bernadette Barton announces the publication of a new book with New York University Press, *The Pornification of America: How Raunch Culture is Ruining Our Society*. The [New York Times](#) writes, “Zippy and well illustrated, this book persuasively argues that “equating hypersexualization with sex positivity is a form of Orwellian doublespeak.” [To order through the publisher](#), use the coupon code BARTON30 for 30% off, or free for course examination.

Femina Academica: Female Sociologist as a Profession



Lejla Mušić announces publication of the book, *Femina Academica: Female Sociologist as a Profession*. The book argues that *Femina Academica* and the empowering of women in institutions of higher education is complex, historically remarkable, and especially developed inside contemporary professional American Sociology because of the distinguished Sociologists for Women in Society Organization. In contrast, in Europe, there are still less dominant female professional positions, and perplexities of selections of females in Academia. Available for purchase [here](#).

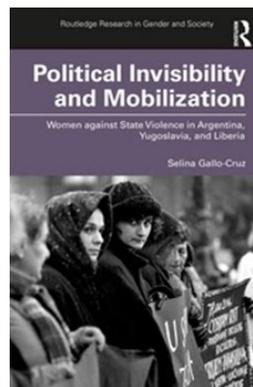
The Homeschool Choice: Parents and the Privatization of Education



Kate Henley Averett announces the publication of a new book with New York University Press, *The Homeschool Choice: Parents and the Privatization of Education*. The book explores the perspectives of parents who have chosen to homeschool their children, examining what this growing practice can tell us about the changing roles that families, schools, and the state play in children’s lives. Kate writes more about her new book in a [recent op-ed in the New York Post](#).

Use the coupon code AVERETT30 for 30% off when you [order through the publisher](#).

Political Invisibility and Mobilization: Women against State Violence in Argentina, Yugoslavia, and Liberia



Selina Gallo-Cruz has published a new book with Routledge, *Political Invisibility and Mobilization: Women against State Violence in Argentina, Yugoslavia, and Liberia*, which explores the unseen opportunities available to those considered irrelevant and disregarded during periods of violent repression. Mentioned by the Women in Academia Report (WIA) as a “[Recent Book of Interest to Women Scholars](#),” *Political Invisibility and Mobilization* presents a sophisticated theory of political invisibility with historical detail from three remarkable stories of courage in the face of atrocity. With relevance for political sociology, social movement studies, women’s studies, and peace and conflict studies, it contributes to scholarly understanding of mobilization in repressive states while also offering strategic insight to movement practitioners. [To order through the publisher](#), use the coupon code SOC20 for 20% off at checkout

Member Celebrations

Spencier Ciaralli, a doctoral candidate in the Department of Sociology at Case Western Reserve University, was awarded a \$20,000 American Fellowship from the American Association of University Women (AAUW) to support her dissertation titled, "The Climax of the Story: Queering Women's Sexual Histories and Pleasure Narratives."

Andréa Becker, a doctoral candidate in sociology at CUNY Graduate Center, was awarded a Woodrow Wilson (WW) Women's Studies Fellowship to support her dissertation, "I Just Wanted It Gone": Examining "Wanted" Hysterectomies through Two Gendered Case Studies." You can read more about it [here](#).

Congratulations to **Dr. Shannon Malone Gonzalez**, SWS-ASA Minority Fellow, on the successful defense of her dissertation, "In Her Place: Black Women Redefining and Resisting Police Violence." Gonzalez has recently accepted a tenure-track position at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill! You can read more about Gonzalez's work [here](#).

Congratulations to **Dr. Sophia Locklear**, SWS-ASA Minority Fellow, on the successful defense of her dissertation that explores the social construction of white identity among individuals in the Pacific Northwest who work with American Indian and Alaska Native issues and peoples. She has recently accepted a tenure-track position at Western University in Canada! You can read more about Locklear's work [here](#).

Nicole Fox and **Alexa Sardina** were awarded a grant from the American Sociological Association's Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline for their project, "Remembering Rape: America's First Memorial to Sexual Violence Survivors."

Sandra Portocarrero, graduate student at Columbia University, is this year's recipient of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, Educational Problems Section, Graduate Student Paper Award for the paper, "Qué Vergüenza: Ambiguity around Diversity and Inclusion and How National Scholarship Recipients Became Ashamed of What Once Made Them Most Proud."

Member Feminist Impact Work



Bernadette Barton published an op-ed in the *Lexington Herald-Leader* discussing Cardi B's performance at the Grammys. Read it [here](#).



Listen to **Marni A. Brown's** interview on the "HelloHealth Today" podcast about managing chronic disease while working in academia and what true diversity, equity, and inclusion should look like. Read more and listen [here](#).



Mindy Fried celebrates a successful first season of her podcast about caregiving, [The Shape of Care](#), with over 14,000 listeners and [some great press](#), including a shout-out in the *New York Times*! A second season is coming, starting this summer. Visit the website to subscribe, and stay tuned!



Mangala Subramaniam talks about retention of faculty of color and related topics in her recent interview for the podcast series, "In the Margins." Listen [here](#)! (Episode 25: Best Practices in Minority Faculty Recruitment & Retention)

In Memoriam: Debra (Debi) Osnowitz

By: Mindy Fried



(November 6, 1952 -
April 7, 2021)

Sadly, we mourn the death of Dr. Debi Osnowitz, a brilliant, kind, thoughtful, curious and compassionate sociologist who was cherished by her many friends, colleagues, and by her family.

Debi was born on November 6, 1952, in Fargo, North Dakota, and died unexpectedly April 7, 2021. She exhibited remarkable intellect early on. She was valedictorian at her high school, having graduated early, and moved to Providence to attend Brown University, where she graduated with an A.B. in English and an M.A.T. in English and Education. Debi went on to earn an M.A. in Sociology and Women's Studies, and then a Ph.D. in Sociology from Brandeis University. She taught sociology at Clark University and Brandeis University, and was renowned amongst students for her ability to make classical theory fun and fascinating. Debi also taught very popular sociology courses on the sociology of work, family, race, culture, and organizations, always bringing an intersectional lens.

In the 1970s, Debi was a member of 9 to 5, a successful national organization that advocates for women's rights in the workplace. While there, she chaired the group, Women in Publishing. Over many years, Debi worked as a skilled editor for academic writers. She wrote numerous articles that explored women and work, particularly the precarious nature of contracted labor. And in 2010, her highly regarded book -

Freelancing Expertise: Contract Professionals in the New Economy – was published by Cornell University Press, marrying her knowledge about the sociology of work and organizations with her experience as an freelance editor.

At the time of Debi's death, she was working on a new project with Dr. Karen V. Hansen (Brandeis University) and Dr. Nazli Kabria (Boston University) called "Cascading: Stories of Loss, Resilience and Resistance," which explores the life histories of people who have suffered economic decline. She was also a treasured member of an 18-year academic writing group, whose members have declared that they cannot imagine not having Debi's presence and remarkable insights at their meetings.

Debi had a unique ability to connect with people across ages and stages regardless of their background. She was an inspiring teacher who took enormous pleasure in her students' successes. Debi was as wise and serious as she was funny and clever. A steadfast loyal friend, she was open and warm, and was generous with the time she gave to others. Debi was also a lover of academic and other literature. It was natural for her to cite research studies in the course of an academic or everyday conversation, her mind always connecting the dots. Debi loved classical music, and in her younger years, played the viola.

Many have noted that Debi's voice was joyful, some remarking that when she spoke, "it was as if her voice smiled." She treasured her loving connections to a number of families. She was the chosen aunt to four (now) young women, and a devoted friend of and support to their parents.

Debi is survived by her brother Daniel, her brother Steve, and her mother, and by numerous heart-broken friends.

Professional Opportunities

The International Association of Maternal Action and Scholarship (IAMAS) is looking to connect with more of the membership of SWS to hear about the great work being done on college campuses to support mothering/parenting. Here are several ways you can become involved:

Annual Conference: IAMAS will host its annual conference, online, September 24 - 26, 2021 with the theme [Building Racial Equity in and Across Motherhood](#).

MOMA Award: IAMAS welcomes your submissions for the Making Opportunities for Mothers in Academia Award ([MOMA Award](#)).

Public Engagement: IAMAS is looking for folks willing to be interviewed for their [Voices, Visions and Advocacy Series](#). These online webinars are an informal way for mother advocates to host talks about topics that are a component of established research, be interviewed regarding their pro-social initiatives, or get feedback on new theories. In the future, this series will become a podcast. Past episodes can be found [here](#).

Applied Worldwide is a [digital content production company focused on applied sociology](#). They produce written and visual content designed specifically to be consumed through social media and internet search engines. Applied Worldwide invites members of SWS to participate in their **Profiles in Applied and Clinical Sociology Project**. Launched in January 2020 [the project](#) aims to: 1) provide students with examples of applied sociology, 2) provide market value to sociological skills and services, and 3) promote the work of individual sociological practitioners and organizations. To date, the collection of profiles has received over 7,000 pageviews and 265,000 social media impressions, but they are looking to expand and diversify! [To participate click here](#) to fill out the form to share your experiences and to help enhance a vision of applied sociology!

The Future Generation of SWS Leadership!

Toddler Enjoying Hot Cocoa in SWS 50th Anniversary Mug



2021 Winter Meeting Spotlight: “Drink With A Genius” - Celebrating Tressie McMillan Cottom’s 2020 MacArthur Foundation Fellowship



A true highlight of the virtual 2021 Winter Meeting was the [“Drink With A Genius”](#) event in celebration of SWS member Tressie McMillan Cottom’s (left image) 2020 [MacArthur Foundation Fellowship](#).

We were led on Zoom by multi-certified mixologist, philanthropist and industry educator, Alexis Brown (right image) of [Serving Life Behind Bars](#) and the founder of [Causing A Stir](#), a Chicago-based organization dedicated to educating and empowering underrepresented individuals in the hospitality industry, as we mixed up a Whiskey Sour, a bourbon-based cocktail (Tressie’s favorite!), and a non-alcoholic Ramos Fizz.



Read more about Alexis’ work [here](#).

After the tutorials we raised our glasses to and heard remarks from Tressie. Cheers, Tressie! And congratulations again!

SERVING LIFE BEHIND
BARS

Checklist Whiskey Sour

GROCERY LIST

WHAT YOU'LL NEED FOR THE COCKTAIL

- 3 VANILLA CHAI TEA BAGS (BIGELOW BRAND)
- 2 WHOLE CINNAMON STICKS
- 1 CUP CANE SUGAR
- 2-4 WHOLE LEMONS
- 1 BTL DISTILLED WATER
- YOUR CHOICE OF BOURBON WHISKEY

WHAT TOOLS YOU NEED:

- SHAKER TINS (OR MASON JAR)
- MIXING SPOON
- STRAINER
- JIGGER, SHOT GLASS OR TBLSPON
- HIGHBALL GLASS
- ROCKS GLASS
- ICE

WANT TO TAKE YOUR MIXOLOGY UP A NOTCH?
LOOKING FOR COCKTAIL TOOL RECOMMENDATIONS?
EMAIL: LEX@SERVINGLIFEBEHINDBARS.COM

SERVING LIFE BEHIND
BARS

SERVING LIFE BEHIND
BARS

Vanilla Chai Whiskey Sour

WHISKEY SOUR RECIPE

READY TO SHAKE?! LETS GET TO MIXING!

RECIPE YIELDS 1 SERVING

IN YOUR SHAKER ADD:
2OZ BOURBON
1OZ VANILLA CHAI SYRUP
3/4OZ LEMON JUICE
ICE

SHAKE 15 SECONDS

STRAIN INTO ROCKS GLASS OVER FRESH ICE

GARNISH W/ LEMON WHEEL & CINNAMON STICK

WANT TO TAKE YOUR MIXOLOGY UP A NOTCH?
LOOKING FOR COCKTAIL TOOL RECOMMENDATIONS?
EMAIL: LEX@SERVINGLIFEBEHINDBARS.COM

SERVING LIFE BEHIND
BARS

SERVING LIFE BEHIND
BARS

Checklist Non-Alcoholic Ramos Fizz

GROCERY LIST

WHAT YOU'LL NEED FOR THE MOCKTAIL

- HEAVY WHIPPING CREAM
- 4 EGGS
- 1 CUP CANE SUGAR
- 2-YOUR FAVORITE LACROIX SPARKLING WATER
- 2-3 WHOLE LEMONS
- 3-4 WHOLE LIMES
- 1 BTL DISTILLED WATER

WHAT TOOLS YOU NEED:

- SHAKER TINS (OR MASON JAR)
- MIXING SPOON
- STRAINER
- JIGGER, SHOT GLASS OR TBLSPON
- HIGHBALL GLASS
- ROCKS GLASS
- ICE

WANT TO TAKE YOUR MIXOLOGY UP A NOTCH?
LOOKING FOR COCKTAIL TOOL RECOMMENDATIONS?
EMAIL: LEX@SERVINGLIFEBEHINDBARS.COM

SERVING LIFE BEHIND
BARS

SERVING LIFE BEHIND
BARS

Ramos Fizz Non Alcoholic

RAMOS FIZZ RECIPE

READY TO SHAKE?! LETS GET TO MIXING!

IN YOUR SHAKER
ADD

1 EGG WHITE
2OZ HEAVY CREAM
1OZ LEMON JUICE
1OZ LIME JUICE
2OZ SIMPLE SYRUP
1OZ SPARKLING SODA

DRY SHAKE (NO ICE) FOR 1 MINUTE
UNTIL FROTHY
ADD 4 ICE CUBES AND SHAKE UNTIL DISSOLVED
POUR INTO HIGHBALL GLASS AND LET SET

POUR REMAINING SODA DIRECTLY IN THE MIDDLE
OF COCKTAIL

GARNISH WITH LEMON PEEL AND STRAW.
WANT TO TAKE YOUR MIXOLOGY UP A NOTCH?
LOOKING FOR COCKTAIL TOOL RECOMMENDATIONS?
EMAIL: LEX@SERVINGLIFEBEHINDBARS.COM

SERVING LIFE BEHIND
BARS

Members Launch SWS-North!!!

Join fellow SWS'ers on May 30th, 2021 from 4:30-6:30pm MDT, to celebrate the official launch of SWS-North, the Canadian chapter of the Sociologists for Women in Society!



Follow us on Twitter: [@sws_north](https://twitter.com/sws_north)

The poster features a purple background with a large yellow abstract shape on the right side. At the top, it says 'SWS-NORTH' in yellow. Below that, 'LAUNCH EVENT' is written in large white letters. A registration link and agenda information are provided in the middle. At the bottom, there are three portrait photos of the organizers and the event details.

SWS-NORTH

LAUNCH EVENT

Register at <https://bit.ly/3dAJGTC>

Agenda To Follow Soon!

SAVE THE DATE!
MAY 30TH, 2021
2:30 - 4:30 PM (MST)
ONLINE VIA ZOOM