



**Pennsylvania
Sociological
Society
Annual Meeting**

**November 6-7, 2020
Virtual Conference**

Welcome to the 70th Annual Meeting Message from the President



Dear Colleagues,

The year 2020 is unlike anything any of us imagined, and yet we gather together, in this our seventieth year of existence, as a community of scholars to hold one of the enduring academic rituals – the academic conference. The disruptive change prompted by the global pandemic helped bring the Pennsylvania Sociological Society into the twenty-first century with our first ever virtual conference. Our lovely and scenic commonwealth presents geographical challenges when it comes to attending a one-day conference often held in the eastern part of the state. Thanks to the virtual format, we garnered submissions from across Pennsylvania and from other states as well, which will no doubt enrich our conference experience.

The theme of the day, chosen well in advance, is *Celebrating Our 70th Year*. The Pennsylvania Sociological Society has much to celebrate, not the least of which is the cadre of committed professionals who have kept the organization thriving. Thank you to everyone who has played a role in PSS over the years, and especially to those who continue to remain active well into retirement. Now is the time to cultivate in our students the next generation of sociologists, and amongst them, the leaders to whom we can entrust the future of PSS.

I sincerely hope your experience of the PSS 2020 Virtual Conference gives you a few hours of normalcy, and time to indulge in thoughtful conversations with colleagues about topics in the discipline that you love. Please contact us if you would like to become more involved with PSS beyond attending and/or presenting this year.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Tyler Bugaighis, Ph.D.
PSS President, 2019-2020
ebugaighis@northampton.edu

Barbara Prince, Ph.D.
PSS President-Elect, 2020-2021
prince@lvc.edu

Michele Kozimor-King, Ph.D.
PSS Immediate Past President
kozimor-kim@etown.edu

Samuel Claster, Ph.D.
PSS Secretary, 2019-2020
sclaster@edinboro.edu

Jeffrey Langstraat, Ph.D.
PSS Treasurer
jangstraat@ccac.edu

Patricia Neff Claster, Ph.D.
Editor, *Sociological Viewpoints*
pnclaster@edinboro.edu

Visit the Website to Learn More
<https://www.pasocsociety.net/>

Keynote Speaker

Nichole R. Stokes, Ph.D.

Associate Provost for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Saint Joseph's University



Leading Through Crisis: Making the Case for the Continued Relevance of Sociology

Sociology is the only academic discipline that focuses on analysis of individuals within systems and groups and across systems and groups. In a world and society where systems are being challenged and taxed to do more and to be more to a more diverse range of people and needs, it is imperative that a systems approach to solutions lead people and groups through this time of crisis, social and political unrest. C. Wright Mills said, "Neither the life of an individual nor the history of a society can be understood without understanding both." This quote is as relevant today as it was at the time the Sociological Imagination was written. This is a time and call for sociologists to lean into our training and skills to make sense of the seemingly chaotic and chart a path forward.

Dr. Nicole R. Stokes is Associate Provost for Diversity Equity and Inclusion at Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia. During her 25 year journey in higher education, Dr. Stokes has held a variety of faculty and administrative positions at both two-year and four-year institutions. Her academic interests include citizenship studies, international migration, and political systems.

Dr. Stokes holds bachelor's degrees in sociology and journalism, a master in arts in sociology and a master of professional studies in multicultural education from the State University of New York College at New Paltz. She earned a Ph.D. in sociology and public policy at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst and is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania's MSI Aspiring Leaders Program at the Penn Center for Minority Serving Institutions.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Friday, November 6, 2020

7:00-8:30pm

Town Hall: Sociology in a Time of Crisis

Zoom link:

The Town Hall is an opportunity to engage in a free exchange of ideas. The session will purposefully have a loose structure in order to provide for time to discuss topics of concern to sociology professors, professionals, and students. Subjects might include teaching and learning during the pandemic, the grassroots movement protesting police violence against the Black community, and the presidential election – and how we can use the discipline of sociology to comprehend our current reality.

Saturday, November 7, 2020

9:15 am Opening Remarks

Elizabeth Bugaighis

Barbara Prince

Reminder about PSS Election of Officers

Elizabeth Bugaighis

9:30 am – 10:15 am

Session 1- Undergraduate Poster Competition Session

ZOOM LINK

Presider: Barbara Prince, Lebanon Valley College

Perceptions of Gun Control on Campus

Tyler Frye, Penn State University, Altoona

Perceptions of MAT and Narcan: Assessing the Influence of Stigma on First Responders Attitudes

Payton Perry, Penn State University, Altoona

College Students' Views of Police Legitimacy: Influence of Knowledge and Confidence on Attitudes

Cameron Banjak-Corle, Penn State University, Altoona

Academic Disparity Facing Boys Across the United States

Christopher Wilson, York College

10:30 am-11:15 pm

Keynote Speaker

ZOOM LINK

Leading Through Crisis: Making the Case for the Continued Relevance of Sociology

Nicole R. Stokes, Associate Provost of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
Saint Joseph's University

Introduction by Elizabeth Bugaighis, Northampton Community College

11:30 am-12:45 pm

Session 2 – Special Topic Paper Session – COVID-19

ZOOM LINK

Presider: TBA

Followership and COVID-19 Protocols
Scott Litwiller, Indiana Wesleyan University

COVID-19, Risk Perception and Mental Noise
Bethany Van Brown, Cabrini University

Interaction Norms in the COVID-19 Era, or How Grocery Shopping is like Remarriage
Denise Copelton, SUNY Brockport

Measuring Household Experiences during the Coronavirus Pandemic
Joe Quartullo, Census Bureau

1:00 am-2:15 pm
Concurrent Sessions

Session 3A- General Paper Session

ZOOM LINK

Presider: Barbara Prince, Lebanon Valley College

The Desire for a Partner and the Desire for Children: The Relationship between Mate Selection and Fertility Aspirations in China

Timothy Madigan, Mansfield University
Co-Author Sampson Lee Blair, The State University of New York, Buffalo

Surveillance Regimes, Social Control, and Managing Semi-Legitimacy in the US Cannabis Industry

Alex Kinney, The University of Arizona, Graduate Paper

Masculinity and Environmental Values
Timothy Madigan, Mansfield University
Sam Pelletier, Université Laval, Quebec

Do Race, Gender, and Education Affect Employment in Precarious Work? A Comparison of Asian American and White Outcomes
Ewa Protasiuk, Temple University, Graduate Paper

Parental influence on Generation ME college course behaviors
Janice Purk, Mansfield University

Session 3B: General Paper Session

ZOOM LINK

Presider: TBA

Completing the Promise of Your Research Question: Using Insights from Fiction Writing to Craft Better Qualitative Research Stories
Valerie Gunter, Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Giving the Social (and Society) a Lift Using Collaborative Learning and Team Development Interventions
Jacqueline Zalewski, West Chester University
Susan Brudvig, Northern Kentucky University

Sociology, Fast and Slow
Richard Moodey, Gannon University & Allegheny College

'#MeToo(LS)': How to Use #MeToo in the College Classroom
Bethany Van Brown, Cabrini University

Overlooked Opportunities for Applied Sociology
Arthur Shostak, Drexel University

Erostratus Rising: Framing Neoliberalism, Anonymity and the Promise of Violent Celebrity
Andrew Owen, Lebanon Valley College

2:30 pm-3:45 pm
Concurrent Sessions

Session 4A: Undergraduate Paper Session

ZOOM LINK

Presider: Barbara Prince, Lebanon Valley College

#Instagay: The Uses and Gratification of Photo-Based Social Networking for Gay Men
Tyler Burgese, Temple University

Elders in the Age of COVID: A quantitative study of Effectivity of Coping Skills and Quality of Life during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Eliza Zapata, York College

Beyond Black and White: The Effects of Age, Sex, and Socioeconomic Status on Experiences of Everyday Discrimination

Cierra Stevens, Elizabethtown College

Loving is All You Need: The Effects of Race, Age, and Education on Views of Interracial Marriage

Rebecca Li, Elizabethtown College

Forced resocialization during the Holocaust: Notes Through the Sociological Lens

Kristin Newvine, Penn State University

Session 4B: General Paper Session

ZOOM LINK

Presider: Paul Muniz, Bucknell University

A Paradox in Homelessness: Why Black Communities Observe Lower Rates of Black Homelessness

Paul Muniz, Bucknell University

Co-Authors Aries Contreras, Bucknell University; Clara M. Elpi; Mackenzie Majewski; Lindsey Schwalm, Bucknell University

Social Factors Contributing to Veteran Suicidal Ideation

Andrew Butch, Penn State University, Harrisburg

Co-Author Jeremy Lewis, Penn State University, Harrisburg

Labeling, Stigma, and Bias in Police Officer Responses to the Opioid Epidemic: An Integrated Assessment

Nathan Krus, Penn State University, Altoona

Getting Buzzed while Thinking about the Future: Adolescent Substance Use and Self-Efficacy

Sampson Lee Blair, The State University of New York, Buffalo

Co-Authors Patricia Claster, Edinboro University and Samuel Claster, Edinboro University

Undergraduate Housing Audit in a Small College Town

Nicholas Rowland, Penn State University, Altoona

Nathan Krus, Penn State University, Altoona

3:50 pm

ZOOM LINK

Election

Awards & Election Results

4:00 pm

ZOOM LINK

PSS Business Meeting – All Welcome to Attend

Presenters and Abstracts Organized by Session Number

Session 1- Undergraduate Poster Competition Session

Tyler Frye, Penn State University, Altoona
tsf5114@psu.edu

Perceptions of Gun Control on Campus

With an increase in incidents of mass shootings in recent years—some taking place in educational settings—questions have been raised about public access to “military-style” weapons and need for additional measures of gun control. To date though, scholarly work in this area has largely ignored perceptions of students in the Northeastern Region of the United States. Further, much of the prior work in this area has failed to control for measures of participants’ knowledge of guns and understanding of current gun-related policies in prediction modeling. The goal of this project is to help fill these gaps in literature by assessing student perceptions of various forms of general gun control among a sample of undergraduate students enrolled in one university located in the Northeastern United States. Further, this work contributes to the available literature by exploring the impact of knowledge of gun functioning and gun policies on support for gun control while also controlling for perceptions of campus safety and confidence in police. Results show that students were fairly neutral in their attitudes toward stricter gun control ($M = 3.07$). Interestingly, findings suggest that as perceptions of safety on campus increased, so too did student support for stricter forms of gun control ($p < .10$). Surprisingly, police confidence was unrelated to students’ attitudes toward gun regulation. However, consistent with previous findings, exposure to guns was a statistically significant ($p < .01$) and negative “predictor” of support for greater gun control. Similarly, as hypothesized, knowledge was statistically significant ($p < .05$) and negatively related to support for gun control. These findings suggest that students who understand gun functioning, and current gun legislation, do not support stricter gun legislation. Potential policy implications are noted within.

Payton Perry, Penn State University, Altoona
pmp5365@psu.edu

Perceptions of MAT and Narcan: Assessing the Influence of Stigma on First Responders Attitudes

The processing of justice-involved persons who struggle with substance use dependency issues related to opioids is a serious problem in the American Criminal Justice System. In response to this problem, criminal justice agencies across the nation have begun incorporating harm reduction strategies, such as having officers and other first responders carry and administer Narcan. Further, many correctional agencies have started to partner with substance use treatment centers that offer Medication-assisted Treatment (MAT). To date, there has been little effort to systematically assess perceptions of Narcan and MAT among first responders. The goal of this project was to help fill these gaps in the literature by assessing first responders’ ($N = 282$, e.g., police officers and EMT/Paramedics) attitudes, perceptions, and beliefs related to the use of Narcan and MAT. Further, this work explores the impact of provider-based stigma on shaping these attitudes. Results show that first responders were relatively neutral in their attitudes toward the use of MAT and Narcan. Support for the disease model of addiction was found to be associated with more positive attitudes toward the use of Narcan and MAT. Moreover, findings show that practitioners who placed greater provider-based stigma onto drug users reported less favorable attitudes toward the use of Narcan and MAT. These findings indicate the importance of implementing training courses on substance use addiction and anti-stigma campaigns directed at first responders and students who want to become first responders.

Cameron Banjak-Corle, Penn State University, Altoona
cmb7055@psu.edu

College Students’ Views of Police Legitimacy: Influence of Knowledge and Confidence on Attitudes

The goals of this paper were, to find a relationship between knowledge of police functions and attitudes towards police legitimacy. To see if knowledge of police functions has an effect on the general public's

confidence in police. And to assess students' confidence in police, related to perceptions of police legitimacy.

Christopher Wilson, York College
cwilson13@ycp.edu

Academic Disparity Facing Boys Across the United States

Academic disparity has been a frequent topic of discussion within the United States, especially when in concern for the disadvantages plaguing girls within the education system. However, many researchers have discovered that girls are outperforming boys in academic achievement across all age and ethnic lines, thus initiating a major gender shift in college enrollment and occupational attainment. Current data on the COVID-19 pandemic suggests that policies which have enacted American school shutdowns and remote learning will further contribute to an increase in gendered academic achievement gaps observed today. My review of the literature was compiled into two main sections: the influence of teachers on male academic achievement and the role in which male students play on their own academic progress. Themes explored under the former topic included the impact that a teacher's gender perception, curriculum, and class structure may possess in shaping male academic disparity. Subjects explored for how personal factors may affect the student's academic success within the classroom included their perceptions of teachers, their overall academic proclivities, and their racial and socioeconomic composition. Most consistently represented throughout the literature is that teachers possess a significant role in shaping the scholastic advancement of students within an educational setting, and that a healthy student-teacher relationship is paramount to addressing the needs of all students and encouraging male academic achievement.

Session 2 – Special Topic Paper Session – COVID-19

Scott Litwiller, Indiana Wesleyan University
scott.litwiller@myemail.indwes.edu

Followership and COVID-19 Protocols

The current COVID-19 pandemic places normal procedures and practices in, what seems like, a never-ending spin. The pandemic affects the dyadic relationship between leaders and followers, as well. For example, leaders in the health field make recommendations to governmental leaders, and some of these recommendations are followed and some are not. In a similar manner, some social distancing protocols decreed by governmental authorities are followed and some are not. In his book *The Courageous Follower*, Ira Chaleff (2009) describes different types of followers based on two dimensions. One dimension of followership relates to the support a follower gives to a leader, and the other dimension relates to the degree to which the follower is willing to challenge the leader. Placing these two dimensions perpendicular to each other creates four quadrants, one quadrant for each type of follower: partner, implementer, individualist, and resource. This conference presentation will describe Chaleff's types of followers and relate followership responses to COVID-19 protocols. In addition to exploring the leadership-followership relationship, the presentation will conclude by exploring Chaleff's ideas about how to encourage followers to be courageous by standing up to and/or for our leaders.

Bethany Van Brown, Cabrini University
bv10082@cabrini.edu

COVID-19, Risk Perception and Mental Noise

When the CDC declared COVID-19 a pandemic in the middle of the spring 2020 semester, undergraduate students across the country had to suddenly vacate campus and finish their coursework online. Both students and faculty quickly learned the challenges of online learning. To be clear, the unforeseen scramble to move online over just a few days was distinctly challenging. Faculty were forced to overhaul lesson plans overnight. The pandemic exacerbated already stark inequalities among students in terms of access to the internet and equipment like laptops. Researchers, practitioners and experts are just beginning to uncover the ramifications of COVID on students of all ages. The Sociology of risk emphasizes that risks are always situated in a social context and are connected to actors' activities. Risk perception is a key component of studying risk, and determines the level of concern, worry, anger, fear and hostility, which are the subjective factors that influence how people interpret a threat. COVID-19 presents core risk

factors such as uncertainty and lack of understanding that influence risk perception. The mental noise model involves understanding how people perceive information under conditions of stress and suggests that in such high concern situations like terrorism, the ability for effective communication is impaired. If values are threatened, mental agitation creates mental noise that interferes with an individual's ability to respond rationally. Using data collected from an online survey that was deployed one week after a small, liberal arts, Catholic University pivoted online in March 2020, I make the argument that the COVID-19 pandemic is a high concern situation that is creating mental noise for college students and that risk factors are being exacerbated by current events like Black Lives Matter demonstrations and a divisive presidential election.

Denise Copelton, SUNY Brockport
dcopelto@brockport.edu

Interaction Norms in the COVID-19 Era, or How Grocery Shopping is like Remarriage

Rapid social change necessitated by the novel coronavirus has disrupted many taken-for-granted social norms that, in the pre-COVID-19 era, were highly institutionalized, thus providing standard recipes that guided social interactions in predictable ways. I discuss three common social activities impacted by social distancing and/or masking mandates during the COVID-19 pandemic: shopping and procuring other goods and services; spending time outdoors; and socializing with persons outside one's immediate household. My focus is on the micro-level face-to-face interactions the three chosen activities entail and how interaction norms and the common stock of knowledge on which these are based are being rewritten. I discuss the socially awkward nature of the interpersonal interactions comprising each activity given the fuzzy social norms now governing them.

Joe Quartullo, Census Bureau
joequartullo@gmail.com

Measuring Household Experiences during the Coronavirus Pandemic

The U.S. Census Bureau, in collaboration with multiple federal agencies, is in a unique position to produce data on the social and economic effects of coronavirus on American households. The Household Pulse Survey was designed to deploy quickly and efficiently, collecting data to measure household experiences during the coronavirus pandemic. Data is being disseminated in near real-time to inform federal and state response and recovery planning. Phase 1 of the Household Pulse Survey (published weekly from 4/23/20 to 7/21/20) asked individuals about their experiences in terms of employment status, food security, housing, physical and mental health, access to health care, educational disruption, changes in consumer patterns, the availability of consumer goods, and other abrupt and significant changes to American life. In Phase 2 (published bi-weekly beginning 8/19/20), the survey carries over many of these questions to allow users to understand how these domains are changing as the pandemic continues, and will include additional questions on the application and receipt of benefits, spending patterns, and availability of financial resources, post-secondary education disruptions, capacity to telework, and travel practices. Data is published at 3 levels: the 15 largest Metropolitan Statistical Areas, all states and the nation. Join us for a demo of how to access and understand this important and timely data.

Session 3A- General Paper Session

Timothy Madigan, Mansfield University
tmadigan@mansfield.edu

Co-Author Sampson Lee Blair, The State University of New York, Buffalo

The Desire for a Partner and the Desire for Children: The Relationship between Mate Selection and Fertility Aspirations in China

Over recent years, the legal restrictions concerning the number of childbirths in China have been relaxed, primarily in an effort to increase overall fertility rates. Concurrently, marriage rates have been declining, while cohabitation and singlehood rates have been increasing. Within the context of greater individualism and materialism, the traditional tenets of Chinese culture nonetheless maintain the expectation that family lineage will be continued, thus making marriage and parenthood strongly expected of young men and women. Using a sample of young adult in China, this study examines the relationship between mate selection preferences and fertility aspirations. Both men and women are shown to have strong desires to

have children, and to do so at a relatively young age. However, higher fertility expectations among women are shown to be associated with more materialistic qualities (e.g., higher income) in a male partner, while fertility expectations among men are more significantly associated with the physical and personality attributes of a female partner. The results are discussed within the framework of social exchange theory, and the implications for future fertility patterns in China are examined.

Alex Kinney, The University of Arizona, Graduate Paper
abk5074@email.arizona.edu

Surveillance Regimes, Social Control, and Managing Semi-Legitimacy in the US Cannabis Industry
Commercial cannabis in the United States operates as a semi-legitimate “gray” market due to a conflict between federal and state laws. This article draws on 56 interviews with cannabis professionals across Texas, Arizona, and California to explore how participants in a gray market manage semi-legitimacy. Analysis shows that each state configures a unique surveillance regime to implement social control that is tethered to the particular government agency responsible for regulating the commercial cannabis program. In Texas, the Department of Public Safety establishes a preventative surveillance regime that configures commercial cannabis by treating businesses as potential deviants. In Arizona, the Department of Health establishes an anticipatory surveillance regime that configures commercial cannabis by treating businesses as routine deviants. In California, multiple state agencies establish an integrative surveillance regime that configures commercial cannabis by treating businesses as previous deviants. I argue that in addition to structuring the commercial cannabis market in meaningful ways, these surveillance regimes also offer a heuristic for cannabis professionals to identify ways to manage semi-legitimacy through their business practices. This study broadens scholarly understandings of the how the government and private sector co-constitute surveillance initiatives and suggests new directions in the study of gray markets more broadly. IRB Approval Date: 04/20/18. IRB Protocol Number: 1803420496

Timothy Madigan, Mansfield University
tmadigan@mansfield.edu
Sam Pelletier, Université Laval, Quebec
samuelpelletier96@hotmail.com

Masculinity and Environmental Values

A review of the literature reveals a lack of research regarding the connections between men, masculinities and the environment. Women, in general, express more environmental values than men. Patriarchal gender regimes, still present in modern societies despite some improvements in women’s condition, are seen by many experts as contributing to subordination of women and environmental degradation. Critics of globalization argue that it has provided the conditions for a world-scale hegemonic masculinity. Meanwhile, high modernity writers point out the connection between globalization and major ecological crises. This study tests for the relationship between masculinity and environmental concern among a convenience sample of Chinese college students living in the world’s second largest economy. China’s economy has been experiencing double digit growth for several decades before the Trump administration and Covid-19. China has become the number one greenhouse gas emitting country. It has also been found by some researchers to have rising levels of patriarchy in the post-Mao era. Thus, China is an important country for investigating the possible connection between masculinity and the environment. This study employed the Multicultural Masculinity Ideology and the New Ecological Paradigm scales. Men scored higher than women on the former and lower on the latter scale. A small, significant negative correlation was found between the two. When analyzed by gender, the correlation was again negative but stronger and significant for men and weaker and insignificant for women.

Ewa Protasiuk, Temple University, Graduate Paper
ewa.protasiuk@temple.edu

Do Race, Gender, and Education Affect Employment in Precarious Work? A Comparison of Asian American and White Outcomes

Precarious work, in which risk is borne by workers rather than employers, has serious implications in societies with weak social safety nets and a lack of protections for workers. Previous studies have suggested differences in the prevalence of precarious work by race and gender, as well as in the protective effects of education. While the socioeconomic outcomes and successes of Asian Americans have been a plentiful area of study, scholars have not yet investigated the extent of precarious work among this group.

Using 2018 Current Population Survey data, I use logistic regression to compare the likelihood of precarious work for Asian Americans and whites in several nested models. Controlling for background variables, I find that white people are more likely to be employed in precarious work than Asian Americans, and the difference in likelihood between racial groups is larger than that within race by gender. Education explains some though not all of the effect of race and gender on precarious work, and the education is the most protective against precarious work for Asian American men. These findings are consistent with research on Asian American hyper-selectivity and gendered immigration patterns, as well as theories of racialized assimilation. Rather than negating the continued racialization of Asian Americans, my findings are further evidence of the ramifications of highly selective immigration policy and the contingency of precarity.

Janice Purk, Mansfield University
jpurk@mansfield.edu

Parental influence on Generation ME college course behaviors

In the exploration of student classroom behaviors related to bullying of professors multiple research articles address the influence of parenting styles on students who bully as well as the general effect on the current generation behaviors. Few researchers have examined the parental relation concerning classroom behavior. A survey instrument was developed in hopes to examine the relationship of parenting to student classroom behavior and possible aggression to their instructors. The increased parental involvement is known as the "...helicopter parents who hover over their students' academic and social lives at college, immediately coming to the rescue at the first sign of distress" (Wartman, 2009, p. 114-115) is where some of the concern for the classroom. Parents are influencing students' behavior in the classroom including studying behavior, interaction with classmates, academic advisors, and faculty (Hunt, 2008). However, Edelman's (2013) research shows that the population of helicopter parents is small in comparison to the overall parent population, yet this type of over-involvement can be damaging to students' success in college. The preliminary data collection of ninety students from a North Central Pennsylvania university shows that more than 80% of parents are actively involved in their child's academic success and give advice on how to deal with the college issues and make their important decisions. Seventy percent of students who responded feel obligated to meet their parents' expectations. Few report that their parents contact their professors on to influence grading. The students report little perceived disrespectful behavior toward their professors with only 2% reporting being verbally disrespecting their professors in person or through email and challenging their authority. More than 4% report answering their phones in the classroom and leaving hostile comments on evaluations. Further analysis when the data collection is complete will exam correlations between students and parental actions in the college arena.

Session 3B: General Paper Session

Valerie Gunter, Indiana University of Pennsylvania
val.gunter@iup.edu

Completing the Promise of Your Research Question: Using Insights from Fiction Writing to Craft Better Qualitative Research Stories

All academic research tells a story, but in qualitative research the role of writing to convey that story is especially central. This paper uses insights from fiction writing to help graduate students not only craft good qualitative research questions, but also understand how they need to follow through to deliver the research story promised by their research questions. Speculative fiction writer Orson Scott Card divides fictional stories into four broad types: milieu, idea, character, and event. This paper links these fictional divisions to four types of qualitative research: ethnography, grounded theory, interpretive biography, and phenomenology. Card's directive to fiction writers is that they must finish with the kind of story they start with, and each of these types of stories has a definitive ending. A milieu story ends when the characters leave the milieu being explored, an idea story ends when a mystery is solved, a character story ends when one or more characters change, and an event story ends when the particular challenges characters are wrestling with are resolved in some manner. In like manner, if a research question proposes an ethnography, embedded in that question is a promise to richly describe the material and non-material culture of an organizational or community milieu. If a research question proposes a grounded theory

study, embedded in that question is a promise to thoroughly explore some facet of reality until one has fully developed an inductively-developed theoretical account of why things are the way they are. This paper will develop these ideas through an in-depth exploration of phenomenology. It will argue that simply plopping on the label of “phenomenology” to indicate an interest in meaning, or some vague understanding of multiple social realities, is insufficient. The promise of a phenomenological study in the research question must be delivered in the analytic techniques.

Jacqueline Zalewski, West Chester University

jzalewski@wcupa.edu

Susan Brudvig, Northern Kentucky University

brudvigs1@nku.edu

Giving the Social (and Society) a Lift Using Collaborative Learning and Team Development Interventions

Group work has been instituted in Introduction to Sociology courses in a series of five projects. In addition to learning about sociology, its concepts, and inequality, an important learning goal of group work is for students to demonstrate the skills of cooperation and collaboration. Midway in the six-semester research period (fall 2018), faculty added collaborative learning (CL) principles. CL emphasizes students’ negotiated division of labor, with added faculty engineering. Team development interventions (TDIs) were also instituted then. TDIs included the proactive support of faculty through: 1. an in-class facilitated discussion of team projects, typical problems in group work, modeling student problem-solving when issues arise, and an emphasis on faculty’s “backup” role; 2. submitting individual peer assessments for each project with watchful faculty observation; and 3. other proactive faculty support (i.e., availability in the classroom before and after each class; responsiveness to student emails reporting a problem; with permission, confronting the group or problem student). Both CL and TDI measures were used to improve the social aspects of student group work, reduce student resistance to it, and the problems commonly reported by students (e.g., free riders). A comparison of survey findings pre- and post-CL and TDIs show the combination significantly improved the social aspects of student group work including interactions, cohesion, perceptions of, and treatment of others (with z-test significance scores from 2.983 to 7.480). While student reports of common problems in group work increased, we find important learning goals, attitudinal competencies, and dispositional attributes—in a process of “heedful interrelating” (Daniel & Jordan 2017)—were achieved using CL and TDIs. The combination, we theorize, provides a social psychological safety climate for student group work and produces attitudinal and dispositional change among students that benefits their social interactions in group work (and society).

Richard Moodey, Gannon University & Allegheny College

moodey001@gannon.edu

Sociology, Fast and Slow

Daniel Kahneman reported on the studies he and Amos Tversky conducted in judging and deciding. Although a psychologist, Kahneman won a Nobel Prize in Economics for providing the psychological foundations for behavioral economics. Had Tversky been still alive, he would have shared the prize with Kahneman. I argue that the work of Kahneman and Tversky is as important for sociology as it is for behavioral economics. The importance is both theoretical and methodological. Sociological theory can be enriched by a better understanding of the biases and heuristics of all social actors. Sociological methods can be improved by a better understanding of the biases and heuristics that distort sociological research when inquirers engage resort to “fast thinking,” instead of engaging in the “slow thinking” of good scientific inquiry.

Bethany Van Brown, Cabrini University

bv10082@cabrini.edu

‘#MeToo(LS):’ How to Use #MeToo in the College Classroom

College campuses nationwide are feeling the effects of Black Lives Matter protests, a divisive presidential election, a pandemic, and economic upheaval. Students are particularly spotlighting a wide range of social justice issues, pointing to the need for more inclusive, respectful and civil campuses. Instructors are on the frontlines, and there are choices to make around how we address these complex social problems in the classroom. Investigating what and how students learn can help faculty develop innovative teaching

practices that lead to significant learning gains. Teaching Victimology during the throes of the #MeToo Movement was uncharted territory, which was exciting and terrifying at the same time. I quickly learned that #MeToo solidified many of the myths about the course material I was trying to debunk, yet it also presented the opportunity to look closely and critically at student learning, with the intention of improving my own Victimology course. The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) as a field draws on a variety of methodological traditions. In this essay, I use reflection and analysis to propose a set of classroom techniques I call "MeToo(LS)," which are rooted in High Impact Practices. We as educators have much to gain from cultivating a learning environment that is conducive to meaningful dialogues. What we have to gain are tools and resources to do the work of social change, and as the field of Victimology evolves, my hope is the way we teach it does, too.

Arthur Shostak, Drexel University
arthurshostak@gmail.com

Overlooked Opportunities for Applied Sociology

Across six decades (1961-2020) of applying sociological insights to the remediation of pressing social problems I can highlight three overlooked ways colleagues can make a positive difference. I propose to define each and provide an example, the better to draw adopters. First, we can uncover weaknesses in a process unknown by the processors themselves, For example, when asked by Abortion Clinics to research protestors, on my own initiative I also interviewed clinic waiting room males who were invisible to clinic administrators. This resulted in the overdue provision of contraception education, etc. for the males, and their vital recruitment as political allies. A second overlooked way sociologists can help clients is by encouraging their discard of the "NIH" bias ("Not invented here"). Clients too often pass up transferable innovations "birthed" by competitors. I authored a book of over 150 field-tested reform ideas worth adaptation by this or that Labor Union, and thrilled at many successes. Sociologists can fine tune techniques for smoothing such profitable transfers. Third, social movements tend to ossify attitudes, values, and vision to their detriment. Sociologists can diplomatically nurture timely reconsideration of "verities," and aid significant revision. I am myself trying to earn a major reset in the Holocaust Narrative. It would pay now missing attention to nobility in care-providing - at risk of life - by victims of victims of victims. In sum, applied sociologists can uncover overlooked aids, promote (tabooed) adaptations, and advocate core alterations - all to the benefit of clients, the discipline's reputation, and ourselves.

Andrew Owen, Lebanon Valley College
owen@lvc.edu

Erostratus Rising: Framing Neoliberalism, Anonymity and the Promise of Violent Celebrity

This paper examines three films released in the final decades of the twentieth century. A period characterized by Reaganomics and Thatcherite neoliberalist economic policies, the unrelenting escalation of mass unemployment, and an unwavering brutality made manifest from the ashes of the Civil Rights and counterculture movements, embodied by 'the Troubles' in Northern Ireland and the fallout from Vietnam. The films in question include *Taxi Driver* (1976, Dir. Martin Scorsese), *Made in Britain* (1982; Dir. Alan Clarke), and, *Talk Radio* (1988; Dir. Oliver Stone); each creatively reflect upon and explore the effect of gesellschaft alienation; the devastation of anomic existence in the face of unrelenting capitalist exploitation; and the inevitability of urban decay, instigated by the erosion of the manufacturing industry. Centered amid a landscape of desperation, populated by peep shows, grind houses and dole offices, and inhabited by characters doomed to exist on the fringes of an apathetic society. A post-industrial landscape sickened by a contaminated Baudrillard consumerist code, teetering on the brink of apocalypse. An Inferno, where life is nothing more than a monotonous, poverty-ridden hell in which sex, drugs, even brutality, become only temporary cathartic refuge. An existence defined only by its meaninglessness, generating mental decay; creating a desire to rise above the masses, to be remembered, to be revered, where the perpetration of violence can serve as the catalyst for immortality. The films herald the twenty-first century; an economic wreckage from which emerges new embodiments of perverted supremacist ideals, identifying the immigrant as the source of their societal devolution. **Session 4A: Undergraduate Paper Session**

Tyler Burgese, Temple University
tyler.burgese@temple.edu

#Instagay: The Uses and Gratification of Photo-Based Social Networking for Gay Men

Through an inductive content analysis of 300 top photos posted to Instagram using the popular hashtag “Instagay,” this research uncovers patterns about what type of content prevails in this online community. Findings indicate strong preferences toward covert communications of desire and men with lighter skin tones. Men with darker skin tones were found to have severely limited potential for appearances and expressions of sexuality. By establishing set norms of gay male representation online, this community achieves gratification through collective definition and validation. These findings build on a growing body of literature on Instagram studies and the “queer publics” found within by characterizing the exchanges and values on the publicly available interface (Duguay, 2016). This study provides a framework that can be used to analyze other hashtag-based online communities and proves valuable in exploring the visual measures that Instagram users find worthy of interaction and approval.

Eliza Zapata, York College
ezapata1@ycp.edu

Elders in the Age of COVID: A quantitative study of Effectivity of Coping Skills and Quality of Life during the COVID-19 Pandemic

This study explores how elders in subsidized housing complexes in York implemented life and coping strategies to meet the challenges of the “Stay at Home” order in Pennsylvania. Because the pandemic is still active, I have chosen to do virtual key-informant interviews and a virtual focus group with staff at a large not-for-profit agency that primarily houses low-resource elders, so as not to expose the study audience to disease. My study will explore the impact of the “Stay at Home” orders on elders and staff of subsidized housing complexes including its effects on both physical and mental health of elders and employee morale. Literature has indicated that social isolation and loneliness, withdrawal from care, failure to thrive, stress response and management, and technology are all facets elders may be facing due to the pandemic. This data has important implications for staff of housing complexes as it will help them to develop programs and procedures that will keep elders safe without decreasing satisfaction or quality of life. I will do content analysis of the data collected during focus groups and present the results.

Cierra Stevens, Elizabethtown College
ccee279@gmail.com

Beyond Black and White: The Effects of Age, Sex, and Socioeconomic Status on Experiences of Everyday Discrimination

This research examines the effects of age, sex, and socioeconomic status (SES) on the self-reported experiences everyday discrimination. Everyday discrimination, is discrimination experienced in daily life in the form of microaggression, ranging from poor service in a restaurant to being followed around a store. This research adds to the limited literature examining experiences of everyday discrimination by including social factors including age, sex, and SES. The data for this research were obtained from the 2018 wave of the General Social Survey (GSS) conducted by the National Opinion Research Center (NORC) at the University of Chicago. After deleting missing cases, the sample size consisted of 1,467 individuals. Respondents reported being treated with less courtesy or respect as the most experienced type of discrimination, followed by receiving poor service in a store or restaurant. There was no relationship between sex and experiences of everyday discrimination. OLS linear regression showed that race had a weak effect on experiences of everyday discrimination when included with age, sex, and SES. Results from the bivariate and multivariate analysis show that younger individuals and those from a lower SES indicated more frequent experiences of everyday discrimination. Age had the most significant effect on experiences of everyday discrimination in both the bivariate and multivariate analyses. These results support the claim that race is not the only motive for discrimination.

Rebecca Li, Elizabethtown College
lir@etown.edu

Loving is All You Need: The Effects of Race, Age, and Education on Views of Interracial Marriage

In the years following the Supreme Court’s ruling in Loving v. Virginia, the number of interracial relationships in the United States have increased. Previous literature on views of interracial marriage has mostly examined views from white perspectives, with limited research from Black individuals’ perspectives. In addition, views of interracial marriage vary depending on the race/ethnicity of a potential

spouse. This research examined the effects of race, age, and education on views of interracial marriage. The data for this research was obtained from the 2018 wave of the General Social Survey (GSS), conducted by the National Opinion Research Center (NORC) at the University of Chicago. After deleting missing cases the total sample size consisted of 1,437 respondents. A significant number of respondents (34.9 percent) strongly favored marriage to a white individual. Marriage to a Black individual received the most opposition (11.5 percent). The results of the bivariate and multivariate analyses found that Black, young, liberal, and urban-dwelling respondents had more positive views of interracial marriage. This study updates the literature on views of interracial marriage and can be useful for those interested in studying race relations within the United States.

Kristin Newvine, Penn State University
kcn5069@psu.edu

Forced resocialization during the Holocaust: Notes Through the Sociological Lens

This sociologically informed historical essay is written in two parts, “In the Ghettos” and “In the Camps,” respectively. The author details the quickened socialization process orchestrated by the Nazis to resocialize Jews in their ghettoized communities and, later on, in concentration camps, hence the chief sensitizing concept developed in this paper, “forced resocialization.” This sensitizing concept, which was first mentioned but never formally developed by Blecker (2013: 248), is this paper’s main theoretical contribution to socialization studies in sociology and beyond. By adopting an historical sociological approach to analysis, this paper examines “forced resocialization” practices as adopted and employed by the Nazis, thus, this new concept will be examined not in the abstract but as it was practiced in the rearview mirror of history. While this paper is surely not the first to examine the empirical materials employed to develop this argument, it is, to the best of the author’s knowledge, the first to frame the efforts made by Nazis as not as “forced labor” and pivots to reconsider these practices as “forced resocialization” as these efforts both pre-date attempts to force labor from members of the Jewish community and encompass, even after mass encampment, a far broader array of behaviors than attempts to force or extract labor in concentration camps.

Session 4B: General Paper Session

Paul Muniz, Bucknell University
pm053@bucknell.edu

Co-Authors Aries Contreras, Bucknell University; Clara M. Elpi; Mackenzie Majewski; Lindsey Schwalm, Bucknell University

A Paradox in Homelessness: Why Black Communities Observe Lower Rates of Black Homelessness

The extent of black homelessness in the United States has been largely omitted or misinterpreted in the historical and academic records. This piece builds on recent research finding a net negative association between the percentage of a community identifying as black and its homelessness rate by probing deeper into the more specific association between a community’s proportion of black residents and rates of black homelessness. Early findings suggest a robust, negative association between a community’s proportion of black residents and its expected black homelessness rate. Relying on a small body of existing research concerned with black homelessness and housing instability, I hypothesize that the relative strength of black institutions (e.g., religious or community organizations) in disproportionately black cities and suburbs facilitates a de facto safety net that lifts some black residents out of homelessness and prevents entry for others. This hypothesis will be tested using a mixed methods approach.

Andrew Butch, Penn State University, Harrisburg
andrew.l.butch@gmail.com

Co-Author Jeremy Lewis, Penn State University, Harrisburg
jsl19@psu.edu

Social Factors Contributing to Veteran Suicidal Ideation

The medical model has been at the forefront of suicide research, but it is crucial to observe the phenomenon through a sociological lens as well. Dr. David J. Shulkin, the Veterans Affairs Secretary, stated that “of the 20 suicides a day that we recorded last year, 14 were not under Veterans Affairs care” (U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs 2017). Thus, ascertaining the social barriers for veterans seeking care is critical. A sample of 28 veterans were surveyed on several social factors and their personal

experiences. This was done in order to investigate the social conditions that may increase, or decrease, the likelihood of suicidal ideation. When asked about support systems, family and friends were the most common responses. When asked about the biggest challenges or sources of stress, financial, purpose or sense of belonging, and relationships were most frequent. Several respondents claimed an inability to be understood by family and friends who have not served. The findings are evidence that logotherapy, couples therapy, or group therapy may aid in stifling the rate of veteran suicides. This study identifies the major social conditions which contribute to veteran suicidal ideation.

Nathan Kruis, Penn State University, Altoona
nek132@psu.edu

Labeling, Stigma, and Bias in Police Officer Responses to the Opioid Epidemic: An Integrated Assessment

Stigma has been a hot topic of discussion amid the American Opioid Crisis. To date though, there has been little effort to explore provider-based stigma in the context of the American Criminal Justice System, and that which is available has failed to adequately examine the interrelationships between variants of provider-based stigma and occupational responses to persons who bear a stigmatizing label. Thus, the current project attempted to help fill these gaps in the literature by re-assessing provider-based stigma among a sample of 208 police officers working for departments located in the heart of the epidemic, and assessing the interrelationships between these variables and their relationship with officers' anticipated responses to overdose victims. Findings revealed that sampled officers hold moderate to high levels of stigma, and this stigma may influence the care that they are willing to provide to persons who struggle with substance use disorders. Theoretical and policy implications are discussed.

Sampson Lee Blair, The State University of New York, Buffalo
slblair@buffalo.edu

Co-Authors Patricia Claster, Edinboro University and Samuel Claster, Edinboro University
Getting Buzzed while Thinking about the Future: Adolescent Substance Use and Self-Efficacy

Although overall rates of adolescent substance use have decline over the past decade, the use of alcohol, tobacco, and marijuana are still commonly used by teens. Researchers have shown that substance use is associated with a variety of outcomes and consequences. However, these outcomes and effects have also been shown to vary, depending upon the specific type and nature of substance use. Using a representative sample of high school seniors, this study examines how the unique patterns of substance use may differentially impact the self-efficacy (perceptions of ability to perform future roles) of teens. The results show that, among both girls and boys, higher rates of tobacco use are associated with lower perceptions of self-efficacy. Interestingly, alcohol use appears to result in slightly higher levels of self-efficacy, while marijuana use is associated with higher self-efficacy among boys, but lower self-efficacy among girls. The results and conclusions are discussed within the framework of social cognitive theory.

Nicholas Rowland, Penn State University, Altoona
njr12@psu.edu

Nathan Kruis, Penn State University, Altoona
nek132@psu.edu

Undergraduate Housing Audit in a Small College Town

This presentation is about overseeing an undergraduate research project. Undergraduate students in a small college town conducted a methodologically sophisticated audit of local landlords renting to college students. Based on previous literature, student established a coherent, methodologically sound technique for estimating discrimination in college town renting markets. In the end, the raw count of data points was too small to run even basic predictive statistics; however, the sophisticated methodology devised by the students was so impressive, it challenged the faculty overseeing the project to reconsider their preconceived notions about projects like these. At first, the faculty considered the project effectively incomplete and, on the whole, inconclusive, possibly a kind of failure; however, over time, the faculty have rethought this position, and share it -- along with a blueprint of the project -- with the audience.