

Section on Children & Youth  
American Sociological Association

1307 New York Avenue NW Suite 700 Washington, DC 20005

# Child & Youth News

SPRING 2012

## A Message from the Chair

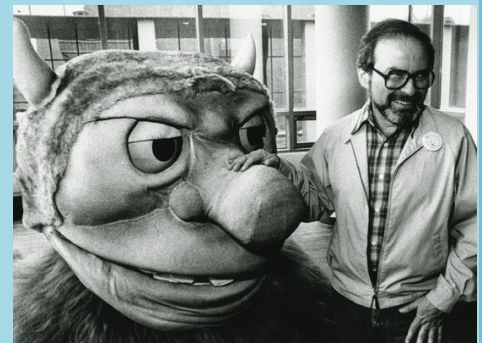
Dear Colleagues,

This month I was moved by the death of Maurice Sendak, author and illustrator of the children's book, *Where the Wild Things Are*, where a "wild rumpus" takes place. Born in the 1960s, I grew up with this book and *Children Soup and Rice*. As an adult I rediscovered Sendak's view of our world with my sons, Elliott and Gus, who were drawn to *Little Bear*, illustrated by Sendak. He took children seriously, characterizing them in his books as vulnerable yet also as willful, active participants in sometimes typical and other times rather fantastic contexts. Sendak reminds us that children are born bold and then socialized into submission. Much like Sendak, our section of sociology amplifies children's voices, perceptions and actions as we take children's experiences seriously in our teaching, research and advocacy.

We have an exciting Section program planned for the ASA meeting in Denver. Our Section reception and awards presentations will be held on Friday evening, August 17, at 6:30 at the Convention Center and Hyatt Regency, and our Section sponsored sessions will fall on both Friday and Saturday. We are coordinating two sessions with the Aging and the Life Course Section, so altogether we have six events: 1) an invited session on *Children, Youth and Life, What Has Age Got to Do with It?* 2) a co-sponsored session on *Children, Youth and the Future of Aging*, 3) a session on *Working with Youth*, 4) a session on *Children and the Post Industrial Economy*, 5) the *Children and Youth Refereed Roundtables* session in tandem with the Section business meeting and 6) the *Children and Youth Section Reception and Awards Presentations*. Please look for detailed information on each of the sessions later in this newsletter, and plan to arrive on Thursday for a terrific meeting. In the words of Sendak, "Let the wild rumpus start."

Very best wishes,

Loretta



## *Section on Children & Youth*

### *Mission Statement:*

The purpose of the Section on Children and Youth is to encourage the development and dissemination of sociological perspectives on children in the areas of research, theory, policy, practice, and teaching. Here, the term "children" includes every human being from infancy through the transition to adulthood.

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## *Announcements from The Children's Studies Center for Research, Policy & Public Service Brooklyn College-CUNY*

- ◆ Learn about the proceedings from the Children's Studies Center's National Consultation: : **"Social Justice for Children: To End Child Abuse and Violence Against Children"** held on November 4, 2011 at the Association of the Bar of the City of New York. On the **website** you will find complete videotaped recordings, transcriptions, and findings.
- ◆ Together with the Children's Studies Center, researchers, policy makers, and invited guests at the National Consultation endorsed a Joint Statement, which outlined major policy and legislative initiatives dedicated to the prevention of violence against children. **Sign the Joint Statement from the National Consultation on "Social Justice for Children to End Child Abuse and Violence Against Children" at this link.**
- ◆ The Center has submitted an Alternative Report on *Legislative Measures Giving Effect to the Optional Protocol* in New York State to the U.N. Committee on the Rights of the Child in Geneva for their meetings in January 2013 when the official U.S. Periodic Report on the *Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography* (OPSC) is scheduled for official discussion. The report and more information can be found **here**.

