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.

Section on Children and Youth Officers

CHAIR: Loretta Bass
University of Oklahoma
lbass@ou.edu

CHAIR-ELECT: Monica Kirkpatrick Johnson
Washington State University
monicakj@wsu.edu

PAST CHAIR: Robert Crosnoe
University of Texas, Austin
crosnoe@austin.utexas.edu

FOUNDING CHAIR: Gertrud Lenzer
Brooklyn College and the Graduate Center, CUNY
glenzerbrooklyn.cuny.edu

SECRETARY-TREASURER: Holly Foster
Texas A & M University
hfoster@tamu.edu

COUNCIL: Rachel Gordon
University of Illinois - Chicago
ragordon@uic.edu

Rosalind King
NICHD
rozking@mail.nih.gov

Holly Heard
Rice University
hheard@rice.edu

Pamela Quiroz
University of Illinois
paquiroz@uic.edu

Ann Meier
Minnesota University
meierann@umn.edu

David A. Kinney
Central Michigan University
kinne1da@cmich.edu

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES: Brian Gillespie
University of California-Irvine
bgillespi@uci.edu

Jason Blind
Indiana University
jblind@indiana.edu

PUBLICATION CHAIR: Janel Benson
Colgate University
jbenson@colgate.edu

WEBSITE EDITOR: Matthew Rafalow
University of California, Irvine
mrafalow@uci.edu

NEWSPAPER CO-EDITORS: Meghan Mordy
Colorado State University
meghan.mordy@colostate.edu

Sarah Patterson
IUPUI
sapatter@iupui.edu
Announcements from
The Children's Studies Center for
Research, Policy & Public Service
Brooklyn College-CUNY

♦ Lean 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.