

Fall 2012



American Sociological Association *1307 New York Avenue NW *Suite 700 *Washington, DC 20005

Children & Youth News

Letter from the Chair:

The Social Science Research Council just released their report for the Measure of America project, documenting that one in seven youth aged 16-24 in the United States are “disconnected,” neither in school nor working (see <http://www.measureofamerica.org/one-in-seven/>). This, along with the childhood poverty statistics that many of us are more familiar with, continue to remind us that social change has profound influences on the immediate lives of children and youth as well as the opportunities they have for the future. As we look toward our next ASA meeting, our section’s activities will reflect this theme of social change, as well as the larger conference theme of “Interrogating Inequality.” One of our section’s sessions will focus on “Children, Youth, and Troubled Economic Times,” organized by Jeremy Staff. A second will be “The Changing Transition to Adulthood: Developing Skills, Capacities and Orientations for Success,” organized by Richard Settersten. The final thematic session will focus on “Children, Youth and New Media,” organized by C.J. Pascoe. Our section’s refereed roundtables will be organized by Lori Peek. Watch for the Call for Papers toward the end of October.



These and other section activities would not be possible if not for the volunteer efforts of section members. Returning from the Denver ASA meeting, I am so grateful for Loretta Bass’s efforts in organizing this year’s section events as well as her leadership throughout the year. In addition to the lively sessions in Denver this year, it was a pleasure to relax with many of you at the section’s reception, where we honored the section’s award winners. The Early Career Award was given to Stefanie Mollborn (University of Colorado). Amy Schalet (University of Massachusetts) was honored with the Scholarly Contribution Award for her book, “Not Under My Roof: Parents, Teens and the Culture of Sex” (Chicago 2011). Three graduate students were also honored for with the Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award, including Jennifer Augustine (winner), Corina Graif (runner-up) and Freeden Oeur (runner-up).

Let me also offer a special thanks to outgoing council members Rachel Gordon and Rosalind King, and outgoing secretary-treasurer Holly Foster, for serving the section so ably over the past several years. We also had solid committees working for us this year, the leadership and membership of which are listed on page 2. Staffing of the 2012-2013 committees is underway and we always need volunteers to serve on those, as well as nominations for our section’s awards and content for the newsletter from the membership. Everybody has a part to play and I invite you to be an active member in your section.

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



Announcements from the Children's Studies Center for Research, Policy and Public Service at Brooklyn College of the City University of New York.

The Children's Studies Center would like to let you know about their most recent work, including:

The Optional Protocol to the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography (OPSC): The work of the Center was highlighted as exemplary of policy research and initiatives performed by academic institutions. (See relevant sections and references in US Treaty Report: http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/aca_centers_children/100201_TreatyReport.pdf)

The Center was invited to appear before the U.N. Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) at the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva, Switzerland. See highlights from Brooklyn College News web site: http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/news/bcnews/bcnews_120723.php

The Center held its 3rd Child Policy Forum of New York which were published in hard cover and can be found in electronic form at: http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/aca_centers_children/090206_CPFNY_Proceedings.pdf

The Proceedings of the National Consultation "Social Justice for Children: To End Child Abuse and Violence against Children," organized by the Children's Studies Center will shortly be published in hard cover. The Proceedings can also be found on at <http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/academics/centers/children.php>.

