

# Sexualities*News*

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION SECTION ON THE SOCIOLOGY OF SEXUALITIES

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## Statement by the Chair

Hello Sexualities Members!

As I write this, we mark the momentous occasion when same-sex couples can start to marry officially in California. However, I write this not in California, but in Virginia, one of forty-four states that have enacted some sort of legislation against such unions (Virginia's laws are particularly nasty in this respect). So this provides yet another moment for reflection, about how far we've come, and how very far we have yet to go. To play off the 2008 meeting theme, we have worlds of work to accomplish.

The ASA meetings in Boston will provide plenty of opportunity for reflecting, networking, and brainstorming about the state of the sociology of sexualities. To start, we have three great sessions planned. The session on same-sex marriage should shed much light on our very current events. Kristen Schilt and Laurel Westbrook have organized a provocative invited session on how transgender studies have impacted the sociology of sexualities and gender. Steven Epstein's session on sexualities, bodies, and health pulls together such diverse topics as sex work and professional wrestling. In addition to these sessions, our roundtable session looks great, with twenty presentations on a wide variety of topics. And don't forget our section's business meeting will be held on Sunday, August 3rd, at 11:30am. This is a great way to get more involved in the section.

On a more social note, our reception committee has found us the perfect place to cavort and to congratulate our award winners. The section's reception will be held Sunday, August 3rd, at 7:00 pm at Club Café, which is a very well reputed spot in Boston's South End neighborhood (209 Columbus Ave. Boston, MA 02116, [www.clubcafe.com](http://www.clubcafe.com)). Please mark your conference calendars and spread the word!

I'd like to thank all my fellow section members who have put in many hours making sure we met our various ASA deadlines for sessions and awards. I seldom had to crack my whip. Finally, I'd like to congratulate our newest chair-elect, the much-more-illustrious-than-I Beth Schneider. With Nancy Fischer's impending reign, and then Beth's, the section will be in very good hands indeed.

See you in Boston!

Tom Linneman

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## Key Dates

**August 1-4, 2008**, "Worlds of Work," the 103<sup>rd</sup> annual meeting of the ASA, Boston, MA.

NOTE: Sunday is the main day for section activities, starting at 8:30 a.m. with our first paper session, right through 7 p.m. for our reception (Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., near the Copley or Back Bay stops on the T) – be sure to come to the Business Meeting (11:30 a.m. on Sunday) for discount coupons you can use for dinner either before or after the reception, if you'd like to do that.

**December 15, 2008**, submission deadline for the Winter 2008/9 issue of *SexualitiesNews*.

**March 19-22, 2009**, Eastern Sociological Association meeting, Baltimore

**April 8-11, 2009**, Pacific Sociological Association meeting: San Diego (deadline for submissions: 10/15/2008)

## Have Something to Say?

Submit your brief announcements, 500-word essays, reviews, letters, art or photos for the next issue of *SexualitiesNews* to: Bayliss J. Camp, [bayliss.camp@csus.edu](mailto:bayliss.camp@csus.edu), Dept. of Sociology, CSU Sacramento, 6000 J St., Sacramento, CA 95819 Fax (916) 278-6281

## This Section

In the last decade or so, the study of sexuality has emerged as a vibrant interdisciplinary field of social analysis. For many years, sexuality was approached as an individual, biological or psychological phenomena. Today, the idea of sexuality as a social fact or construction is the point of departure for much of the most exciting scholarship in the area...

Sections are an important mechanism for getting out information about our specialty area... Section status also affords a variety of institutional supports from the ASA, including funding for information dissemination and a guaranteed number of paper sessions at the annual conference.

In short, we believe it is in the best interests of the discipline of sociology to advance the sociological study of sexuality. One way to promote this goal is to support the... "Sociology of Sexualities" as an ASA section and to encourage you to join... when you renew your membership in the ASA.

*Text written by Steve Seidman, Gil Zicklin, and Mark Hager*

## The Purpose

The purpose of the Section on the Sociology of Sexualities is to encourage, enhance and foster research, teaching and other professional activities in the sociology of sexuality, for the development of sociology and the benefit of society, through organized meetings, conferences, newsletters, publications, awards, and other means deemed appropriate by the Section Council.

The Section seeks to promote communication, collaboration, and consultation among scholars in sociology, the sociology of sexualities, and allied disciplines.

# 2008 ASA Annual Meeting Reception

**Date/Time:** Sunday 8/3, 7 p.m.

**Location:** Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., [www.clubcafe.com](http://www.clubcafe.com)

**Agenda:** Presentation of the section awards!

## Directions:

Club Café is only a short distance (10 minute walk) from the conference hotels and Hynes Convention Center:

From Sheraton Boston, Hilton Back Bay, or Hynes Convention Center: Follow Boylston Street east toward Copley Square, turn right (south) at Clarendon Street, and turn left at Columbus Ave. Club Cafe is located at the corner of Berkeley Street and Columbus Avenue.

From Marriott Copley Place Hotel: Follow Huntington Ave and turn right (south) on Dartmouth Street. Turn left on Columbus Ave. Club Cafe is located at the corner of Berkeley and Columbus.

Closest T stops: Copley (Green Line) or Back Bay (Orange Line)

Note: Club Café has a finely-regarded restaurant in addition to its bar, and is quite popular with men and women – straight, gay, or bi. If you'd like to eat at the restaurant, make sure to pick up your discount coupon(s) at the business meeting at 11:30 Sunday.

## Officers for 2008-9

<b>Chair</b> <b>Nancy L. Fischer</b> <i>Augsburg College</i> fischern@augsb.org	<b>Chair-Elect</b> <b>Beth Schneider</b> <i>UC Santa Barbara</i> schneider@soc.ucsb.edu	<b>Past Chair</b> <b>Thomas J. Linneman</b> <i>College of William and Mary</i> tjlinn@wm.edu
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# **Sociology of Sexualities Section Awards Winners for 2008**

## **2008 Simon-Gagnon Award**

The Simon and Gagnon Award honors career contributions to the study of sexualities as represented by a body of work or a single book. This award commemorates decades of research and writing on sexualities by Professor William Simon (University of Houston) who died on July 21, 2000, and his longtime collaborator, Professor John Gagnon (SUNY-Stony Brook).

2008 Winner: **Verta Taylor, Professor of Sociology, University of California – Santa Barbara**

## **2008 Distinguished Book Award**

Temporarily Yours: Intimacy, Authenticity, and the Commerce of Sex (2007, University of Chicago Press) by Elizabeth Bernstein, Assistant Professor of Women's Studies and Sociology, Barnard College

## **Martin P. Levine Memorial Dissertation Fellowship**

The Martin Levine Memorial Dissertation Award was established to honor the memory of Martin Levine, who died of AIDS in 1993. It provides \$3,000 to a graduate student (and \$500 to an honorable mention) in the final stages of dissertation research and writing, who is working on those topics to which Levine devoted his career: 1) the sociology of sexualities, 2) the sociology of homosexuality, and 3) HIV/AIDS research.

2008 Winner:

Terence McDonnell, Northwestern University

Title: "AIDS Streetscapes: A Social Iconography of AIDS Campaigns in Accra, Ghana."

Honorable Mentions:

Emily Kazyak, University of Michigan

Title: "Gay and Lesbian Life in the Rural Midwest: The Intersections of Geography, Class, and Sexuality in Contemporary Imaginaries and Lives."

Laurel Westbrook, University of California at Berkeley

Title: "Gender, They Wrote: The Construction of Gender through Narratives about Murder."

## **Best Graduate Student Paper**

This award is given to a paper authored by a student currently enrolled in a sociology graduate program. A paper may be co-authored by two or more students who would share the award (papers co-authored with faculty are not eligible). This year, the committee is pleased to announce two winners:

Laura Hamilton, Indiana University,

Title: "Trading on Heterosexuality: College Women's Gender Strategies and Homophobia."

Tom Waidzun, University of California at San Diego

Title: "Young, Gay and Suicidal: The Troubled Project of Defining a Social Problem with Statistics."

**Please join us in congratulating all of the honorees at the annual reception:  
Sunday August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 7 p.m., at Club Café (209 Columbus Ave., Boston).**

# 2008 ASA Meeting Activities

NOTE: Most Sexualities Section Activities will be **Sunday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>** at the Marriot-Copley Place. Please check the final ASA program schedule for the specific room locations of various sessions.

## **8:30-10:10a.m.: Paper Session: Bodies, Health and Sexualities**

Organizer and Presider: Steven G. Epstein (UCSD)

Cheryl Llewellyn (SUNY-Stony Brook): Tug of War: An Analysis of the Debates over Sex Education in Montgomery County.

Iddo Tavory (UCLA) and Michelle J. Poulin (U-Penn): Money, Sex, and Institutional Embeddedness: Sex Work and Exchange in Rural Malawi.

Jaime J. McCauley (University of Windsor), Barry D. Adam (Windsor), Sandra Bortolin (Windsor), and Catherine L. Brooke (Windsor): It's A Technical Problem: Young Lesbian and Bisexual Women's Perception of HIV Risk and Use of Prevention Strategies.

Daniel G. Glenday (Brock University): 'Look at that Hunk of Man': Male Body Image and Gay Internet Fantasies as Sexual Politics in Professional Wrestling Today.

## **10:30-11:30 a.m.: Refereed Roundtables**

Organizers: Laurel Westbrook (UC-Berkeley) and Julia Hartman (Michigan State)

Topics: Attitudes and Outcomes; Changing Conceptions of Sexuality; Pleasures and Dangers;

Negotiating Practices and Identities; Sexual Spaces; Sexuality and the Family; Sexuality over the Life Course

## **11:30 a.m.-12:10 p.m.: Business Meeting**

## **2:30-4:10 p.m.: Invited Session: Transgender Studies' Impact on The Sociology of Sexualities and Gender**

Organizer: Kristen Rose Schilt (Rice)

Discussant: Karl Bryant (SUNY-New Paltz)

Kristen Rose Schilt (Rice) and Laurel E. Westbrook (UC-Berkeley): Doing Gender and Beyond: The Study of Gender Normals in Transgender Studies.

Eve Ilana Shapiro (Connecticut): Sisters, Brothers, and the Rest of Us in Struggle: What Feminist Sociology Has to Gain from Trans Research.

Elroi J. Windsor (Georgia State): Audacity and Backlash: Lessons Learned from the Bailey Controversy.

Carla A. Pfeffer (Michigan): Expanding Worlds of Work and Families: Sociological Lessons about Emotion Work, Household Labor and Identity Work from Women Partners of Transgender and Transsexual Men.

## **4:30-6:10 p.m.: Paper Session: Same-Sex Marriage in Massachusetts - and Beyond**

Organizers: Thomas J. Linneman (William & Mary); and Kathleen E. Hull (Minnesota)

Discussant: Mary Bernstein (Connecticut)

Jennifer M. Raymond (U-Mass, Boston): After Goodridge: How Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Individuals in Greater Boston Understand the Impacts of Legalized Marriage.

Adam Isaiah Green (Toronto): Same-Sex Marriage: Lesbian and Gay Spouses Marrying Tradition and Change.

Jeffrey Brian Kosbie (Northwestern): Mobilizing Around Marriage Equality: Multiple Identities, Multiple Frames.

Verta A. Taylor (UCSB), Katrina E. Kimport (UCSB), and Ellen Ann Andersen (Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis): Same-Sex Marriage as a Social Movement Tactic.

## **7:00 p.m.: Section Reception**

Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave. (corner of Berkeley and Columbus), [www.clubcafe.com](http://www.clubcafe.com), 617-539-0966

# 2008 ASA Annual Meeting, Other Sessions of Interest

NOTE: please check the final ASA program for specific room locations.

## Friday, August 1st

8:30-10:10 a.m.

Regular Session: Masculinities 2 (Marriot)

10:30 a.m. – 12:10 p.m.

Professional Workshop: Grant Writing for Sexualities Research and other Controversial Topics in the Current Political Climate (Marriot)

Open Refereed Roundtables: Sex and Identity (Marriot)

2:30-4:10 p.m.

Regular Session: Masculinities (Marriot)

4:30-6:10 p.m.

Regular Session: Social Dimensions of AIDS (Marriot)

Regular Session: Marriage, Civil Unions, and Cohabitation (Marriot)

## Saturday, August 2nd

2:30-4:10 p.m.

Special Session: Open Forum: The Status of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Persons (Marriott)

## Sunday, August 3rd

8:30 – 10:10 a.m.

Paper Session: Producing/Reproducing/Contesting Gendered Bodies (Sheraton)

Section on the Sociology of the Family Refereed Roundtables: Friendship, Romance, and Sexual Relationships (Sheraton)

2:30-3:30 p.m.

Section on the Sociology of Religion Refereed Roundtables: Religion, Sex, and Sexual Identity (Hilton)

2:30-4:10 p.m.:

Regular Session: Gender: Managing Images in Culture and Organizations: Intricacies of Gender and Race (Sheraton)

## Monday, August 4th

8:30-10:10 p.m.

Regular Session: Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Studies: Identity, Visibility, Stigma & Resistance (Marriot)

Regular Session: Reproduction (Marriot)

10:30-12:10 p.m.

Regular Session: Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Studies: Community, Policy, Activism & Social Change (Marriot)

Section on Collective Behavior and Social Movements Refereed Roundtables: Feminist Movements (Marriot)

12:30-2:10 p.m.

Paper Session: Race, Gender, Class and Masculinities (Hilton)

Regular Session: Identities, Agency, and Sexualities (Marriot)

# Announcements

## Spaces for Difference: An Interdisciplinary Journal

*Spaces for Difference: An Interdisciplinary Journal* announces the publication of its inaugural issue. We publish research that expands our understanding of issues relating to race and racism, gender and sexuality, social activism, and intersectionalities.

Issue 1 Table of Contents:

“Initiating a Culturally Responsive Discourse of Same-Sex Attraction among African American Males” by Emery M. Petchauer, Mark A. Yarhouse, and Louis B. Gallien Jr.

“Career Decision-Making: Perspectives of Low-Income Urban Youth” by Nicki King, Ella R. Madsen, Marc Braverman, Carole Paterson, and Antronette K. Yancey

“Contact and the Continuum of White Women's Racial Awareness” by Kathryn A. Sweeney

“Dehumanization of the Black American Female: An American/Hawaiian Experience” by Kimetta R. Hairston

Papers may be submitted online; see our website: [http://repositories.cdlib.org/ucsb\\_ed/spaces/](http://repositories.cdlib.org/ucsb_ed/spaces/)

For more information, e-mail us at: [spacesfordifference@sa.ucsb.edu](mailto:spacesfordifference@sa.ucsb.edu)

## Announcing the Publication of the Agenda for Social Justice, Solutions 2008

The Society for the Study of Social Problems is pleased to offer you the Agenda for Social Justice, Solutions 2008, which represents an effort by our professional association to nourish a more "public sociology" that will be easily accessible and useful to policy makers. It is also a way to give something back to the people and institutions that support our scholarly endeavors. We hope that you find it helpful in your challenging work of crafting successful solutions to contemporary social problems. In all, it contains 11 pieces by SSSP members, covering a variety of social problems in three sections: global issues, Americans at risk, and health & welfare. This is an effort on the part of scholars at the Society for the Study of Social Problems to disseminate the findings in social problems research as freely and as widely as possible. The web page for the project is located here: <http://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/m/323>. On that page, you can download the full version, and you can link directly to the one-page briefs and individual chapters. The chapters are available for free download, and may be suitable as cost-effective supplementary readings in many social problems-related courses.

## Kudos!

...to Carla A. Pfeffer (Ph.D. Candidate in Sociology and Women's Studies, University of Michigan) for receiving a 2008-2009 Dissertation Completion Fellowship by the ACLS/Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for her project, "(Trans)formative relationships: What We Can Learn About Identities, Bodies and Work from the Women Partners of Transgender and Transsexual Men."

...and to Jane Ward on the forthcoming publication of her new book, *Respectably Queer: Diversity Culture in LGBT Activist Organizations* (scheduled for a sexualities "author meets critics" session at next spring's PSA meeting in San Diego)

# Call for Papers: Special Issue of *Gender and Society*

## HETERONORMATIVITY AND SEXUALITIES

(Beth E. Schneider and Jane Ward, Co-Editors)

In her groundbreaking 1984 essay “Thinking Sex,” Gayle Rubin illustrated that ideas about what constitutes natural and ethical sexuality are used to discipline all people, including subjects occupying multiple axes of privilege. Yet Rubin also argued that sexual norms weigh down most harshly upon groups already marginalized along gender, race, and socioeconomic lines. Far from being reducible to matters of individual orientation, the force of sexual normalcy intersects with other systems of oppression and frequently takes center stage in moral, political, legal, and cultural formations in the U.S. and globally. Though feminist and queer sociologists have been critical of the limited incorporation of queer theoretical insights into the sociology of gender, a growing body of social science research has indeed begun to investigate sexual norms – and heteronormativity in particular—as a central organizing principle in social life, one with consequences well beyond discrimination against lesbians and gay men.

This special issue of *Gender & Society* seeks articles that investigate the operation and effects of heteronormativity (defined broadly as the beliefs and practices that naturalize heterosexuality and place it at the center of social organization) and resistance across a variety of gendered, racialized, and classed contexts. We welcome papers providing sociologically grounded, data-rich empirical scholarship that demonstrates how heteronormativity works in everyday lives, production of culture, and the practice of social institutions. More, we welcome papers focused on the following analytic categories, especially those that engage the concept of heteronormativity as it applies to any of the following:

- Gendered bodies, sex acts, and sexual pleasure
- Sex-related consumption and marketing
- Sexual regulation and violence
- Sexuality and institutions
- Global sexualities
- Sexuality and ability
- New theorizations of sexuality, gender, race, and socioeconomic class
- Sexual and racialized desires
- Sexual and gender subcultures
- Sexual socialization and identification
- Sexuality and aging
- Sexual communities and movements

Completed manuscripts should be submitted online to <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/gendsoc> and should specify in the cover letter that the paper is to be considered for the special issue.

Manuscripts are due **October 1, 2008.**

For additional information, please contact either co-editor:

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University of California, Riverside  
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## In Print Recent Articles

Anderson, Eric. 2008. "Being Masculine is not About who you Sleep with...!" Heterosexual Athletes Contesting Masculinity and the One-time Rule of Homosexuality." *Sex Roles: A Journal of Research* 58(1-2): 104-115.

Arora, Anupama. 2007. "Rituals of Queer Diaspora in Nisha Ganatra's Chutney Popcorn." *South Asian Popular Culture* 5(1): 31-43.

Barrett, Donald C. 2007. "Gay Activism and Scholarship from the Front Lines: Contributions of Eric Rofes -- A Memoriam." *Journal of Homosexuality* 53(3): 1-7.

Bernstein, Elizabeth. 2007. "The Sexual Politics of the "New Abolitionism"." *Differences* 18(3):128-151.

Bragg, Beauty and Pancho McFarland, Pancho. "The Erotic and the Pornographic in Chicana Rap: JV vs. Ms. Sancha." *Meridians* 7(2): 1-21.

Froyum, Carissa M. 2007. "At Least I'm Not Gay': Heterosexual Identity Making among Poor Black Teens." *Sexualities* 10(5): 603-622.

Green, Adam Isaiah. 2008. "The Social Organization of Desire: The Sexual Fields Approach." *Sociological Theory* 26(1):25-50.

Green, Adam Isaiah. 2007. "Queer Theory and Sociology: Locating the Subject and the Self in Sexuality Studies." *Sociological Theory* 25(1):26-45.

Green, Adam Isaiah. 2007. "On the Horns of a Dilemma: Institutional Dimensions of the Sexual Career in a Sample of Middle-Class, Urban Black Gay Men," *The Journal of Black Studies* 37(5):753-774.

Hallgrimsdottir, Helga Kristin, Rachel Phillips, Cecilia Benoit, and Kevin Walby. 2008. "Sporting Girls, Streetwalkers, And Inmates Of Houses Of Ill Repute." *Sociological Perspectives* 51(1): 119-138.

Lloyd, Mike. 2007. "Rear gunners and troubled privates: Wordplay in a dick joke competition." *Journal of Sociolinguistics* 11(1): 5-23.

Loftin, Craig M. 2007. "Unacceptable Mannerisms: Gender Anxieties, Homosexual Activism, And Swish In The United States, 1945-1965." *Journal of Social History* 40(3): 577-596.

Luzzato, Diana and Liora Gvion. 2007. "The Coming of the Young and Sexy Lesbian: The Israeli Urban Scenario." *Social Semiotics* 17(1): 21-41.

Peterson, Valerie V. 2008. "The Sex of Joy: A Gourmet Guide to Lovemaking Rhetoric." *Popular Communication* 6(1): 3-19.

Ravel, Barbara and Genevieve Rail. 2007. "On the Limits of "Gaie" Spaces: Discursive Constructions of Women's Sport in Quebec." *Sociology of Sport Journal* 24(4): 402-420.

Renold, Emma. 2007. "Primary School "Studs": (De)constructing Young Boys' Heterosexual Masculinities." *Men and Masculinities* 9(3): 275-297.

Schilt, Kristen. 2008. "The Unfinished Business of Sexuality." *Gender & Society* 22(2): 109-114.

Shildrick, Margrit. 2007. "Contested Pleasures: The Sociopolitical Economy of Disability and Sexuality." *Sexuality Research and Social Policy: Journal of NSRC* 4(1): 53-66.

Stein, Arlene. 2008. "Feminism's Sexual Problem." *Gender & Society* 22(2): 115-119.

Stephens, Elizabeth. 2007. "The Spectacularized Penis: Contemporary representations of the phallic male body." *Men and Masculinities* 10(1): 85-98.

Suarez, Alicia E. and Alexandra Balaji. 2007. "Coverage and Representations of Sexuality in Introductory Sociology Textbooks." *Teaching Sociology* 35(3): 239-254.

Taylor, Yvette. 2007. "If Your Face Doesn't Fit...'. The Misrecognition of Working-Class Lesbians in Scene Space." *Leisure Studies* 26(2): 161-178.

## Recent Books

Cameron, Deborah and Don Kulick (eds.). 2006. *The Language and Sexuality Reader*. New York: Routledge.

Frawley-O'Dea, M. G. 2007. *Perversion of Power: Sexual Abuse in the Catholic Church*. Nashville, TN: Vanderbilt University Press.

Habib, Samar. 2007. *Female Homosexuality in the Middle East: Histories and Representations*. New York: Routledge.

Karras, Ruth Mazo. 2005. *Sexuality in Medieval Europe: Doing Unto Others*. New York: Routledge

Kuhar, Roman and Judit Takács. 2005. *Beyond the Pink Curtain: Everyday life of LGBT people in Eastern Europe*. Ljubljana : Peace Institute.

Morrow, Ross. 2008. *Sex Research and Sex Therapy: A Sociological Analysis of Masters and Johnson*. New York: Routledge.

Nack, Adina. 2008. *Damaged Goods? Women Living with Incurable Sexually Transmitted Diseases*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press.

Phillips, Sarah R. 2006. *Modeling Life: Art Models Speak about Nudity, Sexuality, and the Creative Process*. Albany: SUNY Press

Roach, Catherine M. 2007. *Stripping, Sex, and Popular Culture*. Oxford, UK: Berg, 2007.

Swanson, Gillian. 2007. *Drunk with the Glitter: Space, Consumption and Sexual Instability in Modern Urban Culture*. New York: Routledge.

Ward, Jane. 2008. *Respectably Queer: Diversity Culture in LGBT Activist Organizations*. Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press.