

# **SOCIAL CLASS: NOW AND THEN**

2013 Annual Meeting  
of the  
Georgia Sociological Association



October 10-12  
Jekyll Island Club Hotel  
Jekyll Island, Georgia



# Georgia Sociological Association

## 2012-2013 Officers and Executive Committee

<b>President:</b>	Linda Treiber, <i>Kennesaw State University</i>
<b>Vice President:</b>	Michallene McDaniel, <i>University of North Georgia</i>
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<b>Parliamentarian:</b>	Donald Gregory, <i>Reinhardt University</i>

### Members at Large

<b>Teaching:</b>	Alison Hatch, <i>Armstrong Atlantic State University</i>
<b>Research:</b>	Anne Borden, <i>Morehouse College</i>
<b>Applied and Clinical Sociology:</b>	William Holland, <i>Georgia State University</i>

### Publications

<b>Semaphore Editor:</b>	Kathy Dolan, <i>University of North Georgia</i>
<b>Journal Editor:</b>	Melvyn Fein, <i>Kennesaw State University</i>
<b>Website Coordinator:</b>	Kathy Dolan, <i>University of North Georgia</i>



## Letter from GSA President Linda Treiber

Welcome to Jekyll Island! We have a fabulous program in store. My sincere thanks to the GSA Executive Board and to all of you who made it happen. Although we're a relatively small group, we offer a program large in scope and big on quality!

An essential line of sociological inquiry asks "Who prevails in society now? Who will come to prevail?" This year's theme, "Social Class: Now and Then" directly addresses stratification questions and more. Please don't miss the Friday afternoon plenary on Jekyll Island's history. John Hunter from the Jekyll Island Museum will discuss not only high society and titans of industry, but also other aspects of the island's social class structure. Sessions on Manhood, Madness, and Media and the implications of *The Butler* are other examples of how we explore fundamental issues of inequality in novel ways.

Foundational sociologists asked, "What is the structure of industrial society? What makes it what it is?" Toward a contemporary addressing of these questions, we examine political and economic hot button issues both locally and globally. A roundtable session on the consequences of institutional consolidation is featured in this year's program. It should be lively! And, our sociologists address the "real world" including major social structures and our roles within them.

Another key question is "Where does our society stand in terms of human history? How is it changing?" To that end, cross-cultural perspectives on diversity, immigration, and the social problems of substance abuse and violence will be addressed. A panel on the impact of technological innovations on social stratification helps put the comparative perspective into a social class framework. Clearly, the GSA offers sociological assortment!

We tie all these elements together through our passion for teaching. Starting with the Hans Mauksch Teaching Workshop on Thursday afternoon, there are sessions on teaching every day. Please come and recharge your pedagogical batteries.

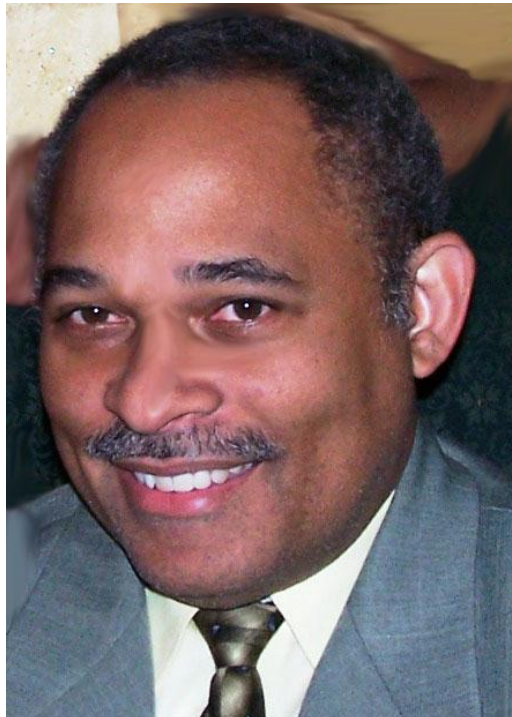
Don't forget we will play "Murder at the Great Gatsby Speakeasy" on Friday evening, so drop on in and let your inner gangster or flapper loose. Finally, as you know, we are in one of the most beautiful parts of Georgia. Isn't it great? Enjoy the natural splendor and the many sights to be seen. I wish you a great meeting and a safe journey home at its end.

Linda Treiber

**Georgia Sociological Association's**

**2013  
SOCIOLOGIST OF THE YEAR  
&  
GSA Plenary Keynote Speaker**

**Dr. Michael Hodge**  
*Morehouse University*



**Club Ballroom, Friday 9:30-10:45 am**

*Please join us for our annual*

## **Hans Mauksch Teaching Workshop**

# *Teaching from the Outside: Going Beyond the Boundaries of Our Identity*

**Club Ballroom, Thursday 5:00-6:15 PM**

### **Moderator**

Alison Hatch, *Armstrong Atlantic State University*

### **Panelists**

Donald Gregory, *Reinhardt University*

Gail Markel, *Kennesaw State University*

Michallene McDaniel, *University of North Georgia*

Join us for a panel discussion on the challenges of teaching about race/class/sex/gender from an outsider's perspective.



Friday 8:00 – 9:15 am

## CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

### SESSION 1

DUBIGNON ROOM

#### **Workshop – *Workplace or Graduate School: Making Your Degree in Sociology Work for You***

**Presenters:** Cheryl Lynn Brown and Donald Gregory, *Reinhardt University*

Graduation looms ... how can students take what they've learned during their undergraduate career in sociology and really make their hard-work pay off? This workshop will help students consider the best way to spend their time and resources to lay a solid foundation for finding a job or getting into graduate school. We've been there ... let's see how we can help.

### SESSION 2

CLUB BALLROOM

#### **Panel – *Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Teaching Sociology***

**Moderator:** Darina Lepadatu, *Kennesaw State University*

**Panelists:** Kingsley Adjei, *Kennesaw State University*  
Ferdinand Dansso, *Kennesaw State University*  
Elena Gheorghiu, *Kennesaw State University*  
Eliza Markley, *Kennesaw State University*

This paper discusses the experiences of international instructors teaching Sociology in Georgia and will address issues related to classroom management, relationship between students and instructor, power dynamics, performance of American students, teaching evaluations and overall comparison between the teaching of Sociology in the US versus their countries of origin.

Friday 9:30 – 10:30 am

PLENARY SESSION

CLUB BALLROOM

***Programming Controversy: Difficult Conversations from the Classroom to the Campus and Vice Versa***

**Dr. Michael Hodge**, *Morehouse College, GSA Sociologist of the Year*

**Introduction:** Linda Treiber, *Kennesaw State University*

Michael E. Hodge received his M.S. in psychology and his Ph.D. in sociology, both from the University of Florida. He has taught at the University of Georgia, University of Tennessee, and Georgia State University. He is currently associate professor at Morehouse College and chairperson of the department of sociology. His areas of interest focus on racial and ethnic inequality, including health disparities as well as socioeconomic inequities. He recently co-authored an article in the *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*. His 2009 book, *Voices from Beneath the Veil: Analysis of the Trials, Tribulations, and Triumphs of Middle Class African Americans* examines the experiences of middle class African Americans in a post-affirmative action, and color blind society. Additional publications include *Mortgage Refinance Discrimination, HIV/AIDS Perceptions, Attitudes and Behaviors among HBCU Students*, and *Blurring Disciplinary Boundaries: the Case for the Social Sciences*. He continues to analyze data from in-depth interviews of college age African Americans concerning risky sexual activity in an age of HIV/AIDS. Hodge has provided commentary and analysis for NBC Nightly News and CNN on issues of racial relations. He was recently a guest commentator on the Radio One radio network discussing the Trayvon Martin murder and the trial of George Zimmerman.

Hodge demonstrates an interdisciplinary approach to his research and his pedagogy. His research projects often engage multidisciplinary and multiple service offices. For example and most recently, as one of the project coordinators of the NIH funded Survey Research and Data Center, he is successful with the incorporation of faculties from all three divisions of the college. Additionally, as primary investigator with the Faces of Manhood initiative (funded by the Ford Foundation), he works closely with the English, Music, Religion and Philosophy departments, the office of Student Services, the Martin Luther King International Chapel, and the Office of Housing and Residential Life. These collaborations bring a sense of connectedness of co-curricular activities with the classroom environment--not only for Hodge's courses, but across the general campus. Importantly, he effectively utilizes resources to provide significant international experiences for Morehouse students (and the entire AUC) with his leadership of the Morehouse-at-Sea Winter Enrichment Voyage.

He is a past-president of the Georgia Sociological Association and a Life-Time Member of the Association of Black Sociologists. Hodge is a member of the Morehouse College faculty council, the Institutional Review Board for the Protection of Human Subjects at the College and the Morehouse School of Medicine, and a faculty representative to the Morehouse College Board of Trustees. He is married with two children and resides in a southern suburb of Atlanta.



Friday 11:00 am – 12:15 pm

**SESSION 3**

**DUBIGNON ROOM**

**Theme – Families and Relationships**

**Moderator:** Michallene McDaniel, *University of North Georgia*

***Adoption for Gay and Lesbian Families***

Mitos Burton, *Armstrong Atlantic State University*

Today, more same-sex couples are adopting children. This research paper will be a literature review depicting their struggles with the process. I expect to find that same-sex couples living in states where they can legally marry have fewer obstacles in adoption than those in states that don't allow same-sex marriage. The goal of this research paper is to compile and analyze the statistics and data I find from peer reviewed research journals.

***The Decline of Marriage Amongst African Americans***

Keisha N. Johnson, *University of West Georgia*

The social institutions of marriage and family have varied widely with regard to structure over the past hundred years. I review the literature on how attitudes about the institution of marriage have changed over time. Additionally, I examine how these attitudes vary by race, living arrangements, educational status, and sex. I also examine the varieties of family that exist in the U.S. today. Finally, I outline research that suggests a decline in marriage, specifically among African Americans.

***“If I Had Endless Money I Would Go All The Time:” Social Class and Long-Distance Relationships***

Orsolya Kolozsvari, *College of Coastal Georgia*

Via globalization and the Internet, geographical proximity in relationships has become less important. However, a long-distance relationship is a financial burden. Through interviews with 20 long-distance couples I highlight that these relationships are still linked to class privilege. While many of my subjects complained about the cost, most of them could afford frequent visits. When they could not, or when the socioeconomic status of partners was not equal, it resulted in nearly insurmountable difficulties.

***Is Physical Sibling Abuse Legitimized within Child Protective Services?: An Organizational Analysis***

Jessica Ziembski and Melinda Johnson, *University of North Georgia*

A family case manager in a state child protection service agency receives a call from an anxious parent stating that her older child has injured or physically “hurt” the younger sibling. The Family case manager carefully interviews the parent and both children. The older child admits guilt for hitting the younger child and causing bruising. But how does the case manager proceed in this situation? No legislative policy regarding physical sibling abuse exists in the state, although a state manual vaguely discusses a term referred to as “physical sibling abuse” in a short paragraph. After review of the non-specific language in the paragraph, the case manager opts to open the case as “parental neglect” rather than sibling abuse. We will discuss this case, and compare it to a similar case in another location that was opened as a case of “physical sibling abuse.”

## SESSION 4

DUBIGNON ROOM

### Panel – *Update on Clinical and Applied Sociology*

**Moderator:** William Holland, *Georgia State University*

#### ***The State of Clinical and Applied Sociology***

Melvyn Fein, *Kennesaw State University*

#### **The Application of Sociology Within Social Movements**

William Holland, *Georgia State University*

## SESSION 5

CRANE LIBRARY

### Theme – *Issues in Organizations and Occupations*

**Moderator:** Toralf Zschau, *University of North Georgia*

#### ***The Evolution of Collective Behavior***

Rodger Bates, *Clayton State University*

The evolution of collective behavior is examined through a dramaturgical presentation in the form of the minutes of faculty meeting between Plato, Skinner and a number of sociologists. The strengths and weaknesses of a number of traditional perspectives are illustrated along with the emergence new forms of collective behavior in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

#### ***Bureaucracy versus Professionalism in Higher Education***

Melvyn L. Fein, *Kennesaw State University*

In recent years the size of college bureaucracies has grown twice as quickly as the size of their faculties. This is symptomatic of a larger problem. Higher education has become increasingly rule-bound and in the process infringed upon the discretion professors require to perform their missions with the appropriate professionalism. The problem is especially acute with respect to what has been described as "accountability." Strangely, this demand is rarely applied to bureaucratic superiors, whereas it has frequently been utilized to discipline faculty members.

#### ***"We're All Adults Here:" Bullying in the Workplace***

Tiffany N. Jenkins, *University of West Georgia*

Special attention has been paid to the issue of bullying in our schools as of late. However, bullying does not stop at graduation. As children grow up and trade the playground for the boardroom, bullies are still a concern. This paper looks at corporate culture as a mechanism for bullying in the workplace as well as the current legal standing of bullying behaviors.

#### ***Liars of the Gods: The Problem of the False Expert***

Robert C. Lightfoot, *South Georgia State College*

Why does the American public follow "experts" with questionable legitimacy? Some have openly admitted lying, Some proven liars, and others are disgraced by their profession. Still, their advice is accepted over trained professionals with more standing in the field. Do we have a problem with the very use of experts?

Friday 12:30 – 1:30 pm

**BUSINESS LUNCH & AWARDS CEREMONY**

**PULITZER/ALEXANDER ROOM**

*Tickets for sale at the registration desk.*

Friday 2:00 – 3:15 pm

**PLENARY SESSION**

**CLUB BALLROOM**

***Jekyll Island: More Than High Society***

**John Hunter**, *Director of Historic Resources, Jekyll Island Museum*

**Introduction:** Linda Treiber, *Kennesaw State University*

Through island history there is much more than the prevailing "millionaires" narrative that dominates published works. This presentation will look at many of the aspects and cultures that have inhabited Jekyll through the generations.

Friday 3:30 – 6:15 pm

**BOOK EXHIBIT**

**PULITZER & ASPINWALL ROOMS**

**COFFEE BREAK** - Sponsored by *Pearson*

Friday 3:30 – 4:45 pm

**SESSION 6**

**DUBIGNON ROOM**

**Theme – *Substance Abuse and Treatment Issues***

**Moderator:** Summer McWilliams, *Armstrong Atlantic State University*

***An Examination of the Relationship Between Social Learning and Drug and Alcohol Use Among Rural High School Students***

Michael Capece and Lorna L. Alvarez-Rivera, *Valdosta State University*

The current study provides an empirical investigation of the relationship between social learning theory and self-reported lifetime and past 30 day alcohol and drug use. Relying on a sample of rural high school students and gauging the youth's definitions regarding drug and alcohol use, their perception of their parent's definitions of such behaviors, as well as their opinions regarding their peers' definitions, the results provide evidence of support for an association between the various components of social learning theory and drug and alcohol use. Study limitations and directions for future research are also discussed.

***Inside the Black Box: Drug Court Philosophies and Intervention Strategies of a Small Southeastern Drug Court***

Codey Collins, Candice DiPierro, Sarah Smudde, Daniel Hatch and Toralf Zschau, *University of North Georgia*

This study looked at the philosophies and intervention strategies of a small Southeastern family drug court to better understand how drug courts rehabilitate. Using a mix of qualitative and quantitative approaches, the study identified a complex set of interactions between theoretical beliefs of the causes of substance abuse and actual intervention strategies. Potential implications of these findings for drug court research and drug court practitioners will be discussed.

***The Nightmares of Coming Clean: Recovery Capital of Drug Court Participants***

Tony Zschau and Daniel Hatch, *University of North Georgia*

Couched in a natural recovery tradition, the recovery capital paradigm, the social capital tradition and social network theory, the current study employed a mixed-methods approach to better understand network resources and processes of drug court participants. Findings suggest that drug court participants not only have impoverished social networks that are often characterized by "artificial networks" but also have limited access to network-based recovery capital. These findings may have implications for the broader treatment community as well as family drug courts.

### **Panel – *The Impact and Implications of Technological Innovations on Social Stratification***

**Moderator:** Sam Abaidoo, *Kennesaw State University*

**Panelists:** Julie Henderson, *Kennesaw State University*  
Misty Henderson, *Kennesaw State University*  
Peyton Solomon, *Kennesaw State University*  
Jasmin Horne, *Kennesaw State University*

Technological innovations, more so now than before, have been seen as great disruptors of social institutions. In the process technological innovations have created winners and losers and had significant impact on social structures and practices. This panel is designed to discuss how various technologies have and are transforming systems of social stratification.

### **Theme – *Sociologists Address the Real World***

**Moderator:** Alison Hatch, *Armstrong Atlantic State University*

***Applying Sociology to Improve City Service Delivery – Camilla, GA***  
Chet Ballard and Rudy K. Prine, *Valdosta State University*

We consulted with the City of Camilla GA to produce a mailed survey which asked city residents to provide input on a variety of city services. Residents were asked about their satisfaction with a number of city provided services such as fire, police, community safety, cable, and water management. Findings indicate general satisfaction with city services. Specific areas for improvement were shared with the City Manager.

***Housing as a Social Institution: A Feminist-Materialist Orientation***  
Paul Luken, *University of West Georgia*

Housing is a social institution that has been largely neglected by American sociologists. While there have been studies of certain types of housing (e.g., public housing projects, housing for elderly people) along with housing policy, an institutional approach to housing studies has not been well developed. The housing Institution embodies a complex set of social relations which include academic, political, managerial and administrative processes organized around sheltering. I outline these social relations and discuss an approach which makes them visible.

***Experiences of Volunteers in Refugee Resettlement***  
Rita Thomson, *Georgia State University*

This paper examines the experiences of volunteers mentoring refugees resettled in the Atlanta area. Because of limited staff and funding, the non-governmental agencies contracted to do resettlement rely on volunteers to help in the resettlement process. Interviews with volunteer

mentors of various ages, races and religions detail the rewards and problems of assisting refugees in acculturation.

***Effects on Educational Quality of Life in Relation to Health Quality of Life and Unequal Income Distribution in Georgia Counties***

Maria Thuy Trinh, *Valdosta State University*

Social indicators that are related to educational and health quality of life have been examined in previous studies. Health quality of life and inequality of income distribution could possibly affect educational quality of life. Existing data was obtained for Georgia counties. Using Cronbach's alpha, composite scores were compiled for educational and health quality of life for counties. Gini index was used to measure income distribution for counties. Analysis of variables showed significant results.

Friday 5:00 – 6:15 pm

**SESSION 9**

**DUBIGNON ROOM**

**Theme – *Violence Against Women: A Global Perspective***

**Moderator:** Purna C. Mohanty, *Paine College*

***Violence Against Women in India***

Phillip Thomas, *Paine College*

This paper focuses on the nature, extent, and characteristics of violence against women in India. It will address several important questions. Who are the women who are victimized? Who are the perpetrators of violence? Where do the seeds of violence against women lie? Violence against women in India has not been studied as extensively as it has been in the western societies. In spite of the legislative measures in favor of women, the spread of education and women's economic independence, women still continue to be victims of violence. The issue of sexual violence against women has been brought to the forefront following the gang rape of a female student in India which led to widespread protests. Compared to such sensational stories, domestic violence in India is underreported. There is an increase in public awareness that is based on crimes happening in public spaces rather than in private. Domestic violence is slowly becoming a topic of popular media and academic scrutiny.

***Rape on Native American Reservations***

Thomas Lehman, *Paine College*

An MSN report on Native reservation rape, in May of 2013, points at increased awareness of violence against women. United States military sex-scandals also caused us to re-evaluate authorities' responses. Jurisdictional confusion over "tribal sovereignty" has generally made for failed policing; reservation rape is epidemic. The typical reservation rapist is a non-Native man who drives in; offends; then, goes home. However, we must differentiate between real increase, and a simple rise in reporting.

## **Violence Against Military Women**

Jennifer O'Leary, *Georgia Military College*

With the recent news of women being physically attacked whether they are visitors to other countries or being attacked in their home towns in the USA, the question begs is there any place women are safe? Recently reports from the military have found, women in the act of protecting other citizens in other countries are not even safe from fellow military members. Studies have shown the trauma of being physically attacked is often greater than the trauma suffered from a battle zone. PTSD among women military members is often caused by their interactions with others in the military.

## **Violence Against Women: A Form of Gender Oppression**

Purna Mohanty, *Paine College*

Growing violence against women is a global issue. To be more specific, it is a form of gender oppression, Theories of gender oppression describes women's situation as the consequence of a direct power relationship between men and women in which men have fundamental and concrete interests in controlling, using, subjugating, and oppressing women: that is, in the practice of domination.

### **SESSION 10**

**ALEXANDER ROOM**

#### **Panel – *Madness, Manhood, and Media: Recent Undergraduate Work from Oglethorpe University***

**Moderator:** Cenate Pruitt, *Oglethorpe University*

**Panelists:** Briana Mongerson, *Oglethorpe University*  
Ariel Schulze, *Oglethorpe University*  
Bethany Varnado, *Oglethorpe University*

A panel presentation of recent media criticism by undergraduate students at Oglethorpe University. Topics include depictions of masculinity in the films of Judd Apatow, the television series "Scrubs" and deviance in Hitchcock's *Psycho*.

### **SESSION 11**

**ALEXANDER ROOM**

#### **Panel– *The Enforcement of Florida's 'Stand Your Ground' Law: Preliminary Findings***

**Organizer & Presenter:** Albert E. McCormick, Jr., *M2 Research and Consulting*

**Respondent:** Fred Zampa, *Middle Georgia State College*

Florida's 'Stand Your Ground' Law loosens the legal requirements for the justifiable use of deadly force. Seeking to shed light on this controversial issue, the author examined 303 known cases of Stand Your Ground, occurring from 2005 through 2012. Preliminary findings in situational and enforcement patterns are presented.

Friday 7:30 – 10:00 pm

**MURDER MYSTERY GAME**

**DUBIGNON ROOM**

# MURDER AT THE GREAT GATSBY SPEAKEASY





Saturday 8:00 – 9:15 am

**CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**

**SESSION 12**

**DUBIGNON ROOM**

**Theme– *Using the Movie The Butler as a Backdrop for the Critical Analysis of Social Class and Social Theoretical Issues Both Then and Now***

**Organizer & Moderator:** Karen Young, *Clayton State University*

The recently released movie *The Butler* can be said to be rich in the delineation of many themes related to social class and social theory. It's production and release could not have come at a more appropriate time in the history of our country, particularly in light of the social and political climate present in today's society with the recent 50 year anniversary of the March on Washington, and the very popular yet controversial Travon Martin case. Themes such as upward mobility, domestic work, double consciousness, women & gender roles in society, and civil rights both THEN and NOW will be critically analyzed, explored, compared and contrasted using this very timely media production.

***The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life: Living Inside & Outside of the Societal Box***  
Timzarion Starr, *Clayton State University*

The theory of "The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life" by Erving Goffman touches upon the characterization of an individual as one navigates her or his way through society, sometimes living within a so-called "societal box" and sometimes living outside of that same "societal box". Each experience can result in consequences which lead to either negative or positive outcomes. When looking at the movie *The Butler* we see examples of both living within and outside of the so-called societal box. These characterizations will be discussed and then compared and contrasted against the same phenomena present within society today.

***Upward Mobility as Portrayed in the Characterization of "Cecil" in Lee Daniel's Film The Butler versus Domestic Workers Today***

Lynn Mallory, *Clayton State University*

One component of the structural functionalist theory suggests that everyone must fulfill their societal role to maintain order and solidarity within society. However, this perspective fails to consider the structural inequalities of race, class and gender. In Lee Daniels' *The Butler*, Cecil Gaines character's successes of upward mobility from a southern slave worker to White House butler, as well as the limitations his occupation provided will be compared and contrasted to African American domestic workers past limitations of upward mobility. Also a comparison/contrast against the present outlook of African American men and women in the domestic work industry, and their promotion into professional industries of work, or lack thereof, will be presented.

***The Theory of Double Consciousness Seen in Lee Daniel's film The Butler, versus the Phenomenon of Double Consciousness Present in Society Today***

Darrell Campbell, *Clayton State University*

One of the lingering negative consequences of southern slavery still affecting African Americans today is the subtle practice of looking at one's self through the eyes of someone else. In examining the characters in Lee Daniel's movie, *The Butler*, we see the manifestation of the practice of double consciousness and how this practice guided the perceptions of worth and value of African Americans during that historical epoch. Using Dubois' theory of "Double Consciousness and The Veil", a comparison and contrast of social class and social theory both then and now will be presented as it relates to the forms of double consciousness we see portrayed in the movie, *The Butler*, versus the manifestations of this practice in the present day existence of African Americans.

***Controlling Images: An Analysis of Mammies, Jezebels, and Tragic Mulattos, in Lee Daniel's The Butler (2013)***

Samara D. Chapple, *Southern Illinois University Edwardsville*

The representation of Black women in films has always been an issue of critical analysis as it relates to social theoretical concepts both then and now. One example in Lee Daniel's *The Butler* movie uses the characterization of Gloria Gaines as successfully depicting Black middle class and traditional gender roles. She is portrayed as occupying a unique space representing both the intersection of Blackness and Black feminism. However the presence of black women in media productions today often follow a social theoretical construct so narrow that it limits the ability of the viewer to define self and subsequently affects a woman's impression management.

***Men & Masculinity as Portrayed in Lee Daniel's film The Butler, versus Characterizations of Men & Masculinity Today***

Jason Chatman, *Southern Illinois University Edwardsville*

Navigating the structural racism and oppression [of a society steeped in white supremacy], the characters in Lee Daniels' film, *The Butler*, demonstrate how they navigate these structural relations by using Bourdieu's concept of "symbolic violence" and selectively performing their masculinity. Through this film, masculinity and Bourdieu's concept of "symbolic violence" can be used to illustrate the plight of African Americans from the events depicted during the civil rights movement to continuing struggles today. Managing one's masculinity and actively selecting which masculine traits to harness and which to suppress, are techniques used as resistance but also as collective freedom from oppression. These concepts will be compared and contrasted, as evidenced in the movie, *The Butler*, and in today's social relations as well.

**Roundtable– Diversity Experience: From Classroom to Community****Organizer and Moderator:** Purna C. Mohanty, *Paine College***Participants:** Philip Thomas, *Paine College*  
Thomas Lehman, *Paine College*  
Jennifer O’Leary, *Georgia Military College*  
Purna Mohanty, *Paine College*

This session invites interested scholars to share and exchange ideas on diversity experience. Besides lectures and classroom activities, importance will be placed on learning through participation in various community activities to have diversity experience.

**Theme– Politics and the Struggle over Resources****Moderator:** Sara Mason, *University of North Georgia****The Public-Private Paradox: Conceptualizing Jekyll Island’s Contested Space and Social Struggle***Eric K. Spears, *Mercer University*

Jekyll Island’s geographic contested space is underscored by legal and political interpretations of actual acreage and mean sea level (MSV). The 1971 Georgia legislation that outlined the ‘65/35’ rule has been the directive but recent attempts to revitalize the island’s economy have spurred social struggle. At stake are 367 acres of salt marsh that are central whose interests are represented: capital or average citizens.

***Public Perceptions of Political Ideologies***Jamie MacLennan, *Georgia Southwestern State University*

With the rise of the Tea Party and the Occupy Movement, the political landscape in the United States has shifted noticeably in the past 5 years. The effect of these changes will undoubtedly be influenced by public perceptions of these movements. The following paper discusses these perceptions by examining the treatment of political systems in a sample of *Introduction to Sociology* textbooks and surveys of *Introduction to Sociology* students.

***Stick it to “The Man”: Levels and Types of Political Participation of University Students at a South-Eastern University***Codey Collins, Hannah Chandler, Kristin Hosey, Josh Bowman, and Tony Zschau, *University of North Georgia*

The main focus of the study was to understand the relationship between university attendance and the extent and style of political participation. Using a mix of qualitative and quantitative approaches, the findings suggest differences between the length of university attendance and

political engagement (conventional versus non-conventional forms of politics). Potential implications for civil society and the public sphere will be discussed.

### ***Understanding the Weather: Applying Political Process Theory and Resource Mobilization Theory to a Movement***

Aron Hall, *University of West Georgia*

The 1960's saw a clear shift in sentiments in America. For the first time in history, the youth matched the adult population. This created a societal dynamic that had not witnessed previous to this decade. With this growth in youth culture came an unprecedented desire to change the current political, racial, economic, and social structure that had so dominated America. In this paper I focus on the militant social movement The Weather Underground. I follow their rise out of the Students for A Democratic Society (SDS) to their splintering from SDS to their eventual decision to go underground in order to "Bring the War Home." The theoretical basis of this paper lies in various Social Movement Theories—particularly, Political Process Theory and Resource Mobilization Theory. These two theories have the ability to illustrate how it was that a group of college kids could become the clandestine group that instigated violence against the state for nearly a decade of underground activity. These two theories assist in painting a fuller picture of not only this particular movement, but also social movements in general.

Saturday 9:30 – 10:45 am

#### **SESSION 15**

#### **DUBIGNON ROOM**

#### **Theme— *Theory and Global Politics***

**Moderator:** Donald Gregory, *Reinhardt College*

#### ***Good Marx, Bad Marx? Implicating Radical Theory with Authoritarian Practice***

Daniel Skidmore-Hess, *Armstrong-Atlantic State University*

Was Marx's theoretical work somehow responsible for Stalinist practice? Or to state the problem more broadly, every self-proclaimed "Marxist" regime to date has been authoritarian, including some of the most extreme examples of modern "totalitarianism." Given these cases, it is plausible at least to direct a "hermeneutic of suspicion," which Ricoeur described as a salient feature of Marx's thought, in the direction of Marx and his theoretical production. However, in so doing it should be noted that the question of Marx's responsibility for his political progeny is part of a subset, an issue in a broader inquiry about the relationship of theory to practice. What, it must first be asked, is the quality of theory that leads from good intent to bad result? This paper critically analyzes three categories of explanation vis-à-vis authoritarian Marxist practice; historicism, scientism, and materialism. Each of these actual or supposed features of Marx's thought, have been proposed as the conceptual root of authoritarian Marxist politics. This paper in turn raises two major points of weakness in these critiques of Marxism. First, how is theory transmuted into practice, or how did "good Marx" get turned wrong? Second, if a theory arguably holds heuristic value, by what criteria may it be assigned "bad Marx."

**C.L.R. James's Party Politics in the West Indies and Political Parties in Guyana**

George K. Danns, *University of North Georgia*

CLR James's *Party Politics in the West Indies* has provided a useful, though somewhat idealistic model, for the comparative analyses of democracy, mass parties and leadership in the Caribbean region. James's theory on the mass party was developed against the background of his conceptualization of the Anglophone Caribbean peoples as westernized, historically unique, and imbued with restless power, but in need of organized guidance. In this paper I will: explore CLR James's theory on the mass party in the British West Indies; compare and contrast it with the sociological theories on political parties of Seymour Martin Lipset (1966) and Robert Michels (1915); and, apply it critically to the historical and contemporary realities of party politics in Guyana.

**Social Movements and Culture: The French Case**

Anthony E. Healy, *University of North Georgia*

This paper addresses the issue of political process in French social movements with an emphasis on social movements among immigrant rights groups. A degree of political opportunity in a democracy is a given in new social movement theory. However, in the French case, culture and culturally implanted ideology create opportunity for some social movements which given their class linkage and attunement to national cultural values and ideology are successful. Indigenous immigrant movements generally conflict with those values and ideology. Unless they find alignment with those values and ideology, the political process is closed and they fail to gain public support. I adopt the model of Duyendak (1995) to explain how culture intercedes in political process, and conclude that political process is not a given in democracies.

**SESSION 16**

**BALLROOM A**

**Theme— Teaching Techniques and Issues**

**Moderator:** Michallene McDaniel, *University of North Georgia*

**Teaching the Theoretical in Visual Format: The Sociological Artistry of Nick Cave**

Laurel Holland, *Georgia Gwinnett College*

A lecture on postmodernism contradicts the very foundation of this theory, which views language as exerting control over meaning. How, then, might sociologists convey the essence of postmodern theory without the trap of language? Students of sociology often have difficulty comprehending theoretical concepts that do not appear in their everyday lexicon. This is especially true of more recent and highly complex theoretical models, especially poststructuralism and postmodernism. In this work I examine the performance art of Nick Cave as an avenue for teaching postmodern concepts as they relate to sociological theory.

**Incorporating Global Issues in the Teaching of Sociology: The Kennesaw State University Model**

Darina Lepadatu, *Kennesaw State University*

This paper discusses the Kennesaw State University model of global engagement and how the Country Study Program was incorporated in the Sociology courses. More specifically, the authors describe how the Year of Romania (2010-2011) and the Year of Japan (2013-2014) have been

included in the teaching of Comparative Sociology classes and an Advanced Qualitative Methods course offered as a study abroad program.

**“Did Everybody Read the Groovy Article?” Bridging the Gnarly Classroom Generation Gap with Way Cool Pop Culture References**

Sara F. Mason, Carly L. Redding, Jessica S. Ziembroski, and Michallene G. McDaniel, *University of North Georgia*

Have you noticed that, as you age, most of your students stay quite young? What seemed easy in our graduate school teaching—connecting with students who were essentially our age—becomes more challenging as our students suffer under the misapprehension that we are “old.” We will discuss the advantages (and drawbacks) of bridging the generation gap through the use of popular culture. We will offer concrete suggestions for making this technique work in your classes.

**Measuring Academic Freedom**

Neema Noori and Salvador Peralta, *University of West Georgia*

This paper develops a set of indicators that can be used for measuring academic freedom.

**SESSION 17**

**BALLROOM B**

**Theme—Sociological Assortment**

**Moderator:** Michael Gary Meacham, *Valdosta State University*

**Visual Sociology as Method and Pedagogy**

Brandon K. Attell and Deirdre Oakley, *Georgia State University*

Visual sociology is a rich, robust tool used by many scholars across disciplines. In this presentation, we discuss visual sociology as a tool used for research as well as a pedagogical technique. We pay particular attention to the practicality, advantages, and challenges of visual sociology in the academy and share our own examples of visual sociology from the GSU Urban Health Initiative as well as Social Shutter, a visual sociology blog housed within our department.

**Forbidden Fruit: Social Class Then and Now**

Mary Booker, *Valdosta State University*

Organized Christianity has been used by the upper classes and religious elites to exploit the lower classes; Christianity has evolved into a major corruption for exploitation and used as a device for such. An unorganized religion, like Taoism, has yet to establish bureaucracy within the religious sanction; by following the Tao there is no inequality among the masses.

**Female Teachers Get Lighter Sentencing**

Katrina Nix, *Armstrong Atlantic State University*

The purpose of this research is to study the sentencing of male and female teacher sexual assault offenders. This research will show that there is in fact a difference in the sentences between male

and female sexual assault offenders with females more often than not receiving the lighter sentences when charged with sexual assault. I analyze news reports, journals, and court documents from the past five years.

### ***Helping a Child with Your Voice***

Shermaine Johnson, *Columbus State University*

Evidence has shown about fifty-seven percent of women, who are in the adult entertainment industry, reported a history of sexual childhood abuse (Farley and Barkan 1998). The purpose of my research is finding the relationship between the outcomes of childhood molestation, neglect and adult entertainment. This will allow me to learn more about members who are a part of the adult entertainment industry and examine whether it possibly connects with their childhood.

Saturday 11:00 am – 12:15 pm

## **SESSION 18**

## **DUBIGNON ROOM**

### ***Theme—Issues of Inequality***

**Moderator:** Anthony Healy, *University of North Georgia*

### ***Beyond Psychology and Medicine: The Sociological Needs of Latino Migrant Farmers in the U.S.***

Michael Gary Meacham, *Valdosta State University*

Migrant farmers face many challenges and therefore demonstrate symptoms of emotional problems that may be controlled through well-known therapy techniques or medication, but the majority of their problems indicate that sociological interventions are needed. Case management is capable of contending with some of them. However, others arise from their previous lifestyle, the isolation of leaving home, the dangers of travel, and the backbreaking work. This presentation will describe methods to help the migrants.

### ***The Financial Aid Process and Student Debt as Mechanisms for Inequality: An Institutional Ethnography***

Susanna Sierra, *University of West Georgia*

By using an institutional ethnographic framework, I explore the everyday experiences of students who finance their education through student loans. The process of applying for and accepting student loans is more simple and accessible to students who have prior knowledge about the world of higher education and have a particular type of family. Students who do successfully complete the borrowing process are often left uncertain of the impact their accumulating debt will have on their future.

### ***Graduation Rates, Sports, and Social Class***

Matthew Himel, *East Tennessee State University*  
David Broad, *University of North Georgia*

This study analyzes the relationship between non-private high school graduation rates, high school state championships, and social class in Georgia. The graduation rates of schools who produced championships from 2003-2011 indicated that the graduation rates of a school influenced what sport a school succeed in most often. These findings, analyzed graphically, indicate a direct relationship between championships and graduation rates and help determine social class for individual non-private high schools in Georgia.

### ***When Social Class Mattered: An Exploration of Narrative Accounts***

Sherry P. Smith, *Georgia Perimeter College*

When did you become aware that social class made a difference in people's lives? We will explore qualitative analysis of 150 narrative accounts of students' personal encounters with social-class realities. We will discuss the variety of social spheres recollected by respondents as well the psychological impact of participating in this reflective-based research.

## **SESSION 19**

## **BALLROOM A**

### ***Theme— Gender, Race and Representation***

**Moderator:** Christy Flatt, *Gordon State College*

### ***Women of Color on Prime Time Television***

Alethia Harrison, *Armstrong Atlantic State University*

The images on television are very impactful and important. Given the important role television has in our culture; scholars are and have been interested in analyzing the prevalent themes in both advertising and television programming. Historically, content analysis has shown that the representations of women of color on television have been stereotypical and problematic. I expect to find that not much has changed, and that women of color are underrepresented or poorly represented on television.

### ***The Big Bad F-Word***

Elizabeth Rhaney, *Armstrong Atlantic State University*

My paper will analyze the work of five contemporary female artists who either decide to call themselves feminist or reject the term. I will examine how each artist portrays women in their work and at the interviews they gave about feminism. I will also look at the negative stereotypes associated with feminism and how that influences a person's decision to identify with the term.

### ***Perceptions of police by woman-to-woman intimate partner abuse survivors***

Courtney McDonald, *Georgia Southwestern State University*

The current study draws data from interviews with 40 women who have been in an abusive relationship with another woman. Participants were questioned about the involvement of the criminal justice system during these relationships. Most expressed a strong reluctance to notify



police, often due to fears of heterosexism on the part of police officers and believed that police officers did a poor job in determining the victim from the abuser.

***From Boys to Men***

Ariel Schulze, *Oglethorpe University*

This paper analyzes the portrayal of masculinity in selected films of Judd Apatow.

**SESSION 20**

**BALLROOM B**

**Roundtable— *Institutional Consolidation: The Good, The Bad & The Ugly***

**Moderator:** Michallene McDaniel, *University of North Georgia*

Saturday 1:00 pm

**INCOMING AND OUTGOING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AND LUNCH**

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## **Many Thanks!**

It has been a pleasure to serve as the Program Chair for the GSA's 2013 Annual Meeting.

Thank you to all of the attendees, without whom we would have a sad meeting of people presenting to empty rooms.

Special thanks to our presenters who submitted such varied and thoughtful work.

Thank you to our student presenters for whom I hope this early conference was an enjoyable experience. Trust me, ours is a particularly friendly conference!

Thank you so much to my fellow Executive Board members, who answered my questions with great patience and checked on my progress throughout the planning process (not that they were worried, or anything).

Particular thanks go to my four classes of students and many advisees, who have endured a very tired and ill-prepared professor for a few weeks now. Your patience and understanding mean the world to me.

Thank you to my UNG colleagues for reminding me that I really haven't looked very rested or healthy lately, but who were there with offers to help in any way that they could.

Finally, thank you to the members of my household, who have endured life with a sleepless zombie with much support and good humor. And I'm not just referring to the cats and dogs.

Sincerely,

Michallene McDaniel

# Notes



## GSA Sociologist of the Year Award Winners

Peggy Herrman	2001-02	Charlie Jaret	2008-09
Robert Agnew	2002-03	Claire Sterk	2009-10
Jacqueline Boles	2003-04	Lana Wachniak	2010-11
Douglas Bachtel	2004-05	Miriam Boeri	2011-12
Catherine Meeks	2005-06	Michael Hodge	2012-13
Barbara Karcher	2006-07		
Sandra Stone	2007-08		

## GSA Meritorious Service Award Winners

1985	Drennan Kelley, Dorothy Pitman, Marguerite Woodruff, and John Doby
1986	No presentation
1987	Anna Grant
1988	Imogene Dean
1989	Abbott Ferris
1990	Homer C. Cooper and Hans Mauksch
1991	Albeno Garbin and Ruby C. Lewis
1992	Charlene Black, Barbara Karcher, and Charles Karcher
1993	Jacqueline Boles and Marian Glustrom
1994	Wilfred Bailey and Chet Ballard
1995	Ernestine Thompson and Robert Johnston
1996	No presentation
1997	Sandra Stone
1998	No record
1999	Roger Branch
2000	Al McCormick
2001	No record
2002	Jay Hughes (Strickland)
2003	No record
2004	No record
2005	Melvyn L. Fein
2006	No record
2007	No record
2008	Donald Gregory and Ned Rinalducci
2009	Michelle McCormick
2010	Al McCormick
2011	James Floyd
2012	Michallene McDaniel

## Presidents of Georgia Sociological Association

John T. Doby	1964-65	Albert E. McCormick, Jr.	1995-96
Tilman C. Cothran	1965-66	Jay Strickland	1996-97
Raymond Payne	1966-67	Fred Zampa	1997-98
Dorothy Pitman	1967-68	Linda August	1998-99
John A. Tumblyn, Jr.	1968-69	Lana Wachniak	1999-00
Homer C. Cooper	1969-70	Leona Kanter	2000-01
Barbara Payne Stancil	1970-71	Mel Fein	2001-02
Alpha M. Bond, Jr.	1971-72	Sam Abaidoo	2002-03
Eugene G. Sherman, Jr.	1972-73	Robert Johnston	2003-04
John Drenan Kelley	1973-74	Ned Rinalducci	2004-05
Fred R. Crawford	1974-75	Michelle McCormick	2005-06
Marguerite Woodruff	1975-76	Kevin Demmitt	2006-07
Charlene R. Black	1976-77	Laurel Holland	2007-08
John M. Smith, Jr.	1977-78	Michael Hodge	2008-09
Anna A. Grant	1978-79	Miriam Boeri	2009-10
Norma Seerley	1979-80	Donald Gregory	2010-11
Larry A. Platt	1980-81	Kathleen Dolan	2011-12
Richard M. Levinson	1981-82	Linda Treiber	2012-13
Louie A. Brown	1982-83		
Frederick L. Bates	1983-84		
Jacqueline Boles	1984-85		
Charles J. Karcher	1985-86		
Albeno P. Garbin	1986-87		
Ruby C. Lewis	1987-88		
Charles Jaret	1988-89		
Barbara Karcher	1989-90		
Robert Agnew	1990-91		
Chet Ballard	1991-92		
Hugh D. Spitler	1992-93		
Robert Johnston	1993-94		
G. Roger Branch	1994-95		

