Sociologists on the Front Stage: Making Sociology Visible
Georgia Sociological Association
2018 Annual Meeting

October 18-20, 2018
Columbus Marriott
Columbus, Georgia
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<td>Sara F. Mason</td>
<td>University of North Georgia</td>
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<td><strong>Vice President</strong></td>
<td>Darina Lepadatu</td>
<td>Kennesaw State University</td>
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<td><strong>President Elect</strong></td>
<td>Carly L. Redding</td>
<td>University of North Georgia</td>
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<td><strong>Past President</strong></td>
<td>Alison Hatch</td>
<td>Georgia Southern University</td>
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<td><strong>Secretary-Treasurer</strong></td>
<td>Christy Flatt</td>
<td>Gordon State College</td>
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<td><strong>Parliamentarian</strong></td>
<td>Sherry Smith</td>
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<td>Diogo Pinheiro</td>
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<td><strong>Journal Editors</strong></td>
<td>Melvyn Fein</td>
<td>Kennesaw State University</td>
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<td>Linda Treiber</td>
<td>Kennesaw State University</td>
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Welcome to Columbus, site of the 53rd Annual Meeting of the Georgia Sociological Association

Welcome to the 2018 Annual Meeting of the Georgia Sociological Association in historic Columbus, Georgia! We have an amazing program full of exciting research from Sociologists across the state of Georgia, as well as an interesting array of workshops. I hope that everyone enjoys a stimulating exchange of ideas in the friendly, collegial atmosphere that has come to define our annual meeting.

Our conference theme, “Sociologists on the Frontstage: Making Sociology Visible,” continues to be incredibly relevant as we all try to figure out the current political, cultural, and social landscape, whether in our classrooms, our research, or in our personal lives. The importance of sociology for understanding our social world is reflected in the breadth of the work in our program. Many papers directly engage with important current events and issues and encourage us to think about the role that sociology can play in better understanding these, and other, important issues. We also have a wide range of talks, workshops, and presentations on teaching and applied sociology. These are important areas that must be part of any serious discussion of making sociology visible.

The GSA is a truly special organization and I have been proud to be a member for the last 9 years and to serve the organization directly for the last 5 years on the Executive Board. I particularly appreciate the supportive and stimulating environment that we have all played a role in creating and that you sustain through your continued support of this amazing organization. So, thank you! I would also like to thank the Executive Board. I could not have asked for a better group of people to work with this year. Each of them has been instrumental in making this year’s conference a reality.

In closing, I’d like to draw your attention to some special events. We are honored to present the GSA Sociologist of the Year award to Dr. Mindy Stombler, Principal Lecturer of Sociology at Georgia State University. Please join us at the business lunch and awards ceremony on Friday to congratulate Dr. Stombler. Additionally, her plenary, “It’s Worth the Risk, Y’all: My Experiences Teaching Sexuality in the South” is at 11:00 a.m. on Friday. We also have two opportunities to socialize outside of a formal conference setting. We are kicking off the conference with a Presidential Reception on Thursday night (5:00-6:30pm) and on Friday we will have a Trivia Night from 7:30-9:30. Both events will feature light hors d’oeuvres and a cash bar.

Thank you for joining us this year and for your continued support of GSA!

Sincerely,

Sara F. Mason
Georgia Sociological Association
Sociologist of the Year
2017-2018

Dr. Mindy Stombler
Georgia State University

Dr. Stombler earned her Ph.D. at Florida State University and is currently a Principal Senior Lecturer and Director of Instruction at Georgia State University. She is also an Affiliate of the Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Institute. Dr. Stombler has received wide recognition for her teaching, including the Southern Sociological Society’s Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award. Teacher training is also a passion for Dr. Stombler. She directs the Graduate Teacher Training Program at GSU, which provides training to graduate students before they enter the classroom. This important work has earned Dr. Stombler the Pedagogical Mentorship Award from The Center for Excellence in Teaching & Learning at Georgia State University and the Carla B. Howery Award for Developing Teacher-Scholars from the Teaching and Learning Section of the American Sociological Association. Dr. Stombler is co-author of *Sex Matters: The Sexuality and Society Reader*, in its fifth edition with W.W. Norton, and *Focus on Social Problems: A Contemporary Reader*, with Oxford University Press. Her substantive research in the areas of gender, race, sexuality, race, sexuality, and pedagogy, can be found in a wide range of journals, including *Social Problems, Gender & Society, Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*, and *Teaching Sociology*. 
Highlighted Events

Hans Mauksch Teaching Workshop
“Fostering Civil Discourse in Today’s Sociology Classroom
3:15-4:45 pm, THURSDAY
Chattahoochee Room

Presidential Reception
5:00- 6:30 pm, Thursday
Marriott Lobby

Plenary Keynote Speaker
Georgia Sociological Association’s 2017-2018 Sociologist of the Year
Mindy Stombler, Georgia State University
It’s Worth the Risk, Y’all: My Experiences Teaching Sexuality in the South
11:00am-12:00pm, FRIDAY
Empire Mills/ Veranda

Business Lunch and Awards Ceremony
Lunch included with conference registration
12:15-1:15 pm, FRIDAY
Empire Mills/ Veranda

Sociological Research Workshop
“Engaging Undergraduates in Research”
1:30- 2:45 pm, Friday
Chattahoochee Room

Trivia Night & Silent Auction
7:30-9:30 pm
Chattahoochee/ Fountain Room

Applied Sociology Workshop
“Preparing Students for Careers in Sociology and Criminal Justice”
11:00-12:15, Saturday
Muscogee Room
## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

### THURSDAY 12:00 - 3:00 PM

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<tr>
<td>12:00-1:30 PM</td>
<td>Muscogee Room</td>
<td>GSA Executive Board Business Meeting</td>
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<td>2:00-3:00 PM</td>
<td>Muscogee Room</td>
<td>Board of Regents Advisory Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>2:00-3:00 PM</td>
<td>Chattahoochee Room</td>
<td>Journal Editorial Board Meeting</td>
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<td>3:00-6:00 PM</td>
<td>Marriott Lobby</td>
<td>Conference Registration</td>
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### THURSDAY 3:15-4:45 PM

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<td>3:15-4:45 PM</td>
<td>Chattahoochee Room</td>
<td>Welcome and Opening of the Conference: GSA President Sara Mason</td>
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<td>Hans Mauksch Teaching Workshop: Fostering Civil Discourse in Today’s Sociology Classroom</td>
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### THURSDAY 5:00 – 6:30 PM

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<td>5:00-6:30 PM</td>
<td>Marriott Lobby</td>
<td>Presidential Reception</td>
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The Challenges of Population Aging in India

Philip Thomas, Paine College, Philip_thomas5@yahoo.com

One of the most critical demographic changes in the modern world is population aging. In 2010, India had 92 million elderly people and demographers project that number will increase to 159 million in 2025 due to increased life expectancy and lower fertility. The aging population puts an increased burden on the resources of the country. The fiscal impact of an aging population can be seen in higher government spending on healthcare and welfare of the elderly. This paper will discuss the challenges of Indian population aging in greater depth.

The Relationship of Minority Stress and Disability among LGBT Adults 50 Years and Old: An Application of the Disablement Process

Jeffrey Lentz, Georgia State University/University of North Georgia, Jeffrey.lentz@ung.edu

This research extended Verbrugge and Jette’s (1994) disablement process model to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) adults 50 years or older. Minority stress is a chronic condition and over the life course impact every aspect. I am the first to connect minority stress to the disablement process. Chronic conditions such as minority stress, lead to many negative outcomes in various domain of life. I established the relationship of minority stress to disability among LGBT adults 50 years and older using OLS regression.

Getting in and Getting Along: Social Interaction Barriers for Older Adults with Physical Disabilities

Raeda K. Anderson, Georgia State University, randerson39@gsu.edu
I use an explanatory mixed methods model pairing together the National, Social, Health, and Aging Project surveys with Redefining and Maintaining Positive Social Interactions interviews to examine how social context affects people with disabilities ability to navigate social settings. To measure the effect of social context, analysis of internal interpretations for people with disabilities were examined across a myriad of locations and types of social interactions. My analysis finds that environmental barriers and outcomes of previous social interactions for people with disabilities are the strongest indicators of planning future social interaction.

8:00-9:15
SESSION 2  
Muscogee Room

THE SUBURBAN OPIOID STUDY: Emerging Findings from the Atlanta Suburbs

Moderator: Miriam Boeri, Bentley University

Panelists:
Denise Woodall, University of North Georgia, denise.woodall@ung.edu
David Gibson, Kennesaw State University, david.gibson@tutanota.com
Carrie Leon, University of North Georgia, cleon9179@ung.edu

The Suburban Opioid Study is a three-year project conducted in three states with the aim to increase our understanding of current suburban opioid use. Speakers in this panel were involved in collecting data in the Atlanta suburbs. They discuss overcoming barriers to recruitment of active opioid users in suburban communities, emerging findings on the use of medically assisted treatment (MAT), and alternatives to incarceration and treatment programs that are not working from the users’ perspectives.

8:00-9:15 AM
SESSION 3  
Pemberton Room

TEACHING I.  
Moderator: Carly Redding, University of North Georgia

Ethnographic Work with Students using The Atlanta Youth 2018

Ana LaBoy & Madison Higbee, Georgia State University, alaboy1@gsu.edu

The Atlanta Youth Count 2018 is a study of the prevalence of sex and labor trafficking among homeless youth in the metro-Atlanta area. As a part of this project, both undergraduate and graduate students were responsible for conducting ethnographic work over the summer of 2018. This presentation talks about how we used students as ethnographers and what can be
learned from student ethnographers, and how to engage students in different kinds of community based research.

A Thematic Analysis of Students’ Reflections on the City of Atlanta’s Point in Time Count: Feedback for Future Counts

Madison Higbee & Olivia Maley, Georgia State University, mhigbee1@student.gsu.edu

In January 2018, students in the GSU sociology department’s Atlanta Youth Count Domestic Field School participated in and submitted journals about their experiences of the City of Atlanta’s annual Point-in-Time (PIT) count, a nationwide count of homeless individuals. We conducted a secondary qualitative analysis of 36 student journals, creating two major themes of positive and negative experiences and dividing nuances into subthemes. The study’s results suggest that, while the PIT may somewhat accurately count homeless individuals, students’ experiences were overwhelmingly negative, thus the City of Atlanta should alter their techniques to allow for a more accurate assessment of homeless individuals.

Live Action Role Playing: Should Colleges Consider Its Application?

David R. Altamirano, East Georgia State College, daltamir@ega.edu

Live Action Role Playing as a social phenomenon is examined. Its history in the United States and elsewhere is reviewed. Possible benefits and detriments are speculated upon. Possible directions for research are suggested.

FRIDAY 9:30-10:45 AM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

9:30-10:45 AM
SESSION 4

Chattahoochee Room

TEACHING II. Moderator: Christy Flatt, Gordon State College

Three Creative Skill Building Activities to Enhance Student Learning & Engagement in Introductory Classes

Pamela Pitman Brown, Albany State University, pamela.brown@asu.edu

Theodosia Lovett, Albany State University, tlovett3@asu.edu

Many students begin their higher educational journey lacking the necessary skills to navigate the college learning environment. This workshop presentation will introduce two creative skill building activities (Library Scavenger Hunt, In the News) or presentation modules (How Do I Do This?) currently being used in introductory courses. The activities have been constructed for use
within an online or in face-to-face class, and work toward promoting a more equitable educational experience for students.

**College Students’ Perceptions of the Meaning and Importance of Course Grades**

Rebecca Nees, Middle Georgia State University, Rebecca.nees@mga.edu

With the rise in grade inflation and the emphasis on standardized testing in our society, what are students’ perceptions of the importance of course grades? This preliminary study employs an analysis of student discussion posts from the last 5 years in my online Introduction to Sociology summer course. I analyze student responses to questions regarding whether grades are emphasized enough in our society, do they feel they have deserved the grades they have received, and what do grades in courses truly measure or reflect.

**Standing in the Front or Sitting in the Back? Goffman’s Frontstage and Backstage in Face-to-Face and Virtual Classrooms**

Orsolya Kolozsvari, College of Coastal Georgia, okolozsvari@ccga.edu

Roscoe Scarborough, College of Coastal Georgia, rscarborough@ccga.edu

Based on Erving Goffman’s *The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life* and “On Face-Work”, our presentation will examine how we, as professors, present ourselves to our students in face-to-face versus virtual classrooms. We will explore face-work in the frontstage and backstage, as well as the types of information that we strive to keep in the backstage when addressing different audiences in multiple teaching formats. We will explore how our script, costume, expressions given and given off vary in face-to-face versus online classes.

**Internship Program Review: the use of Agency Supervisor’s Evaluations**

Rudy K. Prine, Valdosta State University, rkprine@valdosta.edu

Chet Ballard, Valdosta State University, cballard@valdosta.edu

This project presents data collected from agency supervisor evaluations of student interns from Fall 2013 through Summer 2018. Evaluation measures include 24 items. While the information is necessary to construct student grades, it is postulated that the summary data is also helpful for program review purposes.

**9:30- 10:45 AM**

**SESSION 5**

**Muscogee Room**

**RACE & ETHNICITY.** Moderator: Sara Mason, University of North Georgia
Colin Kaepernick: Is He Protesting or Disrespecting the Flag?

Richard Newtson, Columbus State University, newtson_richard@columbusstate.edu

In 2016, San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick sat and then later kneeled during the national anthem before his team’s preseason games to protest the way African Americans are still being mistreated in the US. The NFL protests spread to over 200 other players who sat or kneeled when the anthem was played. Many view these actions as laudable while others suggested it disrespected the flag and members of the armed forces. Using a sample of 100 undergraduate students, this paper examines the effects of race, social conservatism, and empathy on attitudes about Kaepernick’s action. Results are discussed.

Cultural Frames and Narratives of Southern Rural African Americans

Jamie MacLennan, Georgia Southwestern State University, jamie.maclennan@gs.edu

The following consists of an examination of the cultural frames and narratives employed by Southern rural African Americans to explain persistent black/white inequality. Data come from in-depth interviews with 38 African Americans living in concentrated poverty. Results show a multitude of narratives being used that fall within two general cultural frames: 1. Belief in the prevalence of systemic discrimination against African Americans that necessitates innovative (often illicit) behaviors in order to survive; 2. A nuanced recognition of social structural barriers to advancement combined with a belief in the possibility of success if one works hard enough (i.e., a “dual consciousness”).

History as Everyday Experience: Tracing the Institutional Framing of Slavery at a Plantation House Museum through Docent Manuals, 1992-2009

Sara F. Mason, University of North Georgia, sara.mason@ung.edu

Plantation tours have long been criticized for presenting a highly romanticized southern history that either minimizes or erases the experience of the enslaved; however, there has been a notable shift in the way that slavery is framed and talked about on plantation tours due to external pressures, specifically, a growing black tourist class, professionalization of the field, and commodification. I analyze the shift in the institutional framing of slavery through examining three iterations of the docent training manual for a plantation house museum in N.E. Georgia. Training manuals offer the purest understanding of the official institutional framing of slavery and serve as the raw material for each individual tour. I show how the site has moved from erasure, to relative incorporation, to strategies that emphasize a universal “one size fits all” approach to tour narrative with the goal of creating “affective experiences” that cross difference.
Media Perpetuation of Violence Against Women of Color: A Critical Theory Analysis

Raisa Gallegos, Georgia Southern University, rg02840@georgiasouthern.edu

This paper uses contrast and comparison of the feminist theories of Catharine MacKinnon and Patricia Hill Collins to critically analyze media portrayals of women of color. With emphasis on the concept of intersectionality, the paper argues that media representation plays an integral role in upholding and expanding a culture that excuses violence against women of color. The paper concludes with an exploration of the importance of critically analyzing media content and how holding sources of inequity accountable for their systemic influence aids in dismantling oppressive social structures such as those that enable racialized gender-based violence.

9:30-10:45 AM
SESSION 6
Pemberton Room

DISABILITY. Moderator: Brandon Atell, Georgia State University

Gender Differences in Mental Health Among Older Adults with Physical Disabilities: A Mixed Methods Analysis

Raeda K. Anderson, Georgia State University, randerson39@gsu.edu

A mixed methods analysis of 60 interviews using a biopsychosocial model of disability examining the gendered differences in mental health among older adults with physical disability. Mental health measures include depression (CESD), anxiety (HADS), stress (PSS), and loneliness (UCLA) for men and women who are between the ages of 55-85 with a physical disability live within the community. Analysis finds that women and men have different mental health outcomes when living in the same community, with the same medical providers, similar physical disabilities, and similar demographic characteristics.

The Effect that the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Will Have on Accessibility in the 2030 College Classroom

Joslyn Ellis, Columbus State University, ellis_joslyn@columbusstate.edu

Richard Newtson, Columbus State University, newtson_richard@columbusstate.edu

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 1990 is a federal law that requires all schools to provide for the educational needs of eligible students with disabilities. The purpose of the IDEA is to provide free appropriate public education to students with disabilities. While accommodations for students with disabilities are most easily seen in the online classroom, this study will explore where centers for accommodation are today in providing services for students who are visually impaired, hearing impaired, have learning disabilities, or have Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, and where they should be in the 2030 face-to-face classroom.
Measuring Functional Impairment in Children and Adolescents: Psychometric Properties of the Columbia Impairment Scale

Brandon K. Attell, Georgia State University, battell1@gsu.edu

Christopher Cappelli, Georgia Institute of Technology

Brigitte Manteuffel & Hongli Li, Georgia State University

Measuring functional impairment holds an important place in research, clinical practice, and service provision for children and adolescents. Responding to the need to track serious emotional disturbances at the state and national levels, the Columbia Impairment Scale (CIS) was developed in the early 1990s and has remained a popular scale for assessing impairment. Despite the growing popularity of the instrument in research and practice, only a few studies to date have specifically examined the psychometric properties of the CIS. In this presentation, we describe the results of the first item response theory analysis of the CIS utilizing nationally representative data.

FRIDAY 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

11:00AM-12:00 PM  Empire Mills
Keynote Plenary

It’s Worth the Risk, Y’all: My Experiences Teaching Sexuality in the South
Mindy Stombler, Georgia State University, GSA Sociologist of the Year

FRIDAY 12:15-1:15 PM

12:00-1:15 PM  Empire Mills/ Veranda
Business Lunch and Awards Ceremony (lunch included with conference registration)

FRIDAY 1:30-2:45 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

1:30-2:45 PM  Chattahoochee Room
SESSION 7

SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH WORKSHOP: Engaging Undergraduates in Research
Moderator: Christina M. Wolfe, Georgia Highlands College
Panelists: Winston Tripp, University of West Georgia
Stephanie Wright, Georgia Highlands College
Toralf Zschau, University of North Georgia

This year’s research workshop and forum discussion will explore faculty collaborations with undergraduate researchers. Involving undergraduate students in research has been identified as a high-impact practice that can improve college retention and graduation rates. For faculty, undergraduate research experiences can break down barriers between faculty and student as well as help teaching complement their research rather than compete with it. For students, involvement in faculty research can help develop a sense of self and future career, enhance problem-solving skills, and improve metacognition by connecting classroom knowledge to practice. Our presenters will discuss their experiences involving undergraduates within their own research agendas as well as best practices to encourage student-led research. Finally, we will move into a forum discussion of broader issues and concerns related to faculty-undergraduate research collaborations. All are welcome.

1:30-2:45 PM
SESSION 8  
Muscogee Room

TIPS AND TRICKS FOR APPLYING TO GRADUATE PROGRAMS: Q&A Session with Prospective Students

Moderator: Allen Hyde, Georgia Institute of Technology

Panelists:
Darina Lepadatu, Kennesaw State University, dlepadat@kennesaw.edu
Erin Ruel, Georgia State University, eruel@gsu.edu
Janice Clifford, Auburn University, cliffje@auburn.edu
Sara Mason, University of North Georgia, Sara.Mason@ung.edu

The graduate school application process can be overwhelming and complicated to navigate. In this panel, faculty in graduate program institutions will discuss some of the tips and tricks for applying to masters and doctoral graduate programs in sociology, as well as some things to consider before applying. While we will have a few questions developed in advance by the panelists to start the session, we will spend the majority of the panel with an open Q&A discussion allowing undergraduate and masters students, as well as faculty and staff, to ask questions of the panel about this important life decision.
CRIME & VIOLENCE. Moderator: Jenny Vermilya, University of North Georgia

Contexts of Criminal Homicides in a Florida County
Albert E. McCormick, Jr., M² Research and Consulting, amccormick919@comcast.net

Findings concerning the contexts surrounding criminal homicides are not consistent on all points. Indeed, an earlier analysis of the author’s Florida county data found some distinct differences from previous findings. This investigation provides an opportunity to validate the findings of previous research or point to areas where further inquiry is required.

‘Set Trippin’: An Intersectional Examination of Gang Members and Public Policy Implications
Lea Marzo, Georgia State University, Lmarzo1@student.gsu.edu

The purpose of this project is to examine gang members’ identity formation utilizing the intersections of sexuality, gender, class, and race. I seek to bridge the gap between on-the-ground experiences and sociological discourse especially for women whose experiences are overlooked. I utilize the docent method, a qualitative placed-based approach, to accompany 30-50 men and women San Diego gang members while on a walking/driving interview. Preliminary findings demonstrate that gang members experience significant adolescent trauma, membership for women is familial, and members have critical consciousness. I strive to humanize members, find ways to curb gang violence, and support public policy changes.

“Biscuits or Bullets?”: Friendship Narratives of Police Shootings of Dogs Portrayed by the Press
Jenny R. Vermilya, University of North Georgia, jenny.vermilya@ung.edu
Devon Thacker Thomas, California State University, Fullerton

The Department of Justice (2015) estimates that law enforcement killed nearly 25 dogs every day in the United States within a single year. This paper examines how the press represents the narratives of cases of police use of force against animals, specifically, police shootings of companion dogs who are family pets. The authors conducted qualitative content analyses of 189 print news articles published in diverse regions of the U.S. over the course of a six years period (2011-2016). Drawing on symbolic interactionism, we argue that the media’s representation informs the (in)acceptability of friendships between certain humans and dogs.
FRIDAY 3:15-4:30 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

3:15-4:30 PM
SESSION 10
Chattahoochee Room

GENDER. Moderator: Michallene McDaniel, University of North Georgia

“Girls Are Such a Drag”: A Content Analysis of Misogynistic Lyrics in Pop-Punk Music

Ash Scarborough, Kennesaw State University, ascarbo3@students.kennesaw.edu

Current rhetoric involving misogynistic lyrics in popular music focuses much of its attention on rap and hip-hop genres of music and minimal focus has been put on the substantial amount of misogynistic lyrics in pop punk music. Both genres frequently reproduce harmful ideas about women and relationships, but one faces constant scrutiny for its misogynistic lyrics while the other is notoriously romanticized. Through content analysis of lyrics from popular pop punk bands such as Blink 182 and Fall Out Boy, I will examine the methods pop punk bands deploy to produce misogynistic ideologies through lyrics. I will then discuss the ways gender, class, and race contribute to the largely ignored phenomenon of misogyny in pop punk music.

Geisha Girls and Dragon Ladies Reimagined: New Asian American Imagery in Media and Pop Culture

Vy Thuc Dao, Columbus State University, dao_vy@columbusstate.edu

Abiding imagery of Asian American women in popular culture has long relied upon two sets of enduring, and mutually exclusive traits: docile acquiescence or sly aggression. These features have historically sorted the portrayal of Asian American women in film, television, comics, and popular media into the instantly recognizable caricatures of Geisha Girls and Dragon Ladies. This paper presents an organizing typology of contemporary stereotypes derivative of the bifurcated groups (lotus blossoms, Sino-prostitutes, geekgirls and others) and reviews how new imagery created by Asian American female artists, comediennes, and filmmakers serve to creatively subvert and expand the dialogue for sociologists of popular culture on race, gender, and representation.

Empowerment of Women and Social Control: Examining the Role of Women in Controlling Deviance in Rural Nepal

Nirmal Niroula, South Georgia State College, nirmal.niroula@sgsc.edu

Prakash Adhikari, Central Michigan University

The objective of this research is to analyze the impact of social capital on deviant behaviors. Building on existing literature on social capital, this paper argues that sanctions by themselves
are not the sole contributors to social norms. Using primary data collected at the individual level in Nepal, this study examines the effect of women’s social capital on deviant behaviors. Preliminary results indicate that, in addition to social sanctions, cultural and demographic factors are critical to understanding deviant behaviors.

Saving our Daughters: Impact and Challenges of Teen Pregnancy on High School Completion and College Attendance

Ivan Page, Albany State University, ipage53955@gmail.com

This session will examine the impact of teen pregnancy on a group of 20 girls (between the ages of 15-18 years old) and how their life was affected academically, socially and economically. The specific objective of this presentation is to discuss: (1) the need for a positive parental guidance during the teen years, (2) the impact of being pregnant on high school completion and college attendance; and (3) the social, psychological and economic factors associated with teen mothers. Some challenges, solutions and best practices will be presented as a result of data from this focus group.

3:15-4:30 PM
SESSION 11 Muscogee Room

Creating, Finding, and Using Open Educational Resources (OER) for Sociology Classes

Moderators: Kathy Dolan, Georgia State University
Panelists: Jennie Law, Georgia State University
Jewrell Rivers, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College
Christina Wolfe, Georgia Highlands College

The purpose of this panel is to discuss the creation, sharing, and use of Open Educational Resources (OER) in sociology classes. We will discuss Creative Commons licensing, open textbooks, resources and databases for finding OER, Affordable Learning Georgia grants and resources, and ways we can all contribute to the creation and use of OER in our classes. Open educational resources reduce costs for students and broaden the array of resources available to instructors and students. Panel members will share their resources and experiences and audience members will also be encouraged to share their resources and experiences.

3:15-4:30 PM
SESSION 12 Pemberton Room

AUTHOR MEETS CRITICS. The Book “Hurt: Chronicle of the Drug War Generation” by Miriam Boeri
A panel of sociologists will discuss their critique of Hurt: Chronicles of the Drug War Generation by Miriam Boeri. This ethnography draws from 100 interviews conducted in Georgia with people who were aging while using illegal drugs. Set in historical context, Boeri pays conscientious attention to the intersectionality of race, gender, and class, revealing the impact of an increasingly punitive War on Drugs on a hurting generation.
Everett Rogers defines sociological diffusion of innovation as a process where an innovative idea or concept is spread by members of the social group through certain channels. Cultural diffusion is the spread of cultural beliefs and social activities from one group of people to another. This study focuses on Latin American families, whom have migrated to the United States within one generation. Its purpose is to use a qualitative approach to analyze trends in how culture/cultural identity is defined, key components in cultural development, and gain insight from multiple perspectives in the same family.

Living as an UnDACAmented Immigrant in the United States

Jennifer Gasca, Reinhardt University

In 2012, former president Barack Obama, issued an executive order that gave young undocumented immigrants, a work permit, a social security card, and a new dream. This executive order is known as the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals and has changed the lives of close to 800,000 individuals, living in the United States today. Since its termination by the Trump Administration there has been much controversy regarding these Dreamers and their future. It is because of this, that I decided to research how these Dreamers are living in our society and coping with this uncertainty.

DREAMERS’ Dilemma

Carlos Molina, Reinhardt University

I wanted to hear the voices of D.A.C.A. recipients, while also seeing how the public views the impact of D.A.C.A on the lives of those recipients. There was frustration and insecurity at the false promise that D.A.C.A would liberate them from deportation. The vast disappointment resonated with me as I shared in their disillusionment of the educational possibilities that D.A.C.A is unable to open. These recipients were grieving that they could not legally go visit their home country and felt the policy entraps them.

8:00-9:15AM
Session 14 Muscogee Room

AGING II. Moderator: David Broad, University of North Georgia

Community Theatre and Resistance to Aging
David Broad, University of North Georgia, david.broad@ung.edu

Remaining active in a variety of ways has been observed to slow or defer the typical features of aging. Community theatre combines several types of physical activity and the added value of
social and mental engagement to yield dramatic effects. This paper reports an ethnographic and participatory observation of a highly-reputed community theater in north Georgia.

**Staffing Issues in the Institution of Long-Term Care**

Caitlin Floyd, University of North Georgia, cnfloy8277@ung.edu

Nursing homes and other long-term care organizations face incredible challenges in staffing, leading to detrimental side effects on residents and employees alike. Understaffing, lack of professional skill/quality of applicants, and high turnover rates have significant impact on the elderly reliant on these services. This paper will address the main problems, outline issues that occur from these problems, and will consider cultural comparisons to elder care outside of the United States. It will conclude by examining some potential solutions to the current staffing situation of long-term care facilities.

**Health, Health Risk Behaviors, and Socioeconomic Factors Influence the Future Need for Long-Term Care**

Tabitha Ingle, Georgia State University, tingle1@student.gsu.edu

Few studies have attempted to predict the amount of long-term care an individual may need based on health, lifestyle, and socioeconomic status (SES) factors and created variable that will represent one’s need for LTC out of two existing variables, the number of chronic health conditions and one’s functional status. This study attempts to assess this relationship with a representative U.S. sample of older black and white adults. As life expectancy continues to increase within the United States, the attempts to address our nation’s care of the elderly becomes increasingly important.
the formalized research structure, the reentry into the formalized structure and completion of the final paper due to the undergraduate research center. Discovering how to navigate these complex issues as an undergraduate and new mentor are considered successful learning and bring forth an unexpected experiential learning process for both parties.

The Effect of Instrumental, Value, and Traditional Rationality on Education

Nayjha Harris, Georgia Southern University, nh02638@georgiasouthern.edu

Education is an important factor in my life, and it is greatly affected by instrumental rationality, value rationality, and traditional rationality. Instrumental rationality is the behavior in which the means and ends of action meet. Value rationality is the conduct that satisfies an abstract cultural value. Traditional rationality is the conduct that follows social norms. They all benefit, not only my experience in education, but my life in many ways.

Challenges of Educators in the K-12 Georgia Education System

Sarah Gill, University of North Georgia, spill2341@ung.edu

Through academic research and interviews with educators currently employed in the Georgia school system, this paper discusses why educators in the state of Georgia may not be satisfied in their current profession, specifically the effects of school power structures, socioeconomic class of the district, and policy.

SATURDAY 9:30-10:45 AM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

9:30-10:45 PM
Session 16
Chattahoochee Room

ORGANIZATIONS IN SOCIETY. Moderator: Darina Lepadatu, Kennesaw State University

Negotiation and Conflict Resolution Strategies of Millennials in the Workplace

Cynthia Pearce LeMay, Kennesaw State University, clemay2@kennesaw.edu

The Millennial Generation is now the largest workplace cohort, surpassing Generation Xers and Baby Boomers. This results in a new workplace culture dominated by Millennials but often managed by Baby Boomers. In addition, Millennials have unique characteristics that are in conflict with traits identified in negotiation theory as necessary for successful outcomes. To examine this conflict, this study utilized interviews and focus groups to examine the research question: “How do the unique characteristics of Millennials impact how they negotiate and
resolve conflict in the workplace?” The findings reveal how Millennials’ expectations, technology skills and team orientation impact how they negotiate.

The Insurance Industry: An Ethical Study and Gun Violence Issue

Amanda Richards, University of North Georgia, amrich2761@ung.edu

The insurance industry is a complicated set of systems that many individuals in all geographic regions are emerged in. This paper will address the ethical behaviors of insurance agencies and the difficulties faced involving insurance companies. Requirements, training policies, and improvements will also be touched on throughout this paper. The articles used to discuss and analyze ethical practices are important for the consumers of the insurance industry and individuals employed in various insurance companies. The articles bring to light different practices/implications of insurance industries that aren’t often discussed. With the usage of this material individuals can get a better insight on what goes on in insurance industries and the areas in which they can improve.

The Dark Side of the iPhone: Apple, Business Ethics and Corporate Responsibility in the Global Economy

Catherine Dietsch & Darina Lepadatu, Kennesaw State University, dlepadat@kennesaw.edu

As of August 2018, Apple Inc. which first went public in December 1980, has become the first US company to hit $1 trillion, making it the world most valuable company. Apple’s success is due to the innovation of its high-tech products and the competitiveness brought by the effectiveness of its global supply chain networks which based mainly in Asia. With Tim Cook, the new CEO, social responsibility has become a concern and some progress were recorded in the US facilities. However, Apple’s success is being tarnished by major delinquent behaviors which were uncovered at some of their overseas suppliers’.

Towards a Sociology of Robot Cars

Fred Zampa, Middle Georgia State University, fredzampa@yahoo.com

Discussion of autonomous vehicles (robot cars, self-driving cars) has been a popular topic in the media for several years. Generally, authors from various disciplines have commented from their own narrow, specialized perspectives. With sociologists largely absent, consideration of social consequences has been negligible and shallow. In the spirit of William F. Ogburn and using classical sociological theory, this paper calls for sociologists to join the discussion and suggests how several sociological perspectives might be useful in analyzing this important technological change.
SOCIAL INEQUALITY. Moderator: Ted Brimeyer, Georgia Southern University


Ted M. Brimeyer & James Crean, Georgia Southern University, tbrimeyer@georgiasouthern.edu

*Legislation can be portrayed by the media as having either particularistic benefits, suggesting that a policy benefits a narrow section of the population, or collective benefits, suggesting that the majority of society will benefit from a policy* (Bell and Entman, 2011). In this study we analyze how New York Times coverage framed the potential effects of the Fair Minimum Wage Act and subsequent state changes in the minimum. We find that the Times overwhelmingly supports the increase to the minimum wage but frames the effects of the legislation as particularistic which undercuts demand side arguments and possibly policy implementation.

The Sounds of Poverty: An Analysis of Music and Political Behavior Among the Rural Poor

Lara A. Wessel, Georgia Southern University, lwessel@georgiasouthern.edu

*Poverty is more than a policy problem. Yet, poverty has been, and continues to be, a problem addressed by government. Political participation, however, in poor communities most influenced by poverty policy, is consistently low. Scholarship that analyzes political participation has long recognized that understanding political behavior requires an analysis of cultural priorities. One means of understanding a culture is through its music; a valuable resource for understanding a variety of concepts, including subcultures. The current analysis uses the music of the Appalachian rural poor as a means of understanding political behavior, including patriotism and trust in government, in rural communities.*

Community Building Through Web Forums: An Analysis of Tiny House Enthusiasts on Reddit

Chelsey Willoughby, University of North Georgia, clwill7486@ung.edu

*Little research exists regarding the tiny house phenomenon in the U.S. This research offers first insights into this trend by examining the nature of interactions and support mechanisms available to tiny house enthusiasts on the web forum Reddit page https://www.reddit.com/r/tinyhouses. Posts were coded quantitatively using an inductive coding scheme and analyzed in IBM SPSS version 23. Results suggest online forums like Reddit function as a platform for community building by providing advice, resources, and support to*
tiny house enthusiasts. Future research should look into how online platforms are used to construct and reconstruct tiny house identities.

9:30- 10:45 AM
SESSION 18  
Pemberton Room

Workshop: Why is the Commission on the Accreditation of Programs in Applied and Clinical Sociology (CAPACS) important to the discipline of Sociology?

Moderator: Miriam Boeri, Bentley University, mboeri@bentley.edu

"Professionalizing" Sociology begins with the accreditation of an applied, clinical, or engaged public program in sociological practice by the Commission on the Accreditation of Programs in Applied and Clinical Sociology (CAPACS). The purpose of this workshop/presentation it to discuss the mission and goals of CAPACS and the value of accrediting postsecondary programs in applied, clinical, or engaged public sociology, and sociological practice at the bachelors', master's, and/or doctoral levels.

SATURDAY 11:00-12:15 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

11:00-12:15 PM
SESSION 19  
Chattahoochee Room

GLOBAL ISSUES. Moderator: Ravi Ghadge, Kennesaw State University

Challenges Facing Youth Entrepreneurs in a Depressed Economic Environment: How Effective is the Institutional Support System in Guyana?

George Danns & Donna Danns, University of North Georgia, george.danns@ung.edu

Youth entrepreneurship is being promoted by policymakers in Guyana and other developing countries as a key strategy to combat high youth unemployment and reduce individual poverty. An amalgam of international, governmental and other groups has promulgated policies and programs to lend support for this strategy. Yet youth entrepreneurs face many challenges that can derail this strategy. This paper uses survey data, agency interviews and secondary data to investigate the challenges youth entrepreneurs from the developing country of Guyana face and whether established institutional support mechanisms are effective in overcoming these.

Girls’ Education Around the World: Exploring Intervention Methods of Nonprofits in Israel, Thailand, Cambodia, and Sri Lanka Used to Increase Girls Education

Kiera Chan, University of North Georgia, kychan0298@ung.edu
It comes to no surprise that girls all around the world face problems with gender equality in the social, political and educational realms of society. Cultural norms such as believing that women should not receive education, practices like child marriage, and even menstruation, hinder girls’ abilities to attend school. According to UNESCO, “there are still 33 million girls of primary school age out of school.” This presentation will explore four unique non-profits in Israel, Thailand, Cambodia, and Sri Lanka and their impact on girls’ education in each country. Each non-profit organization will be analyzed in terms of goals and methods through an ethnographic approach.

How The One Child Policy Changed the Chinese Society

Elizabeth Robinson, University of North Georgia, earoji5362@ung.edu

This essay examines how China’s One Child Policy redefined and changed the social meaning of family in Chinese society on a micro level and the problems that arose within Chinese society due to the policy. Urban families moved away from the traditional extended family structure to a more urbanized, only child, “4-2-1” family structures. The family structure shift brought problems with how urban families would provide care for aging family members. The policy brought negative and positive issues with gender and sex. As Chinese citizens migrated from rural communities to urban cities and with the implementation of the One Child Policy, one child families gradually became the social norm among urban Chinese couples. Even with the removal of the One Child Policy to a Universal Two-Child Policy, Chinese couples are still choosing only to have one child because it is more economically advantageous with high costs of urban living.

11:00-12:15PM
SESSION 20
Muscogee Room

APPLIED SOCIOLOGY WORKSHOP: Preparing Students for Careers in Sociology and Criminal Justice. Moderator: Anne L. Borden, Western Governors University, anne.borden@wgu.edu

Panelists: Annice Yarber-Allen, Columbus State University
Dorinda Dowis, Columbus State University
Adria Welcher, Morehouse College

Do students ask you, “What can I do with a sociology major?” Are you a student who is wondering about the answer to this question? This panel will discuss careers in sociology. Panel members will share how they prepare students for a future in sociology through coursework, internships, and service-learning.
HEALTH. Moderator: Sherry Smith, Georgia State University

eHealth Literacy: Perceived Abilities of Undergraduate Nursing Majors

Amanda Mohammed, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, amohamm09@gmail.com

The Internet is often used by individuals to diagnose their own symptoms and is often treated as a primary source of information regarding health. This behavior can become risky, especially if individuals cannot distinguish reliable sources. Because nursing majors are future health professionals in the making, it is important for them to learn the skills of eHealth to improve the skills of patients. 31 students from a small, rural college participated in the survey.

Perceptions of African American College Women: STD/STI Health Risk Behaviors Among African American Women

Dashawna Anderson, Georgia Southern University, da02271@georgiasouthern.edu

Using a health equity lens, the purpose of this qualitative study is to examine perceptions held by African American College women, living in the southeastern United States, about the risk behaviors causing STDs/STIs among the Black/African American female population in the United States in general.

The Emergence of “Traumatic Birth”

Claudia L. Tillman, Georgia State University, ctillman7@student.gsu.edu

Recent studies have reported rates of “traumatic birth” occurring for up to 40% of mothers, with subsequent postpartum PTSD rates of 1%. This content analysis of both scholarly and popular texts explores the larger social processes and messages surrounding childbirth today and creates a historical context for understanding the newly emerging concept of “traumatic birth.” I ask: How did the socially constructed concept of “traumatic birth” develop, become accessible, and for whom?

SUNDAY 12:30 PM

12:30 PM Muscogee Room
GSA Incoming and Outgoing Executive Board Meeting and Lunch
Presidents of Georgia Sociological Association

Tilman C. Cothran 1965-66 Hugh D. Spitler 1992-93
Dorothy Pitman 1967-68 G. Robert Branch 1994-95
John A. Tumblin, Jr. 1968-69 Albert E. McCormick, Jr. 1995-96
Homer C. Cooper 1969-70 Jay Strickland 1996-97
Eugene G. Sherman, Jr. 1972-73  
John Drenan Kelley 1973-74 Leona Kanter 2000-01
Fred R. Crawford 1974-75 Melvyn Fein 2001-02
Marguerite Woodruff 1975-76 Sam Abaidoo 2002-03
John M. Smith, Jr. 1977-78 Ned Rinalducci 2004-05
Anna A. Grant 1978-79 Michelle McCormick 2005-06
Norma Seerley 1979-80 Kevin Demmitt 2006-07
Larry A. Platt 1980-81 Laurel Holland 2007-08
Richard M. Levinson 1981-82 Michael Hodge 2008-09
Louie A. Brown 1982-83 Miriam Boeri 2009-10
Frederick L. Bates 1983-84 Donald Gregory 2010-11
Jacqueline Boles 1984-85 Kathleen Dolan 2011-12
Charles J. Karcher 1985-86 Linda Treiber 2012-13
Albeno P. Garbin 1986-87 Ned Rinalducci 2013-14
Ruby C. Lewis 1987-88 Michallene McDaniel 2014-15
Charles Jaret 1988-89 Philip Thomas 2015-16
Barbara Karcher 1989-90 Alison Hatch 2016-17
Robert Agnew 1990-91 Sara Mason 2017-18

Sociologist of the Year Award Winners

Peggy Herrman 2001-02 Lana Wachniak 2010-11
Robert Agnew 2002-03 Miriam Boeri 2011-12
Jacqueline Boles 2003-04 Michael Hodge 2012-13
Douglas Bachtel 2004-05 Ralph LaRossa 2013-14
Catherine Meeks 2005-06 Linda Grant 2014-15
Barbara Karcher 2006-07 Kathleen Lowney 2015-16
Sandra Stone 2007-08 Jody Clay-Warner 2016-17
Charlie Jaret 2008-09 Mindy Stombler 2017-18
Claire Sterk 2009-10
Meritorious Service Award Winners

1985  Drennan Kelley, Dorothy Pitman,  
Marguerite Woodruff & 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 & Charles Karcher
1993  Jacqueline Boles and Marian Glustrom
1994  Wilfred Bailey and Chet Ballard
1995  Ernestine Thompson and Robert Johnston
1996  No record
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  Lana Wachniak
2007  No record
2008  Donald Gregory and Ned Rinalducci
2009  Michelle McCormick
2010  Al McCormick
2011  James Floyd
2012  Michallene McDaniel
2013  Laurel Holland
2014  Anne Borden
2015  Fred Zampa
2016  Rodger Bates
2017  Linda Treiber
The 2018 Georgia Sociological Association Conference Program is printed with the generous support of the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice at Kennesaw State University. Located in metro Atlanta, with over 300 Sociology majors and 800 Criminal Justice majors, the department welcomes new graduate students for its Master’s in Criminal Justice. The deadline for Spring admissions is November 1, 2018. For more info, please visit: http://chss.kennesaw.edu/mscj/.