

Child & Youth News

A Message from the Chair

Summer is holding me hostage here in Austin right now—I think that I saw asphalt melting on my way into work this morning. I say this by way of letting you know that I am getting in the spirit of August in Las Vegas! I think that I will be fully acclimated by the time the 2011 annual meeting rolls around. I hope you will be too, although I fear some of you may not.

The theme of this meeting is “Social Conflict: Multiple Dimensions and Arenas.” Certainly, we can think of childhood and adolescence as arenas of social conflict, and not just the conflict that occurs between young people in schools, on playgrounds, and online (recent news stories on bullying come to mind) or the seemingly eternal conflict between young people and adults, as typified by fights between teenagers and their parents and or the much darker currents of family abuse (Casey Anthony anyone?). We can also think about the political and cultural battles that are waged on the backs of children, as captured by major social issues like health care reform and immigration (anchor babies?) that get at the very heart of what human rights really are.

Our 2011 Children and Youth Section program wades into these issues. Check out the schedule or program activities included in this newsletter to see just how much. We will have many healthy debates and discussions as part of sponsored paper symposia on such topics as immigration as well as in our poster session. In the process, we can demonstrate just how important sociological research on children and youth is to the wellbeing of children and youth as well as to the wellbeing of society itself. In a paper session on children’s rights, we can also delve into the ways that children’s rights are central to human rights as a whole as we continue to get the ASA council to acknowledge this fact in the association’s statement on human rights and freedom. We will also talk action in a paper symposium on social contexts and public policy and in a Q&A on federally funded research on children and by honoring the Council on Contemporary Families for its accomplishments advocating for children through research.

In focusing on social conflict, however, let us not forget the enormous positive side of children and youth and the far happier



things that research on this population has shown, including the many ways that young people in even the most trying circumstances can be resilient. In the end, that resilience is the lesson to be learned.

So, on behalf of our incoming chair Loretta Bass and our incoming chair-elect Monica Johnson, I look forward to seeing all of you in the desert later this month at our many sessions, at our section reception on Monday night, and at our business meeting on Tuesday morning.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob".

The Newsletter of the
Sociology of Children &
Youth Section of the
American Sociological
Association

Summer 2011

**SECTION OFFICERS
2010-2011**

CHAIR:

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

CHAIR-ELECT:

Loretta Bass, *University of Oklahoma* (lbass@ou.edu)

PAST CHAIR:

Sampson Lee Blair
SUNY Buffalo

FOUNDING CHAIR:

Gertrud Lenzer
*Brooklyn College and the
Graduate Center, CUNY*

SECRETARY-TREASURER:

Holly Foster, *Texas A&M University* (hfoster@tamu.edu)

COUNCIL:

Rachel Gordon
University of Illinois, Chicago

Holly Heard
Rice University

Rosalind King
NICHD

Valerie Leiter
Simmons College

Allison Pugh
University of Virginia

Pamela Anne Quiroz
University of Illinois, Chicago

STUDENT REPS:

Brian Gillespie
University of California, Irvine

Emily Rauscher
New York University

WEBSITE EDITORS:

Matthew Rafalow
University of California, Irvine

Elizabeth Vaquera
University of South Florida

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Sarah M. Ovink
University of California, Davis

Children and Youth Section Election Results

Chair-Elect

Monica Kirkpatrick Johnson, Washington State University

Council Member

Ann Meier, Minnesota University
David Kinney, Central Michigan University

Student Council

Jason Blind, Indiana University

Ballot Initiative (Website/Newsletter Editor Bylaw Change)

YES



Upcoming Events

The Minnesota Population Center (MPC) will host two FREE informational workshops on MPC data products at the 2011 ASA annual meeting, to be held at the Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, NV. The “Integrated Health Interview Series (IHIS) Workshop” will focus on the IHIS database. It will be held **Saturday, August 20, 2011**, 6:30pm - 8:15pm, in Forum 6 on the Pool Level. The “Policy and Research Workshop: Using the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series in Research” will cover all of the IPUMS databases. It will be held **Tuesday, August 23, 2011**, 8:30am - 10:10am (Room TBD). These events are free, but registration is encouraged. To register, go to <http://training.pop.umn.edu/asa2011/registration>.

“Pricing the Priceless Child: A Retrospective” (with Michael Katz, Dan Cook, Paula Fass, Linda Gordon, and Barrie Thorne, and Viviana Zelizer)

[Social Science History Association Meeting, Boston, MA, November 19th](#)

Member News

Leticia Marteleto (Sociology, University of Texas at Austin) was named to join the [International Union for the Scientific Study of Population](#)'s new scientific panel, “Young People's Life Course in Developing Countries.” The goal of this panel is to advance understanding of transitions to adulthood in developing countries, focusing in particular on issues that require further research: the interactions of events, the different paths taken by adolescents and young people—negative or positive—and causes and consequences for their immediate and future life and well-being. **Congratulations, Leticia!**

Member News

Steve Carlton-Ford's book, *The Routledge Handbook of War and Society*, (with Morten Ender), has been named the "Outstanding Book of the Year" by the Peace, War, and Social Conflict section of the American Sociological Association.

Victor Rios was promoted to Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Yvonne Vissing (Salem State University) was appointed as board of directors at the National Coalition for the Homeless. She is also revitalizing the Center for Child Studies at Salem State University. People wishing to collaborate can reach her at yvissing@saalemstate.edu.

Amy Wilkins (University of Colorado at Boulder) was awarded a University of Colorado Provost Junior Faculty Achievement Award for her book, *Wannabes, Goths, and Christians: The Boundaries of Sex, Style, and Status* (Chicago, 2008).

Meghan Mordy (Colorado State University) received the Rural Sociological Society's Dissertation Research Award for her project, "Children's Empowerment and Educational Attainment in El Salvador." She will be completing 12 months of field research between September 2011 and August 2012.

Lori Peek (Colorado State University) was recently awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor. She was also awarded funding from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences as part of the Women and Their Children's Health (WATCH) Consortium being led by Louisiana State University's Health Sciences Center. This \$3.5 million grant will support three separate five-year projects to study the long-term physical and mental health effects of the BP oil spill on women and children. Congratulations on these important achievements!

Congratulations, Steve, Victor, Yvonne, Amy, Meghan, and Lori!



New Publications by Section Members

Gonzales, Roberto G. 2011. "Learning to be Illegal: Undocumented Youth and Shifting Legal Contexts in the Transition to Adulthood." *American Sociological Review*, Volume 76, number 4, 602-619.

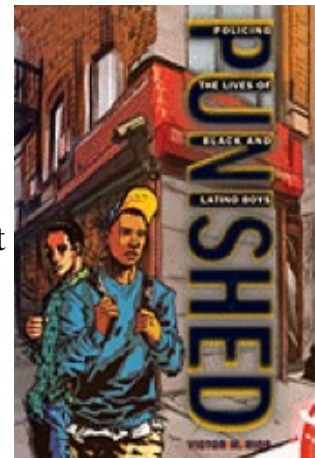
This article examines the transition to adulthood among 1.5-generation undocumented Latino young adults. For them, the transition to adulthood involves exiting the legally protected status of K to 12 students and entering into adult roles that require legal status as the basis for participation.

Gonzales, Roberto G. 2010. "On the Wrong Side of the Tracks: The Consequences of School Stratification Systems for Unauthorized Mexican Students." *Peabody Journal of Education*, Volume 85 Issue 4, 469-485.

This article draws from 78 in-depth life histories of undocumented Latino young adults in the Los Angeles metropolitan area. Gonzales incorporates a sample, stratified by educational experiences. The lived experiences of these young adults shed important light on the broader world in which they live and the ways in which immigration policies interact with school practices to shape success and failure.

Patricia A. Adler (University of Colorado) and **Peter Adler** (University of Denver) are the authors of a blog for *Psychology Today* called "The Deviance Society," which can be found at: <http://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/the-deviance-society>.

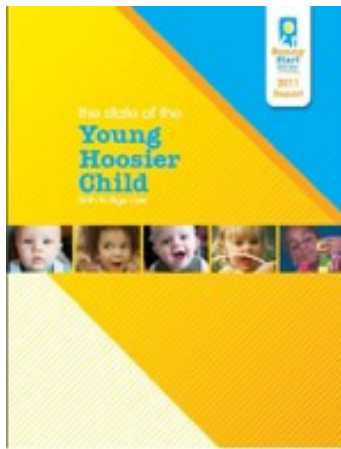
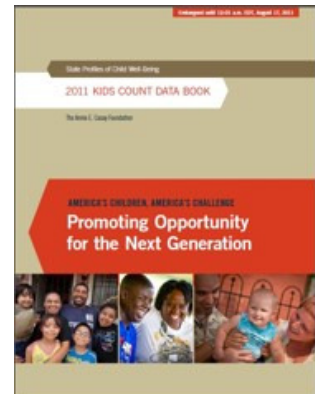
Victor Rios recently published *Punished: Policing the Lives of Black and Latino Boys*, NYU Press 2011. A former gang member who went on to earn a Ph.D. at Berkeley, Rios returned to his old Oakland neighborhood to shadow 40 young men as they dealt with poverty, violence, and institutionalized racism. As he recounts their life stories, Rios deftly balances analysis with vivid anecdotes about uninterested educators, struggling parents, police brutality, and gang victimization. He examines how the culture of punishment pushes young men into the very criminality that the punishment is meant to deter.



Patricia A. Adler and **Peter Adler** recently published *The Tender Cut: Inside the Hidden World of Self-Injury* (NYU Press 2011). The authors draw on 150 interviews with self-injurers from all over the world, along with 30,000-40,000 internet posts in chat rooms and communiqués. Their 10-year longitudinal research follows the practice of self-injury from its early days when people engaged in it alone and did not know others, to the present, where a subculture has formed via cyberspace that shares similar norms, values, lore, vocabulary, and interests.

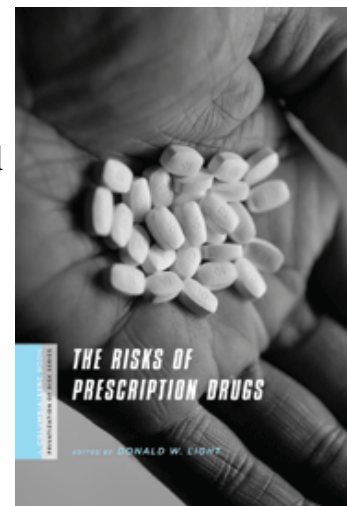
New Publications by Section Members

2011 *KIDS COUNT Data Book* Available on August 17! The Annie E. Casey Foundation's annual *KIDS COUNT Data Book* is a comprehensive resource on the status of U.S. children, featuring state-specific data on ten key indicators of child well-being. This year's *Data Book* examines how children and families are faring in the wake of the economic downturn. The report can be downloaded to create maps and graphs at the national, state, and local level. The 2011 mobile site offers access to hundreds of indicators of child well-being. It can be downloaded from: <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/databook/>. To access the Data Center, please visit: <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>

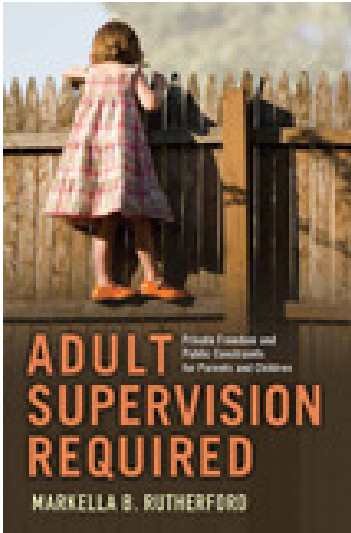


“State of the Young Hoosier Child” was completed through Indiana’s Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems grant recipient “Sunny Start.” Multiple factors contribute to the well-being of Indiana’s children and their families. A child’s ability to learn and stay healthy can be determined in part by his early childhood experiences-or even before he is born. Researchers found that many adult health problems, for example, can be attributed to early childhood experiences. Children who received a high-quality education are likely to earn more, pay more taxes, and commit fewer crimes as adults. Download the study at: <http://sunnystart.in.gov/syhc>

In their new book, *The Risks of Prescription Drugs*, health policy experts **Donald Light, Howard Brody, Peter Conrad, Allan Horwitz, and Cheryl Stults** describe how current regulations reward drug companies to expand clinical risks and create new diseases so millions of patients are exposed to unnecessary risks, especially women and the elderly. They reward developing marginally better drugs rather than discovering breakthrough, life-saving drugs. Harmful side effects have become epidemic, about 23-46 million a year, resulting in 1.5 million hospitalizations and about 115,000 deaths. The book covers issues important to C&Y section members. Allan Horwitz describes the rapid increase in youth being prescribed psychotropic drugs. Key to the proliferation syndrome is prescribing off-label, without telling the patients or their families. Furthermore, Peter Conrad and Cheryl Stults describe the medicalization of women and mothers.



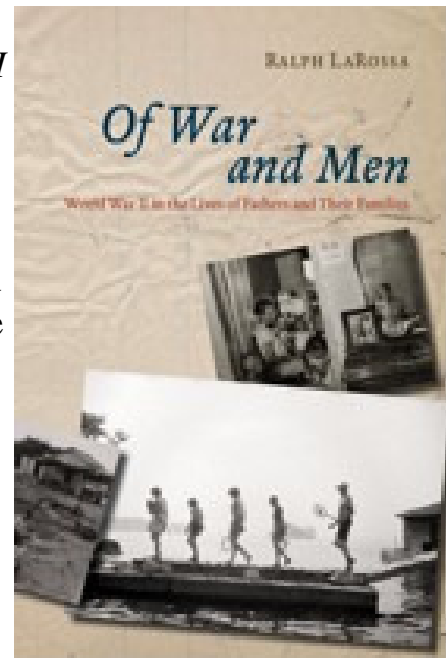
New Publications by Section Members



Markella B. Rutherford recently published *Adult Supervision Required: Private Freedom and Public Constraints for Parents and Children* (Rutgers University Press, September 2011). In many ways, today's parents and children have more freedom than ever before. There is widespread respect for children's autonomy as distinct individuals, and a broad range of parenting styles are flourishing. Yet it may also be fair to say that there is an unprecedented *fear* of children's and parents' freedom. Dread about Amber Alerts and "stranger danger" have put an end to the unsupervised outdoor play enjoyed by earlier generations of suburban kids. Using popular parenting advice literature as a springboard for a broader sociological analysis of the American family, Rutherford explores how our increasingly psychological concep-

tion of the family might be jeopardizing our appreciation for parents' and children's public lives and civil liberties. Markella B. Rutherford is an assistant professor of sociology at Wellesley College.

Ralph LaRossa published *Of War and Men: World War II in the Lives of Fathers and Their Families* with University of Chicago Press. To uncover the real story of fatherhood during the transformative era of the 1950s, LaRossa takes the long view—from the attack on Pearl Harbor up to the election of John F. Kennedy—revealing the myriad ways that World War II and its aftermath shaped men. The book explores the brutal side of family life in the postwar years. In the book, he dismantles stereotypes while offering up a chronicle of fatherhood in all its complexity.



Yvonne Vissing recently published *Introduction to Sociology* with Bridgeport Education Publishers. The textbook addresses children's issues more than most Introduction to Sociology textbooks. Professor Vissing teaches at Salem State University.

2011 ASA Annual Conference in Las Vegas Children and Youth Section Events

Paper Sessions

417. Section on Children and Youth Paper Session: Understanding and Protecting Children's Rights

Caesars Palace Las Vegas

Monday, August 22; 12:30-2:10

Session Organizer: *Brian Gran*, Case Western Reserve University

- A Comprehensive National Profile of the Sexual Abuse Of Students With Disabilities in American Schools. *Stephen Caldas*, Hofstra University; *Mary Lou Bensy*, Hofstra University
- Child Rights, Population Policies, and Adolescent Fertility, 1989-2006. *Wesley Longhofer*, University of Minnesota; *Minzee Kim*, University of Minnesota; *Hollie Colleen Nyseth*, University of Minnesota; *Elizabeth Heger Boyle*, University of Minnesota
- Cultural Tourism in Transnational Adoption: 'Staged Authenticity' and its Implications for Adopted Children. *Pamela Anne Quiroz*, University of Illinois-Chicago Children's Participation and Child Labor Organizations in Vietnam. *Jessica Karen Taft*, Davidson College
- "Sins of the Parents" or Social Conflict: Why States Made School Attendance Compulsory. *Emily Rauscher*, New York University

503. Section on Children and Youth Invited Session: Sociological Perspectives in Federally Funded Research on Children

Caesars Palace Las Vegas

Tuesday, August 23; 10:30-12:10

Session Organizer: *Elizabeth C. Cooksey*, Ohio State University

Panelists:

- *Robert Crosnoe*, University of Texas at Austin
- *Jennifer Elyse Glick*, Arizona State University
- *Rosalind Berkowitz King*, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
- *Elena Marie Fazio*, Federal Interagency Forum on Aging-Related Statistics

535. Section on Children and Youth Paper Session: Children, Families, and Immigration

Caesars Palace Las Vegas

Tuesday, August 23; 12:30-2:10

Session Organizer: *Jennifer C. Lee*, Indiana University

Presider: *Jennifer C. Lee*, Indiana University

- Back Together Again: The Impact of Family Separation and Reunification on Mexican Immigrant Children's Education. *Kate Cartwright*, Emory University
- Deconstructing the "acculturation gap" in Mexican American families and its effect on youth delinquency. *Tanya A. Nieri*, University of California, Riverside; *Matthew Grindal*, University of California, Riverside
- Generational Differences in Immigrant Adolescent Friendship Choices and Attitudes about Diversity. *Radha Modi*, University of Pennsylvania; *Grace Kao*, University of Pennsylvania
- The School Readiness of the Children of Immigrants: The Role of Families, Childcare and Neighborhoods. *Jessica Yiu*, Princeton University

Discussant: *Elizabeth Vaquera*, University of South Florida

558. Section on Children and Youth Paper Session. Social Context, Public Policy, and Child and Adolescent Wellbeing

Caesars Palace Las Vegas

Tuesday, August 23; 2:30-4:10

Session Organizer: *Stefanie Mollborn*, University of Colorado-Boulder

Presider: *Stefanie Mollborn*, University of Colorado-Boulder

- Assessing Causality and Persistence in Associations Between Family Dinners and Adolescent Well-Being. *Ann Meier*, University of Minnesota; *Kelly Musick*, Cornell University
- Child Care and Common Illness Among Preschoolers. *Jennifer March Augustine*, University of Texas at Austin; *Robert Crosnoe*, University of Texas at Austin; *Rachel A. Gordon*, Univ of Illinois-Chicago
- The Abstinence Spy: Uncovering Institutionalized Practices in AOUM Education. *Amie P. Hess*, Meredith College
- The Dropout Rate for Undocumented Immigrant Youth: The Effects of In-State Resident Tuition Policies. *Stephanie Potochnick*, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

Discussant: *Robert W. Faris*, University of California-Davis

Roundtables

476. Section on Children and Youth Refereed Roundtable Session

Caesars Palace Las Vegas

8:30-9:30am

Session Organizer: *C.J. Pascoe*, Colorado College

Table 1. Social Context and Youth Wellbeing

Table Presider: *Amy C. Wilkins*, University of Colorado-Boulder

- Neighborhood Change and Child Wellbeing. *Anthony Buttar*, The Graduate Center - CUNY
- Social context, child care selection and parental decisionmaking. *Nancy L. Marshall*, Wellesley College; *Alice Frye*, Wellesley College; *Joanne Roberts*, Wellesley College
- The Impact of School Type on the Psychological Wellbeing of Children of Labor Migrants in China. *Yuying Tong*, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
- The Journey or the Destination? Maternal migration & child vaccination in Haiti. *Emily Grace Smith*, Pennsylvania State University

Table 2. Race, Gender and Youth

Table Presider: *Amy Gill Langenkamp*, Georgia State University

- A Child's Place in Race and Gender Socialization. *Xochitl Renee Mota-Back*, University of Arizona
- A Violent Subject: School Discipline and Anti-Black Racism. *Connie Wun*, UC Berkeley
- Gender Differences in the Occupational Aspirations of Adolescents. *Sampson Lee Blair*, State University of New York-Buffalo; *Patricia Elizabeth Neff*, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania
- Integration Processes of Immigrant African Children and Families in France. *Loretta Bass*, University of Oklahoma

Table 3. Thinking about Youth and Risk

Table Presider: *Holly E. Heard*, Rice University

- Examining School-based Bullying Interventions Using Multilevel Discrete Time Hazard Modeling. *Stephanie Ayers*, Arizona State University; *M. Alex Wagaman*, Arizona State University; *Jennifer L Mullins*, Arizona State University; *Monica Bermudez-Parsai*, Arizona State University; *Eric Christopher Hedberg*, National Opinion Research Center
- Negotiating Risk: Cyberbullying at a Catholic Girls' High School. *Matthew H. Rafalow*, University of California, Irvine
- Risk and Capital: National and Regional Differences in Youth Well-Being. *Hanna Maija Jokinen-Gordon*, Florida State University; *Kevin M. Fitzpatrick*, University of Arkansas
- Youth Studies and Adolescence: conceptual (re)encounters. *Lia Pappamikail*, Escola Superior de Educação de Santarem, Instituto de Ciências Sociais.

Meetings

- Children and Youth Council Meeting
Monday, August 22; 7:00-8:30am
- Children and Youth Reception
Monday, August 22; 6:30pm
- Section on Children and Youth Business Meeting
Tuesday, August 22; 9:30-10:10am





Opportunities

IUUSP International Seminar on Violence in Adolescence and Youth in Developing Countries

The IUSSP International Seminar on Violence in Adolescence and Youth in Developing Countries is issuing a [call for papers](#) for an event in Asunción, Paraguay, May 2012.

Experiences of violence are frequently present in adolescents' and young people's lives, sometimes with lasting consequences. An indication of the importance of the topic is the fact that in the young ages morbidity and mortality resulting from violence are on the rise in many societies.

For this seminar the panel welcomes papers dealing with:

- The extent and types of violence among identifiable categories of adolescent and young populations defined by age (for example, younger and older adolescents), marital status, school attendance, area of residence, family composition, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, etc.
- Determinants and consequences of violence during adolescence and youth stages.
- Demographic aspects of violence in adolescence and youth.
- Health related outcomes resulting from violence.
- Characteristics of the young population “at risk” of involvement in violence (as victims or perpetrators).
- Methodological issues in studying violence among young people.
- The IUSSP Scientific Panel on Young People's Life Course in Developing Countries invites researchers in the field to submit online by **November 15, 2011** a short 200-word abstract AND upload an extended abstract (2 to 4 pages, including tables) or a full paper, which must be unpublished. To submit and fill out the online submission form, please click here: [online submission form](#).

Opportunities

Cultural Sociology of Divorce: An Encyclopedia

Golson Media invites academic editorial contributors to *Cultural Sociology of Divorce: An Encyclopedia*, a 3-volume library reference to be published in 2013 by SAGE Publications. This comprehensive project will be marketed to academic and public libraries as a print and digital product available to students via the library's electronic services. We are now making assignments with a deadline of October 15, 2011.

Each article, ranging from 900 to 4000 words, is signed by the contributor. The General Editor of the encyclopedia is Robert E. Emery, Ph.D., University of Virginia, who will review all the articles for editorial content and academic consistency.

If you are interested in contributing to the encyclopedia, it can be a notable publication addition to your CV/resume and broaden your publishing credits. Payment for the articles are honoraria that range from a \$50 book credit from Sage Publications for article submissions up to 1,000 words up to a free copy of the encyclopedia for contributions totaling greater than 10,000 words. More than this, your involvement can help assure that credible and detailed data, descriptions, and analysis are available to students of divorce issues.

The list of available articles (Excel file) submission guidelines, and sample article are prepared and will be sent to you in response to your inquiry. Please then select which unassigned articles may best suit your interests and expertise. If you would like to contribute to building a truly outstanding reference with *Cultural Sociology of Divorce: An Encyclopedia*, please contact [Lisbeth Rogers](#) by the e-mail information below. Please provide a brief summary of your background in divorce issues. Thanks for your time and interest.

The **Integrated Health Interview Series (IHIS)** provides free online access to a half-century of consistently-coded data on child and adult health conditions, health care, and health behaviors. Based on the public use files of the U.S. National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), the IHIS project is carried out by researchers at the University of Minnesota with funding from NIH. IHIS includes thousands of variables on such topics as child mental health problems and treatment, use of complementary and alternative medicine by children, child disability, children with special needs, health conditions (e.g., autism, asthma, ADD, and hundreds more), general health, and use of medical services. The IHIS data extract system allows researchers to create a customized data file with the years and variables needed for their analysis, or data can be analyzed using an online tabulator. For more information, visit the IHIS website at www.ihis.us or e-mail ihis@umn.edu.

Opportunities

The Foundation for Child Development: Changing Faces of America's Children - Young Scholars Program

Stimulate basic and policy-relevant research about the early education, health and well being of immigrant children from birth to age 10, particularly those who are living in low-income families.

Support the career development of young investigators—from the behavioral and social sciences or in an allied professional field—to attain tenure or who have received tenure in the last four years from a college or university in the United States.

Eligible researchers will have earned their doctoral degrees within the last 15 years, and be full-time, faculty members of an institution in the United States. Applicants must hold a Ph.D. or its equivalent in one of the behavioral and social sciences or in an allied professional field (e.g., public policy, public health, education, social work, nursing, medicine). Three to four fellowships of up to \$150,000 for use over one to three years (and in rare cases, up to five years) will be awarded. Please note tenure equivalent positions are not eligible for the fellowship.

The deadline is November 2, 2011. Additional information is available at: <http://fcd-us.org/our-work/new-american-children/apply-ysp> Questions can be addressed to <mailto:ysp@fcd-us.org>.

New section proposal seeks supporting members: ASA Consumers and Consumption Section

Dr. Dan Cook, at Rutgers University, sent an update on the efforts to create an official Section of the ASA on the Sociology of Consumers and Consumption. A total of 200 signatures from current ASA member and a proposal are needed by August 17. The group would complement, collaborate with and strengthen the efforts of the CCT (Consumer Culture Theory) group. Dr. Cook also offered opportunities through the section for students and junior faculty to meet each other as well as senior scholars in the field if the institutional support is obtained through ASA if the section becomes official.

What to do: If you know of anyone who might be interested, ASA members need to act quickly. You can join from <http://www.asanet.org/members/join.cfm>. There are different rates for different categories of membership. Student memberships are only \$20!

If you are interested in supporting this effort, send the following statement to Dr. Cook at csrn2011@camden.rutgers.edu: "In sending this email, I certify that I am an ASA member and that I pledge to join the Sociology of Consumers and Consumption section as a dues-paying member for at least the next two membership years once it commences."

Job Opportunity

The **Department of Sociology at the University of Illinois at Chicago** is seeking candidates for a tenure track position at the assistant professor level beginning August 2012. We seek candidates using quantitative methods in their research and who would be able to contribute to mentoring and teaching of quantitative methods at the undergraduate and/or graduate levels. The candidate should also have a substantive research agenda that will contribute to one or more of the department's existing areas of strength: work/organizations/economy or race/ethnicity/gender.

Candidates must have a doctorate in sociology and a strong commitment to research, teaching, and supervising student theses and dissertations. The deadline for receipt of applications is September 23, 2011. For full job specifications and requirements applicants should go to <http://jobs.uic.edu> (position number 11514).

News from the Brooklyn CUNY Children's Studies Program and Center

New Horizons III: The Future of Children, Youth, and the Public Good. The publication details the news, events, and activities of the Children's Studies Program and Center over the past year. The current edition also features the students from their first graduating class of Children's Studies majors!

UNCRC and OCA Updates!

In April, Assembly member Ellen Jaffee issued a letter, co-signed by 28 Assembly members and 2 state Senators, to President Barack Obama and the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee to ratify the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). The letter urges the President and Senate to approve the international treaty that gives universally recognized norms and standards for protecting and promoting children's civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights.

Assembly members William Scarborough and Barbara Clark were among those who signed the letter; both assembly members have worked closely with Children's Studies. The UNCRC has become part of the framework for our Children's Studies program. In June, the New York State Assembly passed a bill (A.0644A) that would establish a new Executive Office of the Child Advocate to ensure the safety of children in the state's child welfare, juvenile justice, and child care systems. The Children's Studies website has extensive information on legislation for an Independent Office of the Child Advocate for New York.

For a complete list of their news visit: <http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/pub/departments/childrensstudies/>

Section on Children and Youth
American Sociological Association
1307 New York Avenue, NW
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Washington, DC 20005

Next Issue

The Fall issue of Child & Youth news is scheduled for October 2011. Please send submissions to Elizabeth Vaquera at evaquera@usf.edu. If you would like to be interviewed, please let the publications committee know! Find us on the web [at our newly redesigned site](#). Also, join our Facebook group, "ASA Section on Children and Youth." We'd love to see you there!

Thank you, Sarah!

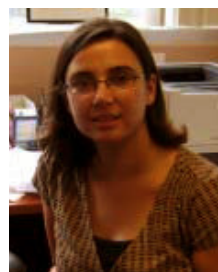
The Children & Youth Publication Chair, Elizabeth Vaquera, and the Website Editor, Matt Rafalow, would like to share with the readers a big THANK YOU to Dr. Sarah Ovink. Sarah has done a terrific job this year as editor of *Children & Youth News*. Please also join us in congratulating her on her new job in the Sociology Department at Virginia Tech! You'll be missed!

Mission Statement:

The purpose of the Section on Children and Youth is to encourage the development and dissemination of sociological perspectives on children in the areas of research, theory, policy, practice, and teaching. Here, the term "children" includes every human being from infancy through the transition to adulthood.



Sarah



Elizabeth



Matt

Publications Committee

Sarah M. Ovink (Outgoing Newsletter Editor)

University of California, Davis

Elizabeth Vaquera (Chair)

University of South Florida

Matt Rafalow (Website Editor)

University of California, Irvine

Why Join the ASA Section on Children and Youth?

The Children and Youth section encourages the development and dissemination of sociological perspectives on children. The Children & Youth Section offers many benefits, including:

- Section reception at ASA with youth-minded scholars
- Section sessions (4) and roundtables (8); graduate students are encouraged to attend and present
- At 2011 ASA Conference, sessions include leaders in the field, such as Jennifer C. Lee, Brian Gran, and more.
- Website with leads and information pertaining to research on children and youth
- Section listserv access: Opportunities posted about meetings, jobs, books, and other developments in the field.
- Distinguished Contribution and Student Awards
- A network of colleagues with research interests similar to yours.

If you do not belong to the ASA, a prerequisite for section membership, we invite you to join both it and our section using an ASA application form. You can also get a membership application form by calling the ASA at (202) 383-9005. See the Membership section for more information.