

Peace, War & Social Conflict

Section of the American Sociological Association

Website: www.peacewarconflict.org

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Letter from the Chair

Dear Section Members:

I trust everyone enjoyed safe travels home from our meetings in Montreal, even if you were unexpectedly deprived of your toothpaste, perfume, and mouthwash by Homeland Security. It was, as usual, a pleasure to catch up with many of you and discover again how section members are applying sociological theory and methods to the study of peace, war, and social conflict.

Sociologists in our section are producing important knowledge of contemporary relevance. A September 23-25 poll conducted by the American Polling Research Institute reports that when 1,000 respondents nationwide (U.S.) were asked, "Which issue do you think we as a nation need to focus the most on right now?" twenty percent responded, "terrorism, national security," and nineteen percent responded, "rebuilding, securing Iraq."¹ Thankfully, sociologists do not build their research agendas primarily around polls, but it is also clear that our teaching and research are particularly relevant at the moment. Whether it is the study of the U.S. military as one of the most intricate large contemporary institutions, the global proliferation of nonviolent regime change

1

<http://www.angelfire.com/scary/g4j/polling/misc/poll14.html>; margin of error = 3%

movements, the impact of war on social capital, or the potentials of conflict resolution initiatives, it is important that sociological perspectives be represented within the burgeoning social scientific study of conflict in its destructive and constructive forms.

Luminaries of sociology have long made important contributions to the study of peace, war, and social conflict. Georg Simmel's work on conflict and its integrative features as well as Lewis Coser's reformulation have played an important role in understanding the constructive potentials within conflict. C. Wright Mills' *The Causes of World War III* also comes to mind as we revisit the expansion of the military-industrial-policy complex in connection with wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. One of our section's founding members, Louis Kriesberg, who authored *Constructive Conflicts: From Escalation to Resolution*, was a co-recipient of this year's Peace and Justice Studies Association (PJSA) Scholar of the Year Award, and nominations for our section's 2007 *Robin Williams Award for a Career of Distinguished Contributions to Scholarship, Teaching, or Service* will no doubt reveal several more sociologists who have brought the tools of our discipline to bear on the deeply social and empirical phenomena of conflict and peace.

As the submission date (January 18th) for 2007 papers and presentations will pass before our next newsletter, we should begin looking ahead to August 11-14, 2007 when the association will address the theme chosen by President Frances Fox Piven, *Is Another World Possible*, a topic that resonates strongly with the interests of our section. Indeed, President Fox Piven spoke only a few weeks ago in a plenary address at the annual meeting of the Peace and Justice Studies Association, signaling the importance of sociology for the study of peace, war, and social conflict.

Several of our section members have answered the President's call by organizing our 2007 section sessions. Steve Carlton-Ford and Steve Scanlan proposed and will organize a session on "Peace, War, and Social Development" to focus on the causal role of economic and social development in the trajectory of conflicts as well as consequences of war and peacebuilding for development. We have also shamelessly stolen the President's theme as an inspiration for our second session, organized by Daniel Egan, "Is a Nonviolent World Possible?" (Please see a more detailed announcement in this newsletter with abstracts describing these sessions.) Laura Miller and Daniel Ritter will organize our annual roundtable sessions which will, as usual, cover a range of compelling topics.

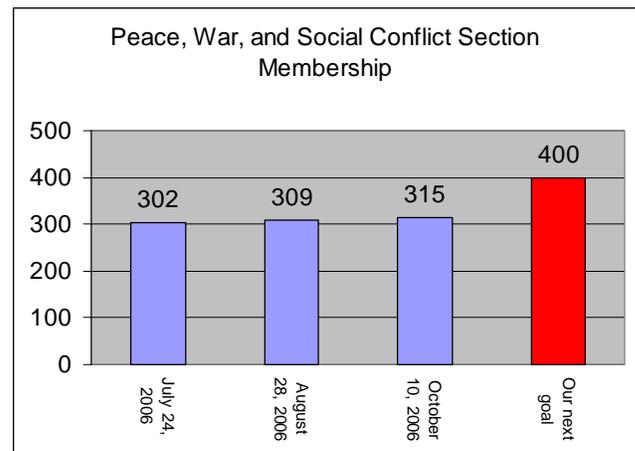
While I am mentioning sessions, let me appeal to you to submit proposals for 2008 thematic sessions and workshops by November 20, 2006. Proposals for other types of invited sessions are due by February 1, 2007.

Please find a lengthy web link to more information in the footnote below.²

Our membership, under the leadership of Yuko Whitestone and members on the membership committee, continues to increase, but we have a lot of good work ahead of us to reach our next goal of 400 members. Please recruit your colleagues and students! If you have creative ideas for spreading the word about our section, please contact Yuko or myself.

If you have not visited the section's website recently at www.peacewarsocialconflict.org, Amy Hubbard, has assembled a collection of pictures from the meetings (meticulously captioned) that show just how much fun we can have while working and socializing, especially when Dr. Ruth Westheimer shows up ... seriously ... she came to our reception. I wonder who will appear next year. Join us in New York and bring your favorite celebrity!

~ Lee Smithey



²

<http://www.asanet.org/page.wv?section=Future+Meetings&name=Annual+Meeting+2008--+Submit+Suggestions>



Djordje Stefanovic and Louis Hicks talk about peace, war, and social conflict.

2006 Robin Williams

Distinguished Career Award

Charles C. Moskos

We presented Charles Moskos with 2006 Robin Williams Distinguished Career Award in absentia this past August at the ASA meetings in Montreal. Below are Morten Ender's remarks.

Many of you know of the death of Robin Williams this past summer—the name sake of our major section award and the first recipient of this award in 1992. Professor Williams conducted field-work and published subsequent findings as part of *The American Soldier* during and after WWII. In particular, he spent time with “Negro” soldiers and wrote about their experience and the general characteristics of combat for U.S. soldiers. The research on Blacks became a significant area of inquiry for him where he researched race and ethnicity across his life. About a year ago I had struck up a letter correspondence with Professor Williams. Having been in Iraq in the Summer of 2004 and studying the military, I was intrigued about benchmarking my experiences with those who had come before me...clearly, Professor Williams was the pioneer in this area. Charles Moskos comes along 20 years later and makes such field-work a craft. While Robin Williams is the modern military sociologist in the field, Charlie Moskos is the post-modern one. Charlie goes where soldiers go. He’s been to Vietnam (1965 and 1967), the Dominican Republic (1966), Honduras (1984), Panama (1990), Saudi Arabia (1991), Somalia (1993), Haiti (1994), Macedonia (1995), Bosnia (1996 and 1998), Kosovo (2000), and most recently Kuwait and Iraq (2003). Charlie’s scholarship is far too wide list. A quote from his letter of nomination states:

Charlie has written on a range of topics related to Peace, War, and Social Conflict, to include work on the enlisted soldier, racial integration, peacekeeping and humanitarian missions, conscientious objection, civic national service, media-military relations, and the postmodern military.

If you want details, the postmodern military sociologist has a website: <http://charlesmoskos.com/>. Further, if you google Charles Moskos you get 75,000 hits.

I’ll try to hit the highlights of his on-going contributions: His professional career was anchored mostly at Northwestern University—37 years prior to a short stint as an assistant professor at the University of Michigan—and he’s currently Professor Emeritus, Northwestern University. But Charlie often and proudly introduces himself as Specialist Moskos—he spent 3 years as an enlisted draftee in the U.S. Army. On his website he lists his field of interests as: Military Sociology; National Youth Service; Introductory Sociology; and Greek American Studies.



His major book publications include *The American Enlisted Man: The Rank and File in Today's Military* (N.Y.: Russell Sage Foundation, distributed by Basic Books, 1970); *A Call to Civic Service: National Service for Country and Community* (N.Y.: Free Press, 1988); *The Military - More than Just a Job?* (Elmsford Park, N.Y.: Pergamon-Brassey's, 1988 with Frank R. Wood); *The New Conscientious Objection: From Sacred to Secular Resistance* (N.Y.: Oxford University Press, 1993 with John W. Chambers); *All That We Can Be: Black Leadership and Racial Integration the Army Way*, (N.Y.: Basic Books, 1996; paperback edition, 1997, with John Sibley Butler); and co-editor of *The Postmodern Military: Armed Forces After the Cold War* (N.Y.: Oxford University Press, 2000 with John A. Williams and David R. Segal). Charlie’s first publication was in 1957 titled “Has the Army Killed Jim Crow?” in the *Negro History Bulletin* (Vol. 21, No. 2, Nov., pp. 27-29). He has since published over 100 journal articles on military sociology alone. Perhaps the most significant are those related to the Institutional/Occupational Model. He has also published pieces in the *Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Washington Monthly*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Atlantic Monthly*, and *The New Republic*.

His works are translated into 19 languages (Albanian, Bulgarian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Hungarian, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Slovenian, Spanish, Thai, and Turkish).

He was appointed by George Bush to the President's Commission on Women in the Military (1992) and by the U.S. Senate to the Commission on Military Training and Gender-Related Issues (1998). In 1993, he advised Nelson Mandela on ways to racially integrate a post-apartheid military in South Africa. In 1994, President Clinton cited Professor Moskos on national television in announcing the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue" policy on homosexuals in the military and again in 1996 as the inspiration for his youth service program. In 1999, he served as the special adviser to Vice President Gore's international conference on fighting corruption in security forces. In 2000-01, he was a member of the U.S. Commission on National Security/21st Century. He is well-known for writing the established policy and coining the phrase "Don't Ask, Don't Tell", the U.S. military's policy regarding homosexuals among its ranks and from a national service speech he made in 1988, then-Governor Clinton adopted forms of it as his AmeriCorps program.



He has provided testimony to the U.S. Senate: Armed Services Committee (1978, 1981, 1991, 1993, 1995, 1999, and 2001), Veterans Affairs Committee (1976, 1980, 1991); U.S. House of Representatives: Armed Services Committee (1978, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1991, 1998 1999, 2000. 2004), Budget Committee (1985).

Charlie was a well-known and popular teacher and famous for teaching introductory sociology at Northwestern University. His nomination letter noted:

When word of his retirement spread around campus, the Northwestern Sociology office was flooded with calls from students panicking that they wouldn't be able to take his class before they graduated.

He's been teaching about the armed forces for 35 years. His awards include an Outstanding Teacher Award (College of Arts and Sciences, Northwestern University; Alpha Lambda Honor Society, Outstanding Teacher of Freshmen; and Excellence in Teaching Award (Northwestern University Alumni Association). Open-Ended quotes from his students include:

Moskos kicks ass.

Moskos is a great man. I learned so much from him because I could tell he was interested in not only what he did, but interested in how we would react to what he had to say. He was hilarious, he could relate to us. He is a fabulous professor.

This guy loves sociology and that is enough.

He loves Sociology, and it made me love it too. He used interesting examples which were specific to our day-in-age, making the class fascinating. There were often times I walked out of the class so happy and intellectually stimulated. I LOVE CHARLES MOSKOS!

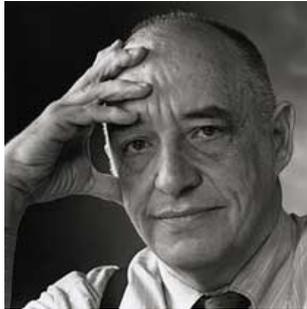
Charlie as served on numerous boards including President of the Research Committee on Armed Forces and Conflict Resolution, International Sociological Association; the Chairman of the Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society (700-member international society); and on the Advisory Board of the Veterans for America.

Charlie has been honored in a number of venues. Foremost as the (1997) First Recipient of Award for Public Understanding of Sociology by the American Sociological Association and just last year with the(2005) Morris Janowitz Career Achievement Award, Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society. He received the 2000 Millennium Award, Albuquerque High School Alumni Association—know that's cool.

Receiving our section's award he joins a distinguished group. Indulge me while I read the list:

- 1992 **Robin Williams**, Cornell University
- 1993 **Louis Kriesberg**, Syracuse University
- 1994 **Elise Boulding**, Dartmouth College
- 1995 **Herbert C. Kellman**, Harvard University
- 1996 **Gene Sharp**, Harvard University
- 1997 **William Gamson**, Boston College
- 1998 **Allen Day Grimshaw**, Indiana University

- 1999 **Janet Abu-Lughod**, New School for Social Research
- 2000 **David Segal**, University of Maryland, College Park
- 2001 **Glen Elder**, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- 2002 **Mady Weschler Segal**, University of Maryland, College Park
- 2003 **Thomas J. Scheff**, University of California, Santa Barbara and **Suzanne M. Retzinger**, Santa Barbara
- 2004 **Paul Wehr**, University of Colorado, Boulder
- 2005 **Lester Kurtz**, University of Texas, Austin



Enough said, the members of the committee wholeheartedly agreed and it is with great respect and pleasure that we honor Charles C. Moskos with the Robin Williams Award for a Distinguished Career in the Field of Peace, War, and Social Conflict studies.



Alex Bierman hangs with Morten Ender at the 2006 ASA Annual Meeting, Montreal

General Announcements

Sociologists Needed to Advance Global Democracy (By Jackie Smith, University of Notre Dame). How is it possible to connect the local and the global for our communities and all of humanity? The World Social Forum process is both a space and an organizing structure that encourages groups working for social justice at local, national, and global levels to find ways to integrate their analyses and actions. But the WSF process can only be effective if people like us take it

upon themselves to use the process to foster global-level dialogue, collaboration, and democracy.

I have volunteered to be a liaison between the Sociologists without Borders (SSF) and the U.S. Social Forum planning team. I am seeking volunteers from within the social science community to help me with this important task. This summer will be the first national meeting of the social forum in the U.S., and with your help it can become a major national event that our political leaders must pay attention to (just as they already do in many other parts of the world!). More information about the U.S. Social Forum can be found at: www.ussf2007.org.

At this point there are at least two easy ways that sociologists can participate:

1) Send money! As part of the mobilizing team for USSF, I had to commit to helping raise funds for the event, and I've been asked to raise at least \$2500 on behalf of SSF and its networks. This fundraising work is vital to making the USSF happen, especially since the core leadership of the USSF comes from poor people's organizations based largely in the southern part of the U.S. Some of the money raised will support participation from low-income activists in the event. If you'd like to add your donation to that of other sociologists, please make checks payable to Project South/USSF, and send them to me so I can post them together from Sociologists without Borders.

Send to: Jackie Smith, The Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, P.O. Box 639; University of Notre Dame; Notre Dame, IN 46556-0639, USA

Or you can send your contribution directly to USSF at: Project South/USSF; 9 Gammon Ave SW; Atlanta, GA 30315; Note: United States Social Forum

2) Spread the word of the USSF as part of the WRITING TEAM of the Communications working group. As a mobilizing member of the USSF planning team, Sociologists without Borders will be part of the Communications working group. The USSF writing team is primarily responsible for creating documents and articles about the USSF, message development, copy editing, press releases, newsletter articles, PSA's, and op-ed's for distribution through a variety of media, such as: internet resources, local and national television, local and national radio, local newspapers, and alternative magazines. Please contact me at jsmith40@nd.edu to be part of this writing team. I'll be contacting the group by early December to discuss how to be effective in getting the word of the USSF out to diverse groups.

Lizbeth Zack, assistant professor of sociology, has been awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to Jordan for the academic year 2006-2007. Zack will be living in the capital city of Amman, and affiliated with the University of Jordan, where she will do a combination of teaching and research around the theme of political protest and social movements.

The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill The Department of Sociology invites applications for a tenure-track or tenured position at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor, to start as early as July 1, 2007.

Strong candidates will have built strong records of research in the field of peace studies, broadly defined to include social movements, conflict and conflict resolution, and other related areas of research. The position will be jointly appointed with the Curriculum of Peace, War, and Defense (PWAD), an interdisciplinary community of faculty (<http://www.unc.edu/depts/pwad>), and relevant courses will be cross-listed in the PWAD Curriculum.

Send letter of application, Curriculum Vitae, four letters of recommendation, and samples of recent papers and published work to: Ms. Jackie Gorman, Administrator, Curriculum in Peace, War, and Defense, CB#3200, 401 Hamilton Hall, UNC-Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3200. Consideration of applications will begin on November 15, 2006, and will continue until the position is filled. Women and minorities are strongly encouraged to apply. The University of North Carolina is an Equal Opportunity Employer. <http://sociology.unc.edu>.



Dr. Ruth came to the PWSC Reception....
No, really, she did...Would we make that up?
Daniel Ritter and Lee Smithey wonder, "What is Dr. Ruth doing here?"

The U.S. Naval Academy has awarded the University of Maryland's Office of International and Executive Programs a \$285,000 contract to provide a Leadership Education and Development (LEAD) Program for Junior Officers selected for assignment as Company Officers at the Academy. The LEAD Program develops officers' abilities to think critically and analytically in support of

the Naval Academy, and focuses on acquisition and development of the knowledge, skills and abilities essential for understanding, designing and conducting leader and team development. Three of the university's units are responsible for the academic content of the program: the Counseling and Personnel Services Program from the College of Education, the Program in Industrial and Organizational Psychology, and the Program in Military Sociology, both in the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences. Officers selected will complete a tailored, one-year graduate program at Maryland and will earn a Master of Professional Studies degree in Leadership Education and Development. Section members teaching in the program include Mady W. Segal, David R. Segal, Darlene M. Iskra, and Michael Danza.



Josh Klein talks with Clayton Peoples and Kristopher Robison.

Next year's Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association will be held from Saturday-Tuesday, August 11-14, 2007, in New York City. The theme for the conference is: **Is Another World Possible? Sociological Perspectives on Contemporary Politics**. The deadline for paper submissions will be January 17, 2007. Additional details will be available from the organizers or at the ASA website (www.asanet.org) later in October. ASA sessions will include:

"Peace, War, and Social Development" (American Sociological Association 2007) Steve Carlton-Ford & Stephen Scanlan (co-organizers) carlto1@uc.edu & scanlans@ohio.edu

The relationship of peace and war (and other forms of armed conflict) to social and economic development has been under-theorized and under-examined. Papers in this session could examine challenges to social and economic development as a cause of or precursor to armed conflict, or as a response to or consequence of war (or other form of armed conflict). Conversely, papers could examine the relationship between the lack of peace or the existence of positive peace to social and economic development. In depth case studies, comparative case studies, and large-scale (including/especially cross-national) quantitative studies are all welcomed.

The North Central Sociological Association annual conference will be held jointly with the Midwest Sociological Society at the Downtown Marriott Hotel, Chicago, April 4-7, 2007.

International Biennial Conference of the Inter-University Seminar On Armed Forces And Society
Call For Papers: The next International Biennial Conference of the Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society will be held in downtown Chicago, IL at the Palmer House Hilton on 26 – 28 October 2007. The Program Committee is currently soliciting proposals for individual papers and panel sessions. The IUS strongly encourages comparative and cross-national research. While prospective participants may submit proposals on any topic that falls within the broad intellectual scope of the IUS, the following (partial) list is offered for consideration:

Terrorism and Counter-terrorism
Area Studies and Cross-National Analyses of Military Institutions
Post-Cold War Military Operations
Global Coalitions and Cross-National Alliances
Civil-Military Relations
Social and Personnel Issues

The Program Committee must receive e-mailed proposals no later than February 1, 2007. The IUS Secretariat will acknowledge receipt of each proposal via email.

Both paper and panel proposals – no longer than one page – must include the following information:

Title(s), Author(s) with address, phone, fax, and e-mail

Brief abstract (200 WORDS MAXIMUM), A panel proposal should also include: Name of Chair, Name of Presenter, Names and addresses of all authors. (5 MAX).

Please email all proposals to: asigart@luc.edu

By resolution of the IUS Council, all participants must register for the Conference and pay the appropriate fee. Students are encouraged to actively participate in the Conference with discounted registration fees. Registration information will be available at www.iusafs.org on or about 1 Jan. 2007.

Elise M. Boulding Student Paper Awards

The Peace, War, and Social Conflict Section of the American Sociological Association invites undergraduate and graduate students to submit a paper on any topic related to the sociology of peace, war, military institutions, or social conflict for the 2007 Elise M. Boulding Student Paper Award competition.

AWARDS: Two awards are offered: one for best paper by a graduate student(s) (masters or doctoral level); and one for the best paper written by an undergraduate(s). Award winners are expected but not required to be present at the 2006 ASA meeting to present their papers. The winners will be officially introduced and presented with the award during the 2007 meeting of the Peace, War and Conflict Section at the ASA.

ELIGIBILITY: The contest is open to any student or former student (within two years) with a high quality paper discussing the sociology of peace, war, or social conflict and related issues. Papers may be multi-authored.

SPECIFICATIONS: Papers must be written within the past two years. They must be typed, double-spaced with a 12-point font. The page limit is 25 pages including tables, references, and illustrations. Each submission should include a separate cover page listing the name of author(s), contact information (including mailing address, telephone number, and e-mail address), paper title, and whether the paper was written as an undergraduate or graduate student paper. No student identifying information should appear in the body of the manuscript or on any other page. All students will be notified electronically about their submission and about the final selections.

JUDGING: The Elise M. Boulding Student Paper Award Committee is made-up of a group of members of the ASA Section on Peace, War, and Social Conflict. The committee encourages papers on a broad range of subjects related to these themes. If you have questions please contact Joyce Apsel at jaa5@nyu.edu.

DEADLINE: Students should send four (4) copies of their papers and a cover letter with name, affiliation, and contact information by April 15, 2007 to: Dr. Joyce Apsel, Master Teacher of Humanities, New York University, Chair, Elise M. Boulding Student Paper Award Committee, General Studies Program, 726 Broadway 6th floor, New York, NY 10003-9580.

Graduate Student Fellowships

The Section on Peace, War and Social Conflict of the American Sociological Association would like to announce the 2006 Peace, War and Social Conflict Graduate Student Fellowships. This fellowship was created as a result of a generous gift from a Section member who wanted to commemorate those United Nations officials, including the late High Commissioner of Human Rights, Sergio Viera de Mello, who lost their lives while working to reduce violence. The awards will be made to two graduate students in the form of fellowships that will pay their ASA and Peace, War and Social Conflict Section membership fees for one year.

Fellows will be asked to contribute a research note on their own work or a brief book review on a work related to human rights for publication in the Section newsletter. Interested graduate students should send a one-page letter of application describing their interests in the sociology of peace, war and social conflict, their contact information including e-mail, phone and institutional affiliation, and a letter of nomination from one professor (sent under separate cover). If you have questions contact Joyce Apsel at jaa5@nyu.edu

The deadline for applications is **February 15, 2007**. Please send applications to: Joyce Apsel, Master Teacher of Humanities, New York University, Chair, Graduate Student Award Committee, General Studies Program 726 Broadway 6th floor, New York, NY 10003-9580.

Call For Submissions: Teaching the Sociology of Peace, War, and Military Institutions: A Curriculum Guide (4th Edition)

We invite submissions for the fourth edition of this curriculum guide, to be published by the Teaching Resource Center, American Sociological Association. The 2nd and 3rd editions, published in 1998 and 2003 respectively, were well received by social scientists in a variety of fields. A revision of the previous edition is urgently needed, in light of the events of September 11, 2001 and continued scholarship surrounding the wars in Afghanistan, Iraq, Lebanon, Sudan and other places around the world.

We welcome submissions from sociologists in diverse fields, who do not need to be members of the ASA section on Peace, War, & Social Conflicts.

The fourth edition of the curriculum guide will consist of three sections (details below) with the bulk of the material in Section II:

Section I: Best practice essays. We would particularly welcome essays/reprints on:

- The impact on pedagogy of the attacks of September 11, 2001
- War in Afghanistan, Iraq or other locale.
- Relationships between violence and war on the one hand, and social injustice and/or environmental damage on the other
- Field research and/or service-learning assignments
- Incorporating discussion of peace, war and social conflict into courses whose primary topic is something else (e.g. introductory sociology, or courses on deviance, the life course, medical sociology, etc.)

Section II: Syllabi, assignments, handouts and other instructional materials.

- Courses that survey peace, war, military institutions, or social conflict.
- Geographic areas where there is serious conflict (e.g. the Middle East, Central Asia and South Asia)
- Terrorism
- Forms of structural violence (e.g. conflicts based in social inequality and environmental degradation)
- Analyses of policies (e.g. on law enforcement, the military-industrial complex, weapons, or weapons systems)
- The military as a social institution (e.g. inequalities in the military or the sociology of [insert military here])
- Peace movements and allied movements (e.g. civil rights, feminism, environmentalism)
- Constructive alternatives to violent conflict (e.g. non-violent protest, conflict resolution)

N.B. All syllabi should be accompanied and preceded by a 100-300 word description of your campus and the context in which the course is taught (e.g., type of school, size, level of the course, prerequisites, demographics of students, etc). Below are two examples:

Washington State University has 18,000 students. Completion of diversity courses (designated as "D" courses) is required of all undergraduates. This "Peace Rhetoric" course fulfilled this "D" requirement, and consisted primarily of sophomores and juniors. This served as a model course since it was awarded with and funded by an American Diversity Mini-Grant from WSU's College of Liberal Arts. One overarching course goal was to demonstrate that a nonviolence-oriented course could serve as an excellent vehicle for teaching about diversity, which is often thought of as merely a politically correct term, through the real-world prism of human rights and historical to contemporary literary records of social movements for justice (e.g., anti-slavery; civil rights, etc.). The course also emphasizes skills in visual literacy so students can analyze/critique symbolic, media, and other televisual literary forms.

The goal of the course, "The Sociology of Aggression, Social Conflict, and War" is to synthesize individual-level explanations of violence with the theories and research on group- and societal-level violence. Western Illinois University has just over 13,000 students and this course is considered an elective. While the course was

originally designed for an upper-level undergraduate course with about 30-40 students, it can easily be adapted to either a lower-level or graduate course by adding or subtracting to the readings and assignments.

Section III: Bibliographies and lists of websites. Not mutually-exclusive categories. We give precedence to contributions that are short, i.e. 3 pages or less. Where websites are included, please (a) focus on sites that are long-lived, (b) indicate, if necessary, the organization hosting a site, and/or whether the organization is an advocacy one.

Deadline for Submissions: December 15, 2006

Submission format:

- Please send an electronic document as an e-mail attachment in Microsoft Word format, readable for an IBM computer
- Materials are expected to be already checked for spelling and grammar
- 10 to 12 inch Times New Roman font
- Margins should be one inch, top and bottom, left and right
- Keep in mind that these margins are needed for two-sided copying and binding
- Accepted materials may require editorial modification especially with unusually constructed syllabi
- Single-space syllabi/course materials and bibliographies, double-space essays
- Use double-spacing between paragraphs, and between sections and sub-sections
- English-only but, we more than welcome submissions from outside the U.S.A.

Please send specific materials to the following:

Essays/Empirical Studies on Pedagogy of Peace, War, or the Military Institution:
Morten G. Ender, Ph.D.
Sociology Program Director
Department of Behavioral Sciences & Leadership
Thayer Hall 282E
United States Military Academy
West Point, NY 10996
845.938.5638
morten.ender@usma.edu

Peace or War Materials:

Lynne Woehrlé
Department of Behavioral Science
Mount Mary College
2900 N. Menomonee River Parkway
Milwaukee, WI 53222
414-258-4810 ext413
woehrlle@mtmary.edu

Military Institutions or War Materials:

Ryan Kelty, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Sociology
Department of BS&L
United States Military Academy
West Point, NY 10996
ph: 845-938-6457
ryan.kelty@usma.edu

Essay: The Authoritarian Personality and the Bush Administration

(Written in 2002, first published here.)

The founders of this nation were, essentially, migrants from Europe who were motivated by the challenge of adventure and opportunity and had the drive and the ambition to build a new life.

These pioneers succeeded in building a strong nation with a stable political system and a dynamic economy. But they lacked the history and traditions of the "old world" whose people, for a long time, considered the United States to be "an upstart."

Ignoring, at this juncture, the expansionist urge that took us from a collection of settlements on the eastern edge of North America across the continent and, ultimately across the Pacific, let us focus on more recent times. In the two major conflicts of the twentieth century it was the overwhelming productive capacity of American industry that scored decisive victory and achieved dominance for the United States in world affairs.

What seems to have emerged from all this is a kind of national "authoritarian personality," the characteristics of which, according to Theodor Adorno, are; excessive conformity; submissiveness to authority; intolerance; insecurity; superstition; and rigid, stereotyped, thought patterns.

Thus, many national officials of this country exhibit an inability to recognize the validity of any culture, or view of the world, that differs from their own. They tend to overreact to any deviation from what they perceive to be right, and show an extreme resistance to change. The ultimate manifestation of this was President George W.

Bush's assertion that our forces are being attacked by persons who are against freedom. This is patently ridiculous. Nobody is actually against freedom; the people who are attacking American forces in Iraq desire their own freedom rather than a U.S. defined freedom which is imposed on them by force.

It is consistent with this authoritarian view of the world that the Bush Administration has no confidence in the United Nations, is wary of all international alliances, has abrogated or withdrawn from many important treaties, and the president has asserted forcefully that "anyone who is not for us is against us."

We must, however, consider two other important realities of the past century. The first is the amazing revolution that has taken place in the fields of transportation and communication. As a consequence of this revolution, the world's peoples have inevitably become linked both socially and economically. It has thus become virtually impossible for any of us to divorce ourselves from events that take place anywhere in the world.

The other reality is the instrumentation for killing has become so massive, so lethal and so efficient that it has become imperative that the world's populations accommodate themselves to a peaceful coexistence.

The implications for the United States seem clear. We must act as a responsible and cooperative member of the world community. We are, after all, only about five percent of the world's population. It is imperative that we get along with the other ninety-five percent.

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PW&SC Section Member Research and Publications

Meridith Hill Thanner, Ph.D., successfully completed her doctoral dissertation in May 2006 in Military Sociology at the University of Maryland College Park under the direction of Dr. Mady W. Segal. Her project, *Military Base Closure Effects on a Community: The Case Of Fort Ritchie Army Garrison and Cascade, Maryland*, focuses on the impact to the community surrounding the fort, which was slated for closure as part of the 1995 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) round and which officially ceased military operations three years later on September 30, 1998.

To understand how such base closings affect the local community (the place), as well as the character of the place, Thanner carried out an ethnographic case study, conducted in-depth interviews, spent time in the community, reviewed archival records, and collected and

analyzed demographic and economic data to quantify some of the social and economic impacts on the area over time, and conducted a post hoc Social Impact Assessment. Dr. Thanner found that, despite the fact that Ritchie shut its gates more than seven years ago, a confluence of circumstances has prevented its reuse; the property remains the possession of the U.S. Army and the community has yet to benefit from reuse efforts. By employing concepts of place to understand how the community came to see itself in relation to the fort, and how residents came to value and use the fort, several predominant themes emerged. Specifically, she found that residents have a strong sense of place and place attachment, in spite of obvious imbalances of power among different segments of the community, which result in residents' feelings of disenfranchisement from the local political structure. Though this dissertation is the story of how one community has adjusted to the loss of the military, lessons can be learned by other communities facing base closings, as well as by federal entities tasked with overseeing and facilitating the process. Her dissertation can be viewed in its entirety at <https://drum.umd.edu/dspace/handle/1903/3451> as part of the University of Maryland Digital Repository.

Section Listservs Section Announcement Listserv:

Please send your announcements to any of the following officers and they can post your announcement to the listserv: Chair, Chair-Elect, Secretary-Treasurer, and immediate Past Chair. Announcements are automatically sent to all section members via email.

Section Discussion Listserv:

To join the section discussion listserv you need to do the following:

1. In the address field type in majordomo@listserv.asanet.org; leave subject field blank;
2. In text of the message type **subscribe peace_war**
3. Make sure there is nothing else in the message (no signature)
4. Send the message. You will receive confirmation, and an authorization key with which to confirm that you really want to join the list. Once you reply positively to that you will get a welcome message.



Sharon Erickson Nepstad with daughter Linnea Xiomara.

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Any questions you might have regarding membership in the Association or the Section can be addressed to membership@asanet.org; or you can telephone the ASA at 202-383-9005, ext. 389.

In Memoriam Robin Murphy Williams Jr. (1914-2006)

Professor **Robin Williams** died in early June 2006. As many of you know, PW&SC section members of the formerly named **Peace and War section** inaugurated the **Robin M. Williams, Jr.** Award for Distinguished Career in Scholarship, Teaching, and Service in 1992 and **Professor Williams** was the first recipient of the award. Information about **Professor Williams** as the 48th ASA President is available at the ASA website: <http://www.asanet.org>. Obituaries have appeared in a number of venues:

UC Irvine Sociology
<http://www.sociology.uci.edu/html/news/06June%20-%20RM%20Williams.htm>;

The Los Angeles Times
<http://www.latimes.com/news/obituaries/la-me-williams9jun09,1,1219054.story?coll=la-news-obituaries>;

Cornell University News Service
http://www.news.cornell.edu/stories/June06/Williams_obit.gl.html;



David Segal (left) presenting **Robin Williams** (right) with the inaugural **Robin M. Williams, Jr.** Award for Distinguished Career in Scholarship, Teaching, and Service at the PW&SC Section Business Meeting, American Sociological Association Meetings, Pittsburgh, PA, August 1992.