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FANNIE MAE FOUNDATION

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Section ASA Reception at The Urban Center**Monday, August 19, 6:30**

The section will hold a joint cocktail reception with the Section on Collective Behavior and Social Movements on Monday, August 19, from 6:30 to 8:15 p.m., at The Urban Center, 457 Madison Ave., between 50th and 51st Streets.

The Urban Center is the headquarters of the Municipal Art Society. This organization has played a prominent role in various battles over historic preservation and new development in New York, including the rescue of Grand Central Terminal and the elimination of a proposal for an ultra-high-rise tower on the site of the Coliseum at 59th Street and Central Park West.

The Urban Center is entered through a courtyard -- a space of rare civility in midtown Manhattan. It occupies an Italian Renaissance-style palazzo that McKim, Mead and White designed and built in 1884 for a rich New York family. It is one of the landmarked Villard Houses.

Urban Center Books, which specializes in urbanism, architecture, and landscape design, will remain open through the reception.

Section Business Meeting**Tuesday, August 20, 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.**

On the Agenda: a resolution regarding establishment of a new journal in community and urban sociology.

FROM THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Judith J. Friedman

This Annual Meeting issue includes information about Section Day and two articles about Manhattan.

The Section Listserver is an efficient way to get information to Section members -- but only to those who subscribe. A large number have *not* subscribed. Some of you, I know, do not have e-mail accounts. We will continue to print all still-timely information in the newsletter. If you can, though, please subscribe. Page 10 has directions.

This issue has the first installment of a new column by Sharon Zukin. "From the Incoming Chair" will appear after this, of course, as "From the Chair." Lyn Lofland's column "From the Archives" will resume in the next issue. We also have several book reviews underway for that issue, plus an article by Ira Cohen on communal solidarity.

We always need volunteers to write book reviews and to write short articles. Robert Lang is book review editor. Please send him suggestions of books that should be reviewed -- and books that you would like to review. These can be textbooks. We also welcome reviews of films and videos that you use in teaching.

MESSAGE FROM THE INCOMING CHAIR

Sharon Zukin

The sessions our section has organized for the annual meeting in New York look exciting and new. Louise Jezierski, Phil Kasinitz, and Alex Portes have put together a full program combining empirical and theoretical papers, and Jan Lin has made an inclusive selection of roundtable discussants.

All our sessions follow the business meeting on Tuesday, August 20, from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.

The business meeting will be followed immediately by a forum with Frances Fox Piven and Peter Dreier discussing "What Happened to the Urban Agenda?" I put this forum together, in place of the Author Meets Critics panel that we have had in recent years, because our section could use the opportunity, in this presidential election year, to chew over our responses to "urban" problems.

On Monday, August 19, our section is sponsoring two "activist" bus tours. The preliminary convention program has details. One tour will go to East New York, a high-crime and high-poverty area of Brooklyn, visiting the Nehemiah Houses and the United Community Centers. The other tour will go to the South Bronx and tour Banana Kelly's housing.

A panel in the afternoon, back at the hotel, will discuss sociologists' experiences with community based research. The panel will include representatives from two of the organizations on these tours.

I describe the venue of our section's reception, Monday evening from 6:30 to 8:20 p.m., on the first page of the newsletter. Suffice to say that the Urban Center is one of the loveliest historic landmarks in Manhattan, and that we can read up on the Municipal Art Society in Gregory Gilmartin's

recent history of its role in "saving" New York City. The Urban Center is only a few blocks from the hotel, across from St. Patrick's Cathedral on Madison Avenue.

Jennifer Parker, a graduate student in my own department at City University, won the competition for the best graduate student paper with her paper on workers in fast food franchises in New York City (mostly new immigrants) forming a "transnational community" at the workplace. She will discuss this paper in Alex Portes' session at the meeting.

The only cause for disappointment in the convention so far is the low response rate of papers that speak directly to the session titles. Are so few urban sociologists working on "new urban theory"? Does "race, space, and culture" excite geographers more than sociologists? Has urban sociology been outpaced by literary criticism? These are a few of the questions I am mulling over on the way to the business meeting.

Section Business Meeting

Tuesday, August 20, 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

On the Agenda: a resolution regarding establishment of a new journal in community and urban sociology.

Gender in Urban Research: Meeting at ASA

Christine Wright-Isak and Sylvia Fava are arranging an informal get together of those interested in the subject of gender as a specific variable in urban research. Chris promises to find a cheap but exciting eatery near the Hilton, and Sylvia promises that discussion will be fun and maybe provocative!

Let them know you are interested by contacting Chris via either voice mail at (212) 210-4907 or the internet Chris_Wright-Isak@yr.com.

1996 Section Student Paper Award

The 1996 CUSS Student Paper Award goes to Jennifer Parker for "The Corporate Fast Food Restaurant as 'Transnational Community'." Parker is a graduate student at the CUNY Graduate Center.

The next issue will have an abstract of her paper. Claude Fischer chaired the committee.

CONFERENCES AND CALLS FOR PAPERS

Housing -- Research Committee 43, Housing and the Built Environment, of the International Sociological Assn., will hold a conference June 11-14, 1997 at the Radisson Hotel in Alexandria, Virginia (near Washington, DC) to address the theme: "Housing in the 21st Century: Looking Forward."

Proposals are invited on: the future of government and housing, changing roles of the profit and nonprofit sectors, housing trends and prospects for marginalized populations, and policy perspectives on transforming the built environment.

Proposals for papers or panels must include the title, the name(s) of committed presenter(s), and a description in 500

words or less. Abstracts must be written in English. Submit **by Sept. 1, 1996** to: Dr. Patricia Edwards or Dr. Theodore Koebel, Virginia Tech, College of Architecture and Urban Studies, 202 Cowgill Hall, Blacksburg, Virginia, 24061-0205; phone (540) 231-6416; fax (540) 9938; e-mail: edwardsp@vt.edu or tkoebel@vt.edu;

The conference has a world wide web site--
<http://www.arch.vt.edu/rc43.html>.

Economic globalization and collective action -- The annual conference of the Association for Political Economy will be October 18-19 at the Universite du Quebec a Montreal, Canada.

The theme is: Beyond neo-liberalism: what role for social movements? Conference organizers are Juan-Luis Klein, Hugues Dionne and Pierre-Andre Tremblay. SSRC and the UQAM provided financial help.

This conference will focus on the development models presented to contemporary societies. A dialogue between experts on development and social movements will allow for an exploration of new, alternative models to neo-liberalism, and will give the occasion to examine the role of civil society and social movements in their implementation.

For further information, please contact: Juan-Luis Klein, Dept. of Geography, Universite du Quebec a Montreal (klein.juan-luis@uqam.ca) or Hugues Dionne, Dept. of Sociology, Universite du Quebec a Rimouski (hdionne@sie.qc.ca).

SECTION WEB PAGE

THE COMMUNITY AND URBAN SECTION HAS A WEB PAGE SET UP BY ASA AS PART OF THE ASA WEB PAGE.

[HTTP://WWW.ASANET.ORG/COMMUN.HTM](http://www.asanet.org/commun.htm)

BOOKS, ARTICLES, JOURNALS, OTHER ITEMS

If you would like to see your book or article here, please send us the information.

Books

1. *Local Places: In The Age of the Global City*. Roger Keil, Gerda R. Wekerle and David V.J. Bell, editors, Montreal, Canada: Black Rose Books, 1996

More than half of the world's population will live in urban centers by the turn of the millennium and most will be exposed to degraded urban environments. Contributors to *Local Places* look at the complex social, economic and political contexts of cities in the 1990s and suggest that cities and urbanity, while part of the problem, also need to be considered as part of the solution. *Local Places* provides planners, community activists, students and the general reader with a cross section of the current debate and proposals surrounding urban sustainability.

2. *Reality and Research: Social Science and U.S. Urban Policy since 1960*. George Galster, editor, Washington D.C., The Urban Institute Press, 1995.

Research diagnoses of the country's urban problems have influenced and been influenced by policy responses to those problems. Written in a non-technical, easy-to-read style, this book is directed toward people who are interested in the development of urban policy issues, and in understanding the policy making process and the role of policy research. Issue areas include economic development, education, poverty, family support, and social welfare, housing, intergovernmental financial relations, drugs, and racial discrimination and segregation.

3. *Selling Cities: Attracting Homebuyers Through Schools and Housing Programs*. David P. Varady and Jeffrey A. Raffel, Albany: SUNY Press, 1995.

Selling Cities takes the optimistic view that cities can revitalize by attracting and retaining the middle class. The book spans several disciplines -- economics, sociology, demography, law, and planning -- to examine the role of housing and education programs in revitalizing cities. It includes numerous recommendations for city revitalization and an analysis of national and local middle-income housing programs and metropolitan school desegregation. It looks at proposals of policies designed to enhance cities' attraction and retention of the middle class. The book presents case studies in Cincinnati and Wilmington, Delaware.

4. *Housing and Environmental Movements: Grassroots Experience in Hungary, Estonia and Russia*. K. Lang-Pickvance, N. Manning and C.G. Pickvance, editors, Aldershot, U.K: Avebury, October 1996.

The book is based on a comparative research project carried out from 1991-1994. For more information, contact: Gustavo S. Mesch, Lecturer, Dept. of Sociology University of Haifa, Mount Carmel, Haifa 31905 Fax: 972-4-240819

5. *Race, Ethnicity, and Entrepreneurship in Urban America*. Ivan Light and Carolyn Rosenstein, Hawthorne, NY: Aldine de Gruyter, 1995

This book uses census data to address theoretical issues in entrepreneurship, immigration, urban studies and economic sociology. The authors compare the entrepreneurship of ethno-racial categories and groups in the 272 largest U.S. metropolitan areas. The variation in opportunity structures and group resources allows them to test the interaction theory of entrepreneurship. A final chapter discusses social policy toward entrepreneurship.

6. McGraw Hill will release a heavily-revised new edition of John Palen's *The Urban World (5th edition)* at the August ASA meetings.

The current version of *The Urban World* is the most used urban text in the country. The fifth edition includes new chapters on Metropolitan and Edge City Growth, Changing Suburbanization, and Women in Metropolitan Life (written by Christine Wright-Isak and Sylvia Fava). David Smith and Michael Timberlake have extensively rewritten the chapter on

cont. on p. 4

Urban Political Economy. McGraw Hill is taking orders for fall classes.

7. *Unplanned Suburbs: Toronto's American Tragedy, 1900-1950*, Richard Harris, Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press

8. *Pride in the Jungle: Community and Everyday Life in Back of the Yards Chicago*, 1993, Thomas J. Jablonsky, Johns Hopkins Press

9. Books About New York

Inventing Times Square: Commerce and Culture at the Crossroads of the World, 1995, William R. Taylor, ed., New York: Russell Sage

New People in Old Neighborhoods: the Role of Immigrants in Rejuvenating New York's Communities, Louis Winnick, New York: Russell Sage

Confessions of the Guerrilla Girls, 1995, the Guerrilla Girls (whoever they really are), New York: Harper Collins

The New York Irish: Essays Toward a History, 1995, Timothy J. Meagher, Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press

10. Books About Mt. Laurel New Jersey

Suburbs under Siege: Race, Space and Audacious Judges, 1996, Charles M. Haar, Princeton Univ. Press

Our Town: Race, Housing and the Soul of Suburbia, 1995, David L. Kirp, John P. Dryer, and Larry A. Rosenthal, Rutgers Univ. Press

Articles

1. Philip Kasinitz and Jan Rosenberg's study of employment in the Red Hook section of Brooklyn, "Missing the Connection: Social Isolation and Employment on the Brooklyn Waterfront," was the subject of a front page article in the *Washington Post* (March 10, 1996), and it was discussed in the April 26 issue of *The New Yorker*. The article itself is in the May 1996 issue of *Social Problems*.

2. Dalton Conley, winner of the 1994 and 1995 Section Student Paper Awards, has an article in the March issue of *Sociological Forum*. It is, "Getting it Together: Social and Institutional Obstacles to Getting off the Streets," pp. 25-40

3. Gustavo S. Mesch recently published a paper of interest to those concerned about community organizations and urban social movements in the USA: "The Effect of Environmental Concerns and Governmental Incentives on Organized Action in Local Areas," 1996, *Urban Affairs Review* 31(3):pp. 346-367.

4. For information on mortgage lending, see these two articles by Gregory Squires. Gregory D. Squires and Sunwoong Kim, 1995, "Does Anybody Who Works Here Look Like Me: Mortgage Lending, Race, and Lender Employment," *Social Science Quarterly* (December) 76(4):823-838, and Gregory D. Squires, "Policies of Prejudice: Risky Encounters with the \$704.6 Billion Property Insurance Business," *Challenge*, forthcoming, Summer 1996

Journals and Other Items

Fannie Mae -- The Fannie Mae Foundation Office of Housing Research is dedicated to research that can produce innovative solutions to the nation's problems in housing and community development. OHR publications include a quarterly, *Housing Policy Debate*, which provides insightful discussion and original research on housing and community development issues. Recent articles have explored affordable housing shortages, housing policies for distressed urban neighborhoods, new research on homelessness, and restructuring the Federal Housing Administration.

Journal of Housing Research, issued periodically, presents theoretical and empirical research on housing and finance issues. *Housing Research News* reports on OHR's latest research, explores timely policy issues, and it summarizes research published in OHR's journals and other publications. Other publications are listed in the *Published Research Index* released in April 1996.

Publications are free. Requests for publications can be forwarded by e-mail to ohr_pubs@fnma.com, by phone 202-274-8074 or faxed to 202-274-8100. Visit the Fannie Mae Foundation Web site for on-line abstracts of recent journal articles at <http://www.fanniemae.com>.

HUD -- HUD's office of Policy and Development and Research publishes the journal *Cityscape* about three times a year. *Cityscape* fosters current research and commentary on key policy issues in housing and community development. Previous issues have published proceedings from various HUD conferences. Another issue was devoted to race and default in mortgage markets. The journal features HUD-funded research, HUD research in progress and other policy research.

The journal is available on a \$5.00 per copy basis (i.e., no subscription) by calling HUDUSER at 800-245-2691.

HANDS -- Housing and Neighborhood Development Strategies (HANDS) has assembled a packet of information about their inner city urban revitalization strategies. The packet contains articles by John Gilderbloom, plus other reviews of their efforts. The packet shows how to renew inner city neighborhoods using a combination of physical, social and economic empowerment strategies. HANDS will send these packets through E-Mail requests that provide snail mail addresses. Jigild01@ulkyvm.louisville.edu

HANDS recently received a new grant called SUN (Sustainable Urban Neighborhoods). This grant focuses on new directions for inner city economic development. For more information, contact John I. Gilderbloom at Univ. of Louisville, Louisville, KY 40292 or at the e-mail address.

New Sociology Journal On the Web

Sociological Research Online is a new international journal published in English. It promotes rapid communication among sociologists. The first issue, Vol. 1, No. 1, was published on the WWW March 29, 1996.

Sociological Research Online will publish high quality applied sociology, focusing on theoretical, empirical and methodological discussions which engage with current political, cultural and intellectual topics and debates. It also will publish debate concerned with the application of sociological forms of analysis to public issues and private concerns. *Sociological Research Online* will include a reviews section, featuring articles and book and software reviews, which will cover the latest publications in the discipline.

Articles will use the innovative means of reporting empirical sociological research opened up by the WWW. Submissions will be fully refereed in the usual way, according to the standards of leading international journals. *Sociological Research Online* is supported by the Joint Information Systems Committee's Electronic Libraries Programme.

Submissions should be: (a) full length articles (normally 5,000 to 8,000 words, plus hypertext attachments), and (b) contributions to the 'debates' section of the journal (up to 3,000 words, plus hypertext attachments).

Martin Bulmer and Liz Stanley Co-edited Volume 1. Articles in the first issue include:

Alison Bowes, Evaluating an Empowering Research Strategy; Reflections on Action-Research with South Asian Women; Jacqueline O'Reilly, Theoretical Considerations in Cross-National Employment Research; Geoff Payne, Judy Payne, Mark Hyde, 'Refuse of all Classes'? Social Indicators and Social Deprivation; Amanda Coffey, Beverley Holbrook, Paul Atkinson, Qualitative Data Analysis: Technologies and Representations; and Jennifer Platt, Has Funding Made a Difference to Research Methods?

To see the March, 1996 issue, go to <http://www.socresonline.org.uk/socresonline/>.

Journal on Racial and Ethnic Research

New Community, the Journal of the European Research Centre on Migration and Ethnic Relations, focuses on racial and ethnic research. The editors are especially interested in comparative research from any branch of the social sciences. The geographical focus is not confined to Europe.

New Community is edited at the University of Utrecht, The Netherlands, and published by Carfax Publishing Co. Editor: Malcolm Cross, Univ. of Utrecht, P.O. Box 80.140, 3508 TC Utrecht, The Netherlands. Editorial Manager, Jette Johst, jjohst@fsw.ruu.nl

Rural Sociology

Rural Sociology, the publication of the Rural Sociological Society, publishes many articles on communities. The Spring 1996 issue includes an article on "What is Right with Rural Sociology" by T. Lyson and A. R. Tickamyer, and reviews of four books about rural communities.

Submissions go to Thomas A. Lyson, Editor, Dept. of Rural Sociology, Warren Hall, Cornell Univ., Ithaca, NY 14853.

Teaching Community Based Research

Anne B. Shlay, Temple University

Conventional research training often serves to reinforce the belief that the production of social science research is a value free, politically-neutral activity. Research topics emanate from fields with the goal of building the discipline. The focus is not on the usefulness of the work but on whether it builds or alters the knowledge base of the field. Research objectivity is the task of systematically applying a rigorous design that does not affect the study's findings. But operationally, objectivity is often more about developing a posture of distance from the research topic itself. Research distancing serves to separate the university from the rest of society, and, more particularly, from its local community base.

At Temple University, political scientist Barbara Ferman and I were frustrated with the absence of a routine mechanism for linking graduate research training to community issues. Internships and "experiential learning" opportunities were

numerous, but no attempt was made to develop a systematic research agenda with a local community base.

Inspired by Chicago's Policy Research Action Group and with the goal of developing new models for training students in the art of doing research, Barbara and I created a graduate course called "Community Based Research." It is an applied research methods practicum in conducting research with community based organizations as clients and partners.

In the spring semester of 1996, "Community Based Research" developed its projects with community organizations located in a diverse, low income, historically-rich community, Kensington. Projects were developed with an organizational "contact" person who then worked with the student to develop the applied nature of the work. Although each project differed, all shared the common thread of having a strong social justice component with a community base. Importantly, the topics did not emanate from either the teachers or the students but from the community organizations themselves.

This semester's project included: The Influence of Bank Mergers on Community Reinvestment Performance (New Kensington Development CDC), Labor Needs of Local Employers and Training Efforts to Meet those Needs in the Empowerment Zone (Lutheran Settlement House), Community Organizing in Multi-Ethnic, Multi-Lingual, Multi-Racial Communities (Kensington Joint Action Council), Differences in Welfare Recipient Employability After Completing Long versus Short-Term Training (Community Women's Education Project), and An Analysis of Decision-Making in the American Street Corridor Empowerment Zone (The Lighthouse). Students worked in teams. Students' papers became final reports for public distribution.

The community organizations were enthusiastic participants in this process and liked the end result. The students worked hard to produce the best research possible, an intensity that we think came from having real groups as a research audience, not mere teachers of a class. For us, the experience suggests that new models for teaching research methods have promise to bridge that gap between the university and the community and to provide students with enlarged sense of what research can do.

Coming in the Fall Issue: More Book Reviews

Robert Lang reviews *Selling Cities: Attracting Homebuyers Through Schools and Housing Programs* by David P. Varady and Jeffrey A. Raffel

Lyn Lofland reviews *Livable Cities Observed* by Suzanne H. Cowhurst Lennard and Henry L. Lennard

Karen Danielsen reviews *Our Town: Race, Housing and the Soul of Suburbia* by David L. Kirp, John P. Dryer, and Larry A. Rosenthal.

Theory: The Discussion Continues

In a listserver response to the Publication Committee report, Nancy Kleniewski noted that colleagues had trouble locating material for a community sociology course, and she then raised some intriguing points about community sociology.

Community?

"1) Are sociologists just not as interested in community research as they used to be? ... Has the shift away from

human ecology redefined some of the issues and vocabulary that used to be included under 'community'? I think, for example, of the difference between Roland Warren's concept of the vertical and horizontal axes of community as opposed to Clarence Stone's treatment of regime politics. In some ways we are studying the same issues, but simply framing them differently, without the 'c' word.

2) While 'urban' has an interdisciplinary focus, 'community' is mostly a concern of sociologists. ... Do other disciplines besides sociology address 'community'? I think the answer probably is no, even though they may ask some of the same questions that community sociologists ask."

John Logan forwarded this letter on political economy from Maria Lucia Refinetti Martins (Brazil).

Urban Social Movements

"I decided to send you something based on research taken in the city of Sao Paulo on the withdrawing, crisis and perspectives of Urban Social Movements.

I believe we should consider culture and identity to better understand urban conflicts. Besides this, there is still a lot to develop with the political economy paradigm. From a South American view, we can consider that big cities, along with their services, are avidly sought by large portions of the population as an escape alternative to 'social exclusion,' and they are consequently perceived by them more as a form of social insertion than as a mere physical object.

Thus, the content-social insertion via urban services appears in Sao Paulo, as in other cities located in regions with large disparities of access to income, to be the essential function of the urban environment. It is a standard placed before any other. Therefore, the urban clash tends to reveal itself more as a dispute over social space than as an urbanistic debate.

It is also fitting to note that with the increasing shift of economic weight from industry to services in the large cities, the value found in infrastructure, buildings, and principally land has increased progressively in importance. There is a value produced and accumulated in the city, this value generated by the concentration itself which is increasingly great. Further it is noted that, with the broadening of the service sector and flexible accumulation, the relationship between Labour and Capital (as found in the traditional relations of production) is increasingly cloudy.

The circulating capital and capital crystallized in land and buildings in the city is increasingly significant. Who and how will this specifically urban accumulation be disputed? How can this dispute be organized?

We can consider that as the traditional union movement does not limit itself to deal with Investment and consumption, but with who appropriates the surplus; within the city, it is up to the social movements to go beyond the dispute linked to the definition over where to invest more: in the social area or in means of circulation and infrastructure for production - to questions of who benefits and how from the wealth of urban space and the locational advantages generated by the urban complex.

Thus emerges a theoretical and maybe in some way ideological question to be solved: the counter-position between 'confronting the capitalist logic of space' and 'disputing the appropriation of benefits.' Urban controls and policies now in discussion present side by side instruments to

'confront the logic,' and instruments in which it is supported, the struggle for appropriation of the benefits in a socially just manner.

As an example, to promote a just distribution of taxes and benefits, or sanctions against under utilized property, is to operate with elements that are part of the capitalist logic. To defend 'specific forms of construction of identities of the city,' operates exclusively at the level of 'use value,' which is antagonistic to the earlier formulation and in certain ways 'locks-up' its applicability.

If urban space contains elements of a capitalist logic of social exclusion, it also contains elements of a logic that can be designated as pre-capitalist, of a nearly 'feudal' nature, and also exclusionary.

Well, these are the points of someone living in a part of the world with the particularity of having no specific ethnic, religious or cultural conflicts, but with high social polarization. Like that we are far from a situation where material interest became less central than identity."

Maria Lucia Refinetti Martins, Faculdade de Arquitetura e Urbanismo, Pontificia Universidade Catolica de Campinas Rodovia Dom Pedro 1, km 136, 13020-904 CAMPINAS SP, BRASIL fax 00-55-11-813-6776

Submitting Material to the Newsletter

Please send brief descriptions of new research projects (including dissertations), a sentence or two about a book you published, or the citation for an article. Pass on information about special issues of journals and conferences.

We need volunteers to review books. Robert Lang is the Book Review Editor: robert_e_lang@fnma.com.

You can send material for the next issue at any time. We plan to produce the next newsletter by mid-October. When you send an item, consider posting it on the listserver also.

Whenever possible, send *edited* items by E-mail or on disk. Do *not* encode e-mail messages. Contributions must be concise. A page of text contains about 900 words. We reserve the right to edit submissions.

E-mail: JUDITHJF@RCI.RUTGERS.EDU

Mail: J. Friedman, CUSS Newsletter, Dept. of Sociology, P.O. Box 5072, Rutgers Univ., New Brunswick, NJ 08903

CUSS SECTION DAY SCHEDULE TUES. AUGUST 20

8:30 - 9:30 am **Business Meeting**

9:30 - 10:15 am **Session 417:** What Happened to the "Urban Agenda?" Organizer and Presider: Sharon Zukin, Graduate Center, CUNY; Panel: Peter Dreier, Occidental College, Frances Fox Piven, CUNY

Note Reception Time: Monday Aug. 19 at 6:30 pm. See p. 1

431. Session: Race, Space and Culture. Presider: Philip Kasinitz, Hunter College & CUNY 10:30 am. Papers by M. Laguerre, K. Gotham, R. Hutchison and M. McNall, and J. Kirchenman, P. Moss, and C. Tilly. A. O'Connor, Discussant

441. Refereed Rountables 12:30 pm Organizer: Jan Lin

450. Session: New Urban Theories: Space, Political Economy, Feminism and Culture. Organizer and Presider: Louise Jezierski 2:30 pm. Papers by S. Appold, M. Gottdiener, S. Swearingen, and H. Molotch and W. Freudenberg. S. Christopherson, Discussant

Also, see Sessions 93 (Friday) and 367 (Monday) below.

Session 93, Transnational Communities, is jointly sponsored by the Community and Urban Section and the Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities.

Session 367, Grassroots Organizing in NYC, is coordinated with bus tours of community organizations in East New York (Brooklyn) and the South Bronx. P. Nyden organized this session; A. Shlay is Presider. Panelists: M. Cocchini of Mega-Cities Project, M. Grizer of United Community Centers, and M. Lewis of SUNY Stony Brook.

OTHER SESSIONS OF INTEREST TO SECTION

MEMBERS SELECTED BY KAREN DANIELSEN

Friday, August 16

18. Session. Community, Parenting and Children's Activities. Presider: Brett V. Brown, Child Trends, Inc. 8:30

34. Session. Environment and Communities. Presider: Eugene A. Rosa, Washington State Univ. 10:30 am

50. Session. Spatial Analysis: Social and Spatial Inequalities. Presider: Wayne Villemez, Univ. of Conn. 12:30

81. Spotlight New York. New York Culture: Beyond "High" and "Low." Presider: Vera Zolberg, New School for Social Research 4:30 pm

93. Transnational Communities. Space, Race/Ethnicity, and Power. Organizer: Alejandro Portes, Johns Hopkins University, 4:30 pm **(Co-sponsored by CUSS)**

Saturday, August 17

112. Session. Spatial Analysis: The Political Economy of Regional and Local Change. Organizer and Presider: Linda Lobao, Ohio State Univ. 8:30 am

118. Section on Sociology of Aging. Roundtable 17-Culture and Community 8:30 am

120. Section on Sociology of Culture. Roundtable 17-The Culture of Physical Space 8:30 am

122. Section on International Migration. Roundtable 3-Settlement Patterns 8:30 am

128. Informal Discussion Roundtables. Potpourri I Roundtable 1-The Use of the Cultural Variable in the Theory of Urban Space 10:30 am

148. Spotlight New York. Immigration in the New York Region. Organizer : Mary G. Powers, Fordham Univ. 12:30

152. Special Student Session. Community/Urban Sociology. Organizer and Presider: David Baker, Catholic Univ. of America 12:30 pm

160. Session. Poverty and Homelessness. Organizer and Presider: Bruce Williams, Univ. of Mississippi 12:30 pm

185. Session. Spatial Analysis: Policy, Planning and Social Change. Organizer: Linda Lobao, Ohio State Univ. 2:30 pm

Sunday, August 18

212. Session. The Conservative Revolution: Redefining Local Politics. Presider: Barbara Schmitter Heisler, Gettysburg College 8:30 am

228. Special Student Session. Roundtable 7-Capital and the State; Roundtable 10-Theses in Progress 10:30 am

236. Session. Social Demography and Public Policy: Neighborhoods, Population Density, Work Activity, and Social Welfare. Organizer and Presider: Andres Cherlin, Johns Hopkins Univ. 10:30 am

247. Spotlight New York. World Cities: New York in the American and Global Context. Organizer and Presider: Janet Abu-Lughod, New School for Social Research 8:30 am

258. Session. Mexican Migration. Organizer and Presider: Gilberto Cardenas, Univ. of TX, Austin 2:30 pm

278. Panel Session. When and Where Race Matters. Organizer: Melvin L. Oliver, UCLA 4:30 pm

Monday, August 19

294. Spotlight New York. New York City: Documenting the Unique City. Organizer and Presider: Janet Abu-Lughod, New School for Social Research 2:30 pm

331. Session. Urban: The New Community Action. Presider: Karl Eschbach, University of Houston 10:30 am

345. Open Refereed Roundtables. Neighborhood, Community, and Culture; and Education Studies. 12:30 pm

353. Session. Rural Sociology: The Impacts of Natural Resource Use, Development and Decline on Rural Residents in the United States. Presider: Rogelio Saenz, Texas A&M Univ. 12:30 pm

367. Spotlight New York. Grassroots Organizing in New York City. Presider: Anne Shlay, Temple Univ. 2:30 pm

389. Special Session. Grassroots Community Organizing: Implications for Sociology. Organizers and Presiders: Donald C. Reitzes, Georgia State Univ. and John McCarthy, Catholic Univ. of America 4:30 pm.

392. Informal Roundtables. Race Ethnicity and Gender.

400. Session. Gangs and Gender. Organizer and Presider: John M. Hagedorn, Univ. of Wisconsin - Milwaukee 4:30

402. Section on Marxist Sociology. The Dialectics of Resistance: Community Responses to the Right. Organizer and Presider: Steven J. Rosenthal, Hampton University 4:30

Tuesday, August 20

455. Session. Community Empowerment: City and Suburb. Organizer : Robert Newby, Central Michigan Univ. 4:30 pm

460. Session. Social Movements: Framing Identity and Community; Organizer: Nancy A. Matthews, Northeastern Illinois Univ. 4:30 pm. Papers by M. Bernstein, M. Klawiter, C. Campbell, and R. Parker-Gwin and L. Gwin

CUSS SPOTLIGHT ON NEW YORK

With the meetings coming up in New York, I asked Section members familiar with Manhattan to write short pieces about Manhattan. Richard Williams has been looking into the naming of Manhattan streets. Here, he traces the name changes for sections of Eighth Avenue. Sharon Zukin looks south of SoHo now, as she describes current changes in Lower Manhattan. J. Friedman

Street Renaming: Eighth Avenue

Richard Williams, Dept. of Sociology, Rutgers

Looking at a map of Manhattan immediately after the Civil War, one could trace Eighth Avenue on its north south route from 14th Street to the northern tip of the island. Looking at the same route on a map from 1890 one finds a change in name. On this map, Eighth Avenue becomes Central Park West at 59th street. At 110th Street, the name again reverts to Eighth Avenue.

Looking at the same route on a map from 1990, one finds yet another change. On this map, Eighth still becomes Central Park West at 59th Street, and remains so until 110th street. Rather than reverting to Eighth Avenue, however, what was once Eighth Avenue becomes Frederick Douglass Boulevard for the rest of its movement north.

The splitting of Eighth Avenue reflects significant changes in the social construction of space in Manhattan. Contrary to common belief, Eighth Avenue was not renamed Central Park West upon the completion of Central Park in 1872. It was rather the case that concerted efforts on the part of The West Side Association, an association of property owners, between the 1870s and the 1880s resulted in the establishment of the upper Westside of Manhattan as an upper middle class residential area that was fundamentally distinct from the tenement housing segment of Eighth Avenue which was below 59th Street.

Although members of the Association gave much thought to the renaming of the avenues running through their area, it was not until 1884 that they concluded that the segment of Eighth running along the park should be renamed Central Park West.

This renaming was not, then, a 'natural' outgrowth of the existence of Central Park. After all, there is no Central Park East, and Central Park North is not a cognitive reality in Manhattan. It was rather the case that the property owners were mindful of labeling the distinction which they had created between social class residences. The Central Park West address was more distinctive than Eighth Avenue because of the quality of the housing on that segment fronting the park rather than because of the name itself. That the name reverted to Eighth after the park was logical, but also of little concern to the economic enterprise of the upper Westside property owners and developers.

The renaming of Eighth Avenue above 110th Street to Frederick Douglass Boulevard in 1977 represented another social change in Manhattan. By the late 1950s, the segment of Eighth Avenue above 110th Street was part of "Negro" Harlem.

The distinction "Negro" is significant in that even as late as the 1930s, "Negro" Harlem, as opposed to "Italian" or "Spanish" Harlem, was bounded on the south by 125th street and on the north by 155th street. It was during the 1960s that the area directly north of Central Park on Eighth Avenue became inhabited primarily by African Americans. It was also during the late 1960s and early 70s that the impact of the Civil Rights Movement resulted in the push for equality by Blacks and in social upheaval.

One response to that movement was the renaming of the avenue for Frederick Douglass. While intended as an honor to Douglass and for the inhabitants of the area, it in no way changed the social or economic conditions of those living on the newly named boulevard. More than anything, the renaming served as a mark of the racial divide existing in the housing market of Manhattan

The initial split in the name of Eighth Avenue was based upon class differences. The later split was based upon racial differences. The split based upon class correlated with the creation of an upper middle class residential area, distinct from a poor and working class area. The race based split correlated with the movement of African Americans into low quality housing from which they had previously been excluded. The manner in which social space was used changed in both instances. The causes of those changes were not the same, however.

When we look beneath the street names into the social forces which generated them, we are able to gain insight into the relationship of public naming/renaming to more fundamental social changes. Names are thus as important as the social relations to which they point. A street by any other name will be as positive as the social relations which it is established to contain. Sociological analysis of those social relations can be of tremendous help in demonstrating the manner by which public names, although appearing neutral, can be clues to the manner in which social stratification is maintained.

An Urban Sociologist's Inside View of Lower Manhattan

Sharon Zukin, Graduate Center, City University of New York

Lower Manhattan, the historic core of New York City, is in the throes of urban revival. You might not guess it from the height of the skyscrapers -- which look particularly dramatic at night, from the promenade along the East River in Brooklyn Heights -- or from the late 19th-century loft buildings of SoHo, SOuth of HOuston Street, or from the crowded streets and restaurants of Chinatown, but lower Manhattan is undergoing a change of identity. There is more street life, especially from peddlers and merchants, mainly Asian, along Grand Street or Broome Street. There are more museums, especially the art museums -- Guggenheim, African, and New -- on Broadway between Prince and Houston Streets.

There is more tourism focused on American ethnic and social class diversity, particularly at the National Museum of the American Indian at Bowling Green, the African Burial Ground near City Hall, the Chinatown History Museum, and the Tenement Museum on Orchard Street. There are more restaurants, notably the fine and expensive cuisine of Bouley (temporarily closed), Montrachet, and Tribeca Grill in Tribeca (the loft district north of Wall Street on the West Side named after the "TRiangle BElow CANal Street"). There are more

watering holes, including the coffee bars along Mercer Street and West Broadway in SoHo.

But all these changes reflect significant conflict over what lower Manhattan can be and who should be able to use it. The most surprising change is in the Wall Street area. Downsizing at financial firms and movement of back offices outside Manhattan have created large numbers of vacancies in buildings that are no longer considered up-to-date.

A business improvement district (BID) was recently formed to revitalize the area -- the very heartland of capitalism! Although I have suggested turning these buildings into a "museum of 20th century capitalism" and architectural historian Carol Willen has suggested a "museum of skyscrapers," the BID is seriously trying to capitalize on the few early 19th century buildings and streets that remain, dwarfed by the office towers. Signs point out various historic walking tours. Stone Street, north of Broad Street and west of Pearl Street, has been proposed for designation as a historic district -- and will feature cafes and restaurants.

Yet steps away, across Water Street, South Street Seaport limps along, its Rouse-developed shopping center in serious financial trouble and its linchpin maritime museum chronically starved of funds. Even so, and despite Christine Boyer's trenchant critique of South Street Seaport in Michael Sorkin's edited book, *Variations on a Theme Park*, the southern tip of Manhattan is going to be turned into more of a tourist zone. It may also be turned into a residential neighborhood. A few developers are beginning residential conversions of office towers, and the city government is discussing financial subsidies for tearing down underused buildings and replacing them with parks.

In certain ways, the success of nearby Tribeca has had a big impact on these plans. Not only has Tribeca sprouted distinguished restaurants, it has also become a center of arts-related businesses (graphics, advertising, and movie production) and the base of small "new media" companies that have boosters calling lower Manhattan "Silicon Alley." Robert DeNiro and other investors set up Tribeca Productions at 375 Greenwich Street several years ago. DeNiro's name provided the cachet, and the lofts provided the space, for artistic entrepreneurs to set up shop and live in the same neighborhood.

Tribeca's established residential population is almost as old as SoHo's. It dates back to the legalization of loft living there in the mid-1970s. While these residents loudly protest plans to build more new office buildings in their neighborhood, the developers of Battery Park City see this area as their natural zone of expansion. Constant battles over subsidies for development, and access to air and light, set the tone for development of the West Side around the beautiful, well-policed, Hudson River Park, site of Manhattan's most elegant public playground.

North of Tribeca, and a little to the east, SoHo has become the gateway to a new lower Manhattan. When I published *Loft Living* in 1982, SoHo was still a booming place to see new art and its streets were still dark and lonely at night. But crowds of international tourists, especially the young and hip, and weekend visitors from the suburbs have exerted an irresistible force on the neighborhood.

Without losing its ambiance of red-brick chic, SoHo has been internationalized and suburbanized, standardized and "logoized." While a number of multinational art dealers from 57th Street have opened outposts in SoHo, art galleries in

search of "serious" buyers have quietly moved uptown. The only art book store closed. Most shop windows on West Broadway, SoHo's Main Street, display clothing rather than paintings. Branches of Smith and Hawkin and Origins have replaced individually-owned shops; the museum row of Broadway faces a row of similarly upscale chain stores.

One of SoHo's distinctive shop creations from the 1970s, the gourmet food store Dean and DeLuca, is still there and very much worth seeing, at Prince Street and Broadway. Though this store is four times the size of the original, it still evokes the industrial-look, loft aesthetic that SoHo made famous.

SoHo's touristic success paradoxically confirms the image of New York City as a culture capital. A new hotel -- SoHo's first -- is almost completed on West Broadway near Canal Street, rising over the protests (once again) of neighborhood residents. Restaurants and furniture shops spill eastward from West Broadway along Spring, Grand and Broome Streets. Here, however, conflict arises with the growing East Asian population that fills Chinatown's streets.

Italian American storeowners have long complained about the street vendors -- Chinese, Vietnamese, and other Asians -- who set up shop on the sidewalk outside their stores. Some SoHo residents and shopowners are also upset at the dirt and smells that accompany food sales on the sidewalks.

While the Asians explain that they are plying their trades in a traditional way, and showing traditional entrepreneurial ambitions, competition over who controls the sidewalks is pandemic. Peter Kwong's *The New Chinatown* or Min Zhou's *Chinatown* gives some sense of the dynamic expansion of this Asian neighborhood, emphasizing that this is a neighborhood of basically poor workers in the area's restaurants and garment factories. (The Silver Palace banquet restaurant, at Canal Street and the Bowery, was the target of a long strike by its workers, who won the right to unionize.)

A walk along Grand Street, from the FDR Drive to West Broadway, is a mini-course in urban and community sociology--reminding us that the city is made up of constant flows of capital and people, a constant dialogue among many types of culture.

Summer Reading on Suburbs

I have been clipping reviews of books about suburbs. Here is the list -- with selections from the original reviews. J.F.

Parable of the Sower, Octavia E Butler, Aspect/Warner pb.

"In Southern California 30 years from now, walled communities are besieged by drug-crazed arsonists." *New York Times* 1/29/95

Lost in Place: Growing Up Absurd in Suburbia, Mark Salzman, Random House.

"A refreshing memoir of a teen-agers search for happiness through kung fu in the 1970s." *New York Times*

Suburban Guerrillas, Joseph Freda, Norton.

"The setting is 1989, and Hurley [a town in N.H.] is slowly being overrun by developers who slap together strip malls and drab condominiums ... After a particularly depressing tract of houses replaces the woods at the end of their street,

four Hurley residents decide to fight back." E. Taylor, *Los Angeles Times*.

The Idea of Home, Curtis White, Sun and Moon Press, pb.

"Masquerading as an autobiographical novel about growing up in the 1950s and 60's in San Lorenzo, CA, ... [it] is actually a wild, funny, frenetic romp through 20th-century consciousness and culture. ... [the author] goes on to set up this banal suburb as a metaphor for what he sees as the stagnant state of American fiction. ... we're sustained on this roller coaster by just enough color, wit, insight, and energetic storytelling to keep us squarely in our seats." L. Brenner, *New York Times*.

Time for a Decision: A New Community and Urban Journal?

The Winter Newsletter printed the report of the Section's Publication Committee, chaired by Barry Wellman. Many people sent responses to the Section listserver. Rather than reprinting these sometimes-lengthy responses, plus responses sent directly to the newsletter, I have summarized themes that run through the discussion.

The possibility of a journal will be on the Section business meeting agenda at ASA. The business meeting leads off Section Day: it is at 8:30 AM Tuesday, Aug. 20.

Why a new journal?

The Section includes both community and urban sociologists, but no existing journal combines community sociology with urban sociology. This makes it difficult for Section members to learn about each other's work, and it fosters a divide between community and urban sociologists.

Barry Wellman and Lyn Lofland note that a journal publishing work in both areas would foster intellectual community. In Wellman's words, such a journal would "provide a scholarly home where urban and community sociologists can conveniently track the field."

Several people, including Sharon Zukin, John Logan, and John Gilderbloom, noted that the urban journals are interdisciplinary. They value the ease in crossing disciplinary lines that these journals provide. Jurgen Friedrichs also noted the value of international journals.

Through the debate, people have mentioned problems with existing journals. Some feel that many/most urban journals now (a) favor particular kinds of urban work, and (b) are not interested in all the kinds of community/urban research done within sociology. There also is concern that community sociologists may have fewer outlets.

Is a New Journal Feasible?

Several people raised questions about the difficulty of creating a quality journal quickly. Some wonder if people will submit their best work to a journal before it has developed a reputation. John Gilderbloom noted the importance of having articles listed in the citation index.

Other practical issues involve library subscriptions, administrative costs, and acquiring a publisher. Articles in the Fall and the Winter newsletters discussed these issues.

Members of the Section publication committee have talked with representatives of several publishers. Ray Hutchison

summarizes their interest as ranging from "some interest" to "extremely strong interest." Many publishers, he notes, "look very favorably on new journals," as "journal subscriptions are purchased 'up front,' and printing costs are essentially fixed." Barry Wellman adds that a "surprisingly small" number of subscribers make a journal attractive.

Why not Go Electronic?

Sharon Zukin and John Gilderbloom both suggested exploring a journal on the WWW. Gilderbloom noted that a web journal has the advantage of quick turn around time, and it provides the opportunity to include color photographs. The potential audience "could literally be ten, 20, 100 times larger than the current journals." Zukin also suggested crossing boundaries within sociology, to create a journal titled *Space, Race, and Culture*.

Others wondered if a web journal provides any monetary advantage, beyond savings in printing and postage. Wellman questioned library interest.

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