

**Newsletter  
Winter 2009  
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index.html](http://www2.asanet.org/emotions/index.html)

**From the Chair's Desk**

Jan Stets  
UC Riverside & NSF

As we enter a new year, we are all concerned about the economy. While the Obama administration is committed to being responsive to the economic downturn, people continue to lose their homes and their jobs. Individuals are feeling a range of emotions including fear, anger, sadness, empathy, and hope. As emotion scholars, we are in a unique position to investigate people's feelings during this turbulent time. I would like to call your attention to two funding mechanisms at the NSF that would facilitate studying this: the RAPID and EAGER awards: [http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/pappguide/nsf09\\_1/gpq091print.pdf](http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/pappguide/nsf09_1/gpq091print.pdf), Chapter II, Section D I and II.

Grants for Rapid Response Research (RAPID) funds studies that have a severe urgency for the collection and analysis of data from natural disasters (for example, Hurricane Katrina) to other unanticipated events such as our sudden economic decline. The description of the project is two to five pages in which the investigator explains the urgency of the research. Requests of up to \$100,000 may be made to the Sociology Program and funding is for one year. The Early-concept Grants for Exploratory Research (EAGER) supports work in its early stages on untested but potentially transformative research ideas or approaches. The research may be considered "high risk-high payoff" perhaps involving radically different approaches, applying new expertise, or engaging in novel disciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives. The project description is five to eight



pages and requests may be up to \$200,000 and for two years. Think about how you might create innovative and exciting research that pushes the sociology of emotions in new directions. It may be quantitative or qualitative, but it should be theoretically grounded. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

I also would like to encourage you to submit your research to NSF's regular proposal competition (August 15 and January 15 deadlines). Additionally, please encourage your graduate students to submit their work for the dissertation proposal competition (October 15 and February 15). I do not see enough emotions research in these competitions, and I know that many of you are doing cutting-edge work that could garner NSF support.

We are beginning to finalize the

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## Chair's Desk

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ASA program for the annual meetings in San Francisco. The invited session for the "Chair's Hour" on the first day of the meetings is now complete. We will have scholars discussing the role of emotions in their theoretical work. Participants are Dawn Robinson (*University of Georgia*), Ed Lawler (*Cornell University*), Randy Collins (*University of Pennsylvania*), and Peter Burke (*University of California, Riverside*). Randy is running for ASA President, so remember to vote for him! Be sure you vote this spring in our section elections as well. Also, at last year's meeting, Council discussed a change in the by-laws to allow the election of a student member to Council. You'll want to cast your vote for this ballot measure.

President Obama has now been in office for a month. I was one of the 1.8 million people who journeyed to the mall to witness the historic occasion. The DC train system carried an unprecedented number of people to the event. The streets of Washington were closed to motorists and flooded with individuals from all over the world. The singing, dancing, picture-taking, and selling of Obama paraphernalia was continuous throughout the entire weekend. There was such excitement, anticipation, and joy in the air. Now his work begins. He is committed to advancing science. If successful, his stimulus package will inject millions of dollars into the NSF. Perhaps change is here.

## From the Editor

Greetings emotions sections members. I hope this issue of the newsletter finds everyone well and happy. Our Winter issue has several features we hope will be of interest to you. We're inaugurating a new series — interviews with scholars who were involved in the early days of the emotions



section and emotions research in general. The series begins with an interview with Arlie Hochschild who shares her recollections of being an emotions researcher in the late sixties and seventies. Tom Scheff has contributed a theoretical essay on the emotional relational world. Traci Tucker of Stanford contributed a review of *Emotions*

*and Social Structure*, an volume edited by section members Dawn Robinson and Jody Clay-Warner. Also, Jan Stets' Chair's Column has great information about funding opportunities at NSF. Please take a moment to read these features and thank you to all who contributed to the newsletter.

Our next issue will feature the program for this year's ASA meeting in San Francisco as well as profiles of emotions research presented at regional meetings. If you or a graduate student you know will be attending a regional meeting and would be willing to contribute a profile, please contact me at [granber@clemsn.edu](mailto:granber@clemsn.edu).  
[granber@clemsn.edu](mailto:granber@clemsn.edu).

## Section Mission Statement

The ASA Section on Sociology of Emotions brings together social and behavioral scientists in order to promote the general development of the study of emotions through the of ideas, theory, research, and teaching. Scholars from a variety of backgrounds are members of this section, and collectively encourage the study of emotions in everyday social life. Substantive topics of investigation include: the expression and experience of emotions, emotions in social interaction, identity and emotions, emotions in historical perspective, the cross-cultural study of emotions, emotions and violence, and the traditions of theory and research in the area of emotions.

The website for the ASA Section on Emotions seeks to serve the needs of section members and the greater American Sociological Association community. There you will find information about the Section on Emotions, calls for papers, section awards, key publications in the area of emotions, and a link to the section newsletter. Please visit the website regularly for updates and feel free to contact the site's webmaster, [Peter J. Burke](mailto:Peter.J.Burke) or the section chair, [Jan Stets](mailto:Jan.Stets) for questions, suggestions and comments. Enjoy!!

## Hochschild Recalls the Early Days of Emotions Research

**Editor's Note:** This is the first in a series of articles profiling scholars whose work was instrumental in the development of a sociology of emotions. The series will focus on their recollections of the early days of emotions research and the founding of the emotions sections. Suggestions for profile subjects are welcome; contact the editor at [granber@clemson.edu](mailto:granber@clemson.edu).

**Arlie** Hochschild remembers that the ASA section on the sociology of emotions began with a phone call. "The credit really goes to Candace Clark," Hochschild said. "I got a telephone call from her and she said 'I read *The Managed Heart* and 'Toward a Sociology of Emotion and Feeling'. I think there's a field here. Let's start a section.' Steve Gordon also became involved and the two of them got the section off the ground."

Clark's phone call came nearly 15 years after Hochschild began the intellectual work that would help establish emotions as an important focus of sociological thought. She said her earliest efforts in the arena came out of her desire to integrate the feminism of the 1960's into what was at that time a strongly male-dominated field.

"A group of graduate students had begun meeting in my apartment – there were no ladder rank females in the department at the time and hadn't been for decades. And over coffee and cake we began to talk grandly about what sociology would look like if it had women in it –the worlds they lived in, the sensibilities they developed. We wanted to understand how the discipline would look if it really took the experience of women into account as seriously as it did the experience of men. Gradually we became the U.C. Berkeley Sociology women's caucus. It was a heady collective re-think of sociology," Hochschild recalled.

"That experience really set my head spinning. Eventually it led me to call for a model of the sentient actor. We had the Goffmanian model of the individual, exquisitely conscious of how he appeared to others and of the traffic rules governing outer comportment. We also had the Freudian model of the individual driven by powerful instinctual forces of which he was unaware. At the time I was carrying on long discussions with my brother, a psychoanalyst and great admirer of Freud. Meanwhile, Erving Goffman was an electrifying presence at Berkeley. I read all he wrote backward and forward and was very taken with his eye."

This environment sparked in Hochschild a desire



Sociologist Arlie Hochschild

to integrate these disparate models of human beings. "I wanted to posit a model of the human being between these two models, one in which the individual was conscious of her own internal –emotional experience. I saw this model as an addition to, not a replacement for, the other two."

This core intellectual question resulted in the publication of Hochschild's first essay

on emotion "Toward A Sociology of Feeling and Emotions" written in 1974, published in 1975. At the time, she said, going public as a sociologist interested in emotions felt risky. "I didn't have my one-minute elevator answer to 'what're you doing?' So either I got a blank stare or 'what?'"

Hochschild said objections to her interest in emotion came from both conservative and liberal members of the discipline. "Some hard-line feminists thought I was embarrassing them by being 'too soft, too subjective,' not tough-minded enough. Others on the left thought the only thing to study was structure. Then there were mainstream sociologists who said, in effect, 'we already have it covered. There's nothing more to say'. They thought that adding 'agree very much' as an option on an attitudinal measure was sufficient to figure out what was going on."

At the time, Hochschild said, she was especially concerned about Erving Goffman's response; Goffman had been asked to evaluate Hochschild's paper as a part of her application for tenure at Berkeley. "It was a make or break thing," she said. "He was a bit of a tough character but he saved my neck. He read the essay and said 'if she can pull this off, she's got something.'"

In later years, Hochschild and Goffman became friends and Hochschild said he would sometimes tease her about her interest in connecting sociology to inner experience. "At one point we–Dave Matza, Sherri Cavan, Troy Duster and others were all stuffed into a small car. Erving was driving, he was an awful driver, and he made fun of me: 'Arlie,' he said, 'can't

*(Continued on page 6)*

# The Emotional-Relational World: A Theory

## Tom Scheff — UC Santa Barbara

In his early writing, Marx suggested that connection with other humans was the basic species need. He went on to discuss alienation from the means of production, others and self. Later, Marx made clear what he meant by alienation from the means, but not alienation from self and others. Nor did he explain connectedness.

Also in his early work, Marx made casual but utterly brilliant remarks about emotions. But neither he nor any other researcher has been able to go much beyond the ambiguous emotion terminology of ordinary language.



Sociologist Tom Scheff in Copenhagen last year.

Marx's early work implied that the human condition has two basic dimensions: rank and power as against solidarity/alienation. The social sciences have focused largely on the first dimension, power and status, on money and votes, often dealing with numbers rather than people. We need to give equal time

to the second dimension, the emotional/relational world (ERW).

C.H. Cooley and Erving Goffman were the Marx and Lenin of the ERW. Cooley mapped much of it in one paragraph and sentence:

"[The looking glass self] seems to have three principal elements: the imagination of our appearance to the other person; the imagination of his judgment of that appearance, and some sort of self-feeling, such as pride or mortification [shame] (1922)."

An important but unstated implication is that almost all emotions arise out of relationship dynamics. Cooley stated that the whole process is usually effortless:

...[In rejection, one realizes one] was **living in the minds of others without knowing it**, just as we daily walk the solid ground without thinking how it bears us up (p. 11, 1922).

Like Marx, Cooley didn't spell out the details, what he meant by the terms pride and shame. It is to Goffman's credit that he sensed the ambiguities of the vernacular emotion lexicon, providing both conceptual and operational definitions of embarrassment (Goffman 1967, pp. 97-98). Yet little further progress has occurred in this area. Perhaps the ba-

sic theme of Goffman's writing is what he called "facework," in which embarrassment, shame and humiliation play a crucial part.

It is also to Goffman's credit that he provided the first step toward a concept for the other part of the ERW, connectedness. During his career he used various terms, including **mystic union**, **joint focus of attention**, and **mutual awareness**. His last attempt was **co-presence**:

When in each other's presence individuals are admirably placed to share a joint focus of attention (1), perceive that they do so (2), and perceive this perceiving (3) [Goffman 1983, p. 3. *Numbers added*].

This definition is brilliant in many different ways. For one thing, it displays Goffman's ability to make a complex idea easily understandable. However, it also has limitations. One is that it hides complex ramifications. In particular, it deals only with the easy part, complete connection, but not with different degrees of connect and disconnect.

Consider five degrees (all three levels): 1. Agreement or disagreement with no errors: attunement/solidarity. 2. One error by one party, partial attunement. 3. Two errors: both by one party, or one by each party: asymmetric alienation or connected/disconnected. 4. Three errors: Two errors by one party; one error by the other. 5. Two errors by both (complete alienation, whether they are in agreement or not).

It may seem odd to call attuned disagreement a form of solidarity, but marriage studies have suggested that unattuned agreement can be more disruptive than attuned disagreement. Drumright, Gorbach and King (2004) also used second level recursive awareness, asking gay informants if their partners had other partners. This study showed that awareness levels relate to reality: Those who knew that their partner had other partners were less likely to become infected with sexually transmitted diseases.

The dual model described here could help explore the unknown continent of the ERW.

### References

- Cooley, C. H. 1922. Human Nature and the Social Order. New York: Scribner's.
- Drumright, L., P. Gorbach and K. Holmes. 2004. Do People Really Know their Sex Partners? Sexually Transmitted Diseases. 31:437-442.

(Continued on page 6)

## Book Review — Social Structure and Emotion

### Social Structure and Emotion

Edited by Jody Clay-Warner and Dawn T. Robinson  
Elsevier, 2008. 384 pages. \$74.95 (hardcover)

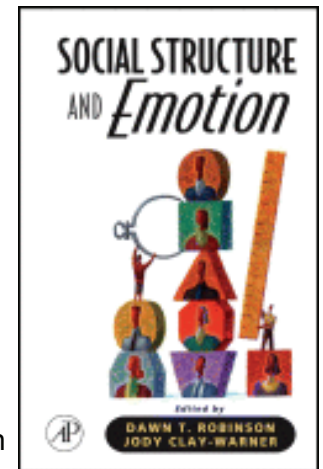
**Reviewer:** Traci N. Tucker, *Stanford University*

**S**ocial Structure and Emotion offers an encompassing overview of recent theoretical and empirical innovations linking the study of emotions and the study of social structure. Built around a collection of papers presented at a conference on emotions in April 2006, this book is an invaluable resource both for individuals seeking a broad introduction to the subfield and for individuals hoping to further an already solid foundation of knowledge.

The book begins with an introductory chapter that familiarizes the reader with the orienting traditions and history of emotions research in sociology. Thereafter, the book is divided into six sections highlighting the primary social processes involved in emotion research: status and power, identity work, exchange relations, justice and moral emotions, emotion labor, and social change.

Each section consists of an introductory commentary and two to three featured papers by prominent sociologists in the area of emotions research. The commentaries offer a thorough and clear digest of the primary questions, key concepts, and past research constituting each of the six subareas featured in the book. The papers themselves cover a wide variety of topics, from the use of humor in leadership to the role of emotion in designing realistic virtual actors, to how emotions shape moral identities and maintain social order. Despite the diversity of topics, the book as a whole remains coherent and exceptionally readable. This coherence is primarily due to the fairly consistent organization of papers from chapter to chapter and to the introductory commentaries.

Although the book is largely geared towards experimental research, the papers' theoretical insights and conclusions have applications to most any field concerned with social structure, regardless of its conventional methodologies. Furthermore, there are some notable exceptions to the overarching experimental framework. Such examples include interview-based studies of emotion management in hierarchical work settings and the role of culture and structure in shaping emotional labor, among others. In sum, this book is an important contribution to furthering the study of emotions research in sociology and a vital asset to anyone interested not only in the study of emotions but in understanding social structure as a whole.



## Congratulations to Emotions Section Members Honored by ASA & AAAS

**Cecilia Ridgeway**  
2009 Winner  
Jessie  
Bernard Award  
from ASA

**Jan Stets**  
2009 Fellow  
American  
Association for  
the Advancement  
of Science

## Hochschild Profile (cont)

(Continued from page 3)

you see all the emotions in the car?!' It was like, 'good luck kid; you can't do this!'"

It was close to a decade after the publication of her first essay that Hochschild said she saw a turning point in interest in the sociology of emotion. After the publication of *The Managed Heart*, Hochschild said, she began to sense the concepts of emotion and emotion labor were seeping into the mainstream of public sociology.

"I began to hear from flight attendants," she recalled. "They are a very mobile group. My telephone began to ring. 'I'm going to be in San Francisco,' they'd tell me. 'I have a story to tell you'. Then I started to hear from nurses and midwives, people in hospitality. Pam Smith at the University of Surrey has written a book about emotional labor in nursing, and with Stephen Smith they started a research center on the subject as well as the journal, now in new editorial hands, *Work, Organization and Emotion*. I urge members of the section to submit their work there. Now I'm in touch with scholars working on the issue of migrant care workers."

Seeing her ideas taken up by others has been among the most gratifying aspects of her career, Hochschild said. "Any writer is thrilled when the tools she lays on the table are picked up by others in their own creative work. I've learned a lot about the aston-

ishing varieties of kinds of emotional labor from the work of young scholars."

In her current project, Hochschild is exploring the ins and outs of "outsourcing" intimate life. The day after speaking with the newsletter, she was leaving for several weeks of field work in Anand, Gujarat, India where she would be studying the growing commercial surrogacy industry. "I'm going to Anand where it's almost like a baby farm. I want to know how each party feels about this. What emotion work does it take to commercialize or de-commercialize an intimate act?"

Asked for her thoughts about fruitful future avenues for emotions scholarship, Hochschild invited her fellow sociologists to become immersed in field work: "Don't be afraid of plunging in and doing the emotion work of doing field work. Let's also use our analytic tools to interpret social problems. Americans are on the edge of what looks like a depression. This calls for a panoramic look at how Americans are coping, not just practically but emotionally. Who do people blame? To whom do they turn for rescue? How hopeful do they think they should feel? How hopeful do they feel? I would encourage young sociologists of emotion to forge a creative synthesis between their emotions perspective, their field work, and their concern about the challenges of the day."

## Emotional-Relational World (cont)

(Continued from page 4)

Goffman E. 1967. Embarrassment and Social Organization. Pp. 97-112, Interaction Ritual. New York: Anchor.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1983. The Interaction Order. American Sociological Review. 48:1-17.

Scheff, Thomas. 2008. Awareness Structures: Defining Alienation/Solidarity. Journal of Power. 1:237-251.

**Editor's Note:** *The newsletter welcomes essays from section members. Essays should be 500-700 words in length; all submissions may be edited for length and clarity. Send submissions to [granber@clemson.edu](mailto:granber@clemson.edu).*

## Emotions at the 2009 ASA Meetings August 8-11 — San Francisco, CA

Plans are underway for our section activities at the 2009 ASA meetings. A "Chair's Hour" will be held concurrent with the business meeting. The Chair's Hour panel will feature these scholars discussing the role of emotions in their theoretical work:

**Dawn Robinson, University of Georgia**  
**Randy Collins, University of Pennsylvania**

**Ed Lawler, Cornell University**  
**Peter Burke, University of California, Riverside**

*The full emotions program will be published in the Spring/Summer Emotions Newsletter.*

## Sociology of Emotions 2008-09 Officers and Committees

### Officers

*Chair:* Jan Stets, UC Riverside

*Chair-Elect:* Amy Wharton, Washington State University, Vancouver

*Past Chair:* Viktor Gecas, Purdue University

*Secretary-Treasurer:* Alicia Cast, Iowa State University

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#### NOMINATIONS

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Kathy Charmaz, Sonoma State University  
John DeLamater, University of Wisconsin  
Tim Hallett, Indiana University  
Doyle McCarthy, Fordham University

#### PROGRAM

Jonathan Turner (Chair), UC Riverside  
Alicia Cast, Iowa State University  
Murray Webster, UNC Charlotte

#### PUBLICATIONS

Ellen Granberg (Chair), Clemson University  
David Boyns, Newsletter, CSU, Northridge  
Peter Burke, Website, UC, Riverside

#### LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Lynn Smith-Lovin (Chair), Duke University  
Jim Jasper, CUNY Grad Center  
David Karp, Boston College

#### RECENT CONTRIBUTION AWARD

Kathryn Lively (Chair), Dartmouth College  
Amy Kroska, University of Oklahoma  
Cecilia Ridgeway, Stanford University

#### GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

Jennifer Lois (Chair), Western Washington Univ.  
Frances Pestello, University of Dayton  
Lisa Rashotte, UNC Charlotte

#### MEMBERSHIP (Ad Hoc)

Alison Bianchi (Chair), University of Iowa  
Michael J. Carter, UC Riverside

## Emotions Section Upcoming Award Deadlines

**April 1, 2009 — ASA's Sociology of Emotion Section's Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award:** Nominations are being sought for the most outstanding, article-length graduate student paper that contributes to the sociology of emotions empirically, theoretically, or methodologically. Authors of eligible papers must be graduate students at the time of the paper's submission. Multiple-authored papers are eligible for the award if all authors are graduate students. Papers that have been accepted for publication at the time of nomination are not eligible. **Deadline for submissions is April 1, 2009.** Send three copies of the paper to: [Jennifer Lois](mailto:jennifer.lois@wwu.edu); Department of Sociology, 516 High Street, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA 98225-9081 or email them as attachments to Jennifer at [jennifer.lois@wwu.edu](mailto:jennifer.lois@wwu.edu).

**Go to:** <http://www2.asanet.org/emotions/studentaward.html> to see previous student paper award winners.

## Recent Publications on Emotions

#### Publications by Section Members:

Calvo, Esteban, Kelly Haverstick, and Steven A. Sass. 2009. "Gradual Retirement, Sense of Control, and Retirees' Happiness." *Research on Aging* Vol. 31(1):112-135.

Lively, Kathryn J. 2008. "Emotional Segues and the Management of Emotion by Women and Men." *Social Forces*. Vol. 87(2):911-936.

Lois, Jennifer. 2008. "Emotionally Layered Accounts: Homeschoolers' Justifications for Maternal Deviance." *Deviant Behavior*. Vol. 30(2):201-234.

#### Other Recent Articles that may be of Interest to Section Members:

Irwin, Kyle, Tucker McGrimmon, Brent Simpson. 2008. "Sympathy and Social Order." *Social Psychology Quarterly*. Vol. 71(4):379-397.

Menchik, Daniel A. and Xiaoli Tian. 2008. "Putting Social Context into Text: The Semiotics of E-mail." *American Journal of Sociology*. Vol. 114(2):332-370.

## Regional Meeting Profiles Needed

Spring — it brings warmer days, new growth, and nine regional or specialty sociology meetings. If you will be attending any of these meetings, please consider submitting a profile or photos of the events. This is a great opportunity for new graduate students or undergraduates attending a meeting for the first time. Photos will be credited and profiles are suitable for listing in the “non-refereed publications” section of a CV. For more information, contact the newsletter editor, Ellen Granberg, at [granber@clemson.edu](mailto:granber@clemson.edu).

Eastern Sociological Association  
March 19-22, 2009  
Baltimore MD

Southern Sociological Society  
April 1-4, 2009  
New Orleans LA

New England Sociological  
Association  
April 11, 2009  
Springfield MA

Midwest Sociological Society  
April 2-5, 2009  
Des Moines IA

Southwestern Sociological  
Association  
April 8-11, 2009  
Denver CO

Pacific Sociological Association  
April 8-11, 2009  
San Diego CA

North Central Sociological  
Association  
April 16-18, 2009  
Dearborn ME

Association of Black Sociologists  
June 17-20, 2009  
New Orleans LA

Rural Sociological Society  
July 30-August 2, 2009  
Madison WI