

NU Sociology

A Newsletter from the Department of Sociology Northwestern University, Evanston, IL 60208

Fall 1991

Jencks Named MacArthur Professor

Christopher Jencks has been named the John D. MacArthur Professor at Northwestern, effective September 1.

One of the nation's leading experts on economic hardship and social class structure, Jencks has published widely on the determinants of material well-being, social mobility, racial inequality, and welfare reform. He is the author or co-author of several books, including Rethinking Social Policy, scheduled to be published by Harvard University Press in 1992.

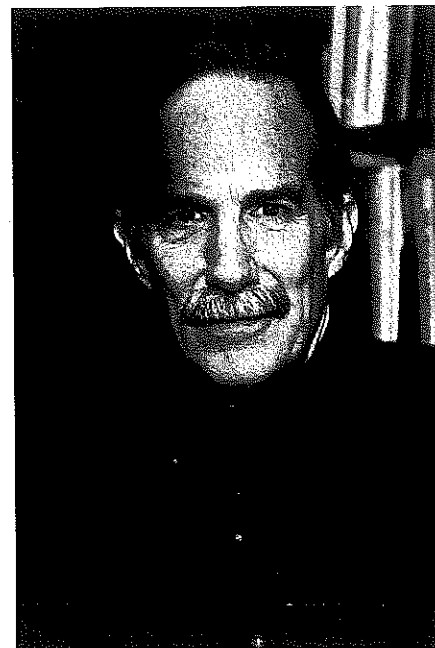
Jencks' most recent book, The Urban Underclass, co-edited with Paul Peterson, appeared this spring. The work grew out of a major conference on "The Truly Disadvantaged,"

organized by Jencks, Peterson and Christopher Winship at Northwestern in the fall of 1989.

The conference also laid the groundwork for the \$1.43 million five-year graduate student training grant from the National Science Foundation that Jencks has been co-directing for the past year (page 4).

Jencks is spending the 1991-92 academic year as a fellow at the Russell Sage Foundation in New York. He is completing a book that assesses the success of government efforts to improve housing, food consumption, and medical care over the past generation by measuring

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Christopher Jencks

Stinchcombe Receives Guggenheim

Arthur Stinchcombe has been awarded the prestigious John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship for 1991-92. He is one of three Northwestern professors to be honored.

Stinchcombe will use his award to study the historical development of the major social boundaries in Caribbean Island societies during the late 18th and 19th centuries, a subject he has been pursuing since reading a "memorable" book by Fernand Braudel several years ago.

Receiving his PhD from the University of California at Berkeley, Stinchcombe joined the Department in 1983. He is now a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the John Evans Professor of Sociology. Stinchcombe served as a visiting professor to Chile, England, the Netherlands, Norway

and Sweden. His book, Constructing Social Issues, earned him the Sorokin Prize of the American Sociological Association; his latest book, Information and Organizations, appeared last year.

The Guggenheim was awarded to

143 outstanding artists, scholars and scientists on the basis of "unusually distinguished achievement in the past and exceptional promise for future accomplishments." The awards total nearly \$3.8 million.

Chair's Corner

This is our second *NUSociology*. We are quite pleased with the interest in the first issue and the large number of alumni, both undergraduate and graduate, that sent us news about their activities (pages 8 and 9). It is always good to know that we are not forgotten and that there are many people out there who are interested in what is going on in Sociology at Northwestern these days. Thank you all.

This has been an exciting year for us. Two new faculty joined the

Department in the fall, Bruce Carruthers and Nicola Beisel. Both are new PhDs, Carruthers from the University of Chicago and Beisel from the University of Michigan. They are the first new PhD's/assistant professors that the Department has hired in many years, and they have brought freshness and vigor to the Department that we have all enjoyed. (For further information, see last year's story on Carruthers and Beisel.)

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changes in material welfare rather than income level. Susan Mayer, who received her PhD in sociology from Northwestern in 1986, is co-author.

Another of Jencks' co-authored works, Inequality, received the Sorokin Award for the best book in sociology from the American Sociological Association. In 1968, The American Council on Education awarded Jencks and David Reisman the Borden Prize for the best book on higher education for The Academic Revolution.

Jencks joined the Northwestern faculty in 1979 as professor of sociology and urban affairs. He was previously professor of sociology at Harvard University. Jencks has

received a Frank Knox Fellowship from the London School of Economics as well as two fellowships from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation. He holds honorary degrees from Kalamazoo College and Columbia College.

The MacArthur Chair was endowed by a \$1.2-million gift from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation in 1982. It supports the University's efforts to attract and retain outstanding faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences. Sociologist Howard Becker was the first John D. MacArthur Professor.

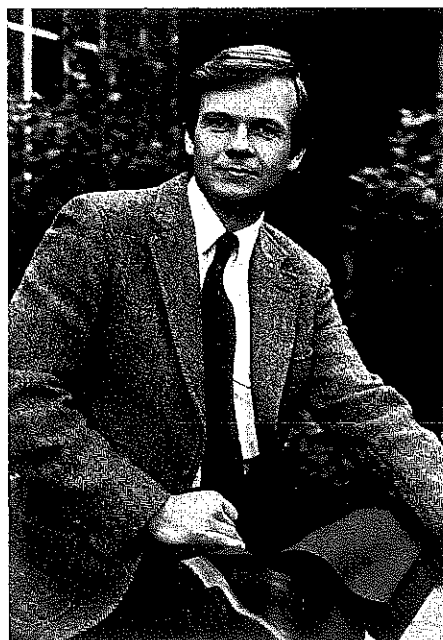
Nelson Promoted to Associate Professor

In the spring of 1991, Robert Nelson was promoted to associate professor of sociology with tenure. Nelson is a true Northwestern product having received his BA from Northwestern in 1974, his JD in 1979, and his PhD from our Department of Sociology in 1983.

Nelson is considered one of the leading scholars of his generation of the law profession. His book, Partners With Power, describes the development of large-scale law firms in the past several decades. He is currently finishing a book, The Hollow Core: Interest Representation in National Policy Making, with Jack Heinz, Edward Lauman, and Robert Salisbury. This book examines the nature of the influence wielded by lawyers and lobbyists in developing national policy.

In addition to his work on the legal profession, Nelson is researching the determinants of sexual discrimination in organizations. With William Bridges (NU PhD '75), Nelson has received support for this research from the National Science Foundation. Recently they published "Markets in the Hierarchies: Organizational and Market Influences on Gender

Inequalities in a State Pay System" in the American Journal of Sociology. This article examines how the definition of pay scales within the Washington state government is used to maintain sex-based wage differentials.



Robert Nelson

Daniels to Head Women's Studies

Arlene Kaplan Daniels has come full circle.

When she joined the faculty of Northwestern in 1975, she helped develop the Women's Studies Program. This fall, she became the director of that program.

"This is a fitting way to begin the second decade of women's studies and activities on our campus," explained Rae Moses, former director of the program. "Arlene has made a vital contribution to our programs over the past two decades.

"We know she will provide strong leadership and that the program will continue to thrive under her direction."

Daniels received her PhD in 1960 from the University of California at Berkeley. After serving on the faculty of San Francisco State College and UC Berkeley, she arrived at NU. She is the author of a recent book, Invisible Careers, and her Sheryl Miller Award Lecture, "Careers in Feminism," will be published in Gender and Society this winter.

The Women's Studies Program, an undergraduate certificate concentration, coordinates an interdisciplinary program of courses focused on new scholarly research on women and issues of concern to women, especially in the fields of humanities and social sciences. It currently has 70 participants. Daniels hopes to expand the program into a full major and also develop a graduate studies component, leading to a certificate at the PhD level.

NUSociology is published by the Department of Sociology, Northwestern University. It is designed to inform sociology alumni of relevant issues, events and changes within the Department of Sociology. Comments and letters are welcome. All contributions should be addressed to: *NUSociology*, Department of Sociology, 1810 Chicago Ave., Evanston, IL 60208-1330. Telephone number: 708/491-5415; fax number: 708/491-9907.

Chair: Christopher Winship
Assoc. Chair: Bernard Beck
Editor: Mary Lou Manning

Becker Assumes New Post at University of Washington

After 26 years as professor of sociology at Northwestern, Howard Becker has moved to Seattle with his new wife, Dianne Hagaman. They began new appointments at the University of Washington; his in the Department of Sociology, hers in the School of Communications.

During his tenure here, Becker contributed to the growth of sociology at Northwestern in numerous ways: his research publications made NU well-known around the world as a center for ethnographic studies; his teaching was a mainstay of the graduate program; his pioneering reformulation of the sociology of the arts led to major advancements in the new fields of visual sociology and performance science. And, he was almost single-handedly responsible for the establishment of Northwestern's Center for Interdisciplinary Research in the Arts (CIRA).

Becker summarizes his years at NU this way: "I can't thank Ray Mack (professor of sociology and department chair when Becker came to Evanston) enough for bringing me to Northwestern in 1965. Or all the other departmental chairs over the years who have patiently put up with my eccentricities. Or all the colleagues, both those now gone and those still here, who have put up with the same. Not to mention all the students who have survived my principled unwillingness to give simple answers to what they thought were simple questions, and who have taught me so much by doing all the work I was too lazy or not smart enough to do but that they could and would do."

As Becker goes on to bring his distinctive brand of sociological work to the University of Washington, he will not be cut off from the Northwestern department which is still his home. He will return to Evanston each year to keep his working relationships with colleagues and students alive. And his legacy will stimulate continued efforts in ethnographic field study through the

research and teaching of Arlene Daniels, Carol Heimer, Albert Hunter, Charles Moskos, and new faculty member Wendy Espeland. In fact, it is difficult to name members of the Northwestern Department of Sociology who cannot lay claim to the ethnographic label.

Becker was never one to dwell too long on the past. His final words face the future bravely.

"Dianne and I are going to maintain my perfect record for never having lived in a suburb (but are going to blemish the other record, of never owning a house) because we are now the owners of a nice, modern place on Queen Anne Hill in Seattle."

Recent PhD News

The most recent PhD grads from the Department authored the following dissertations:

James Coverdill, "Personal Contacts, the Recruitment Efforts of Firms, and Labor Market Outcome"; with the Department of Sociology, University of Georgia.

Elizabeth Elliott, "Private Duty Nurse's Aides and the Commercialization of Sickness Care in the Home."

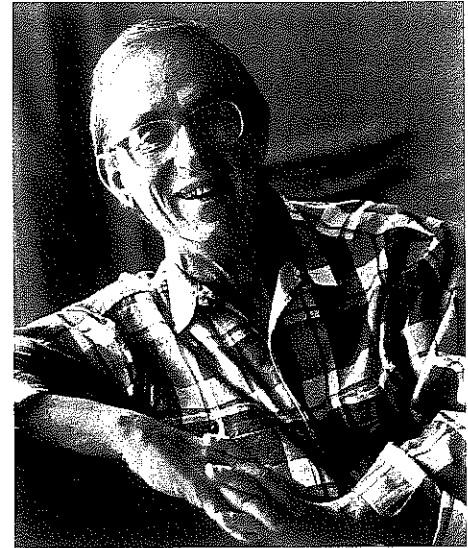
Ken Gould, "Money, Management and Manipulation: Environmental Mobilization in the Great Lakes Basin"; assistant professor at St. Lawrence University, Canton, NY.

Gary Grizzle, "Remarriage as an Incomplete Institution: A Critical Examination of Cherlin's (1978) Theory"; assistant professor at Barry University, Miami, FL.

Nancy Kopriva, "The Moderates of '17: Conflicts of Russian Democracy—Then and Now."

JoAnne LaBonte, "What's On Television: Program Decisions and the Organizational Environment at Local Stations"; post-doc in Japan.

Yvonne Newsome, "A House Divided: conflict and Cooperation in



Howard Becker.

African American-Jewish Relations"; post-doc at Vanderbilt University.

Yuval Yonay, "When Black Boxes Clash: the Struggle Over the Soul of Economics, 1918-1945".

Grads Receive External Funding

Our graduate students continue to receive awards of external funding from many sources. The following students are recipients of these awards:

Chris Wellin, Karen Haskin, and David Rhodes, Center for Urban Affairs-National Science Foundation Training Fellowship; Kelly Devers, The NIH Agency for Health Care Policy and Research Dissertation Year Grant; Sarah Willie, Dissertation Year Teaching Award at Colby College; Tim Koponen, SSRC International Pre-Dissertation Fellowship, 1992, for study in Zimbabwe; Elijah Ward and Alan Dahl, NSF Fellowship; and Hitoshi Kawano, continuing Fulbright Fellowship.

In addition, the following members of the incoming cohort will receive external funding: Jim Fenelon, and Sarah Gatson, Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC); and Patrice Gammon, and Carlos Manjarrez, NSF.

Moskos Travels the World Over in Search of Sociological Insight

During the 1990-91 academic year, Prof. Charles Moskos continued to find himself traveling in search of sociological insight. In the case of the nomadic military and political sociologist, the search took him into combat zones to study the American armed forces at work in Panama and the Persian Gulf. It also took him to Albania, the land where his own ancestors lived as minority Greeks and gave him the chance to play a significant role in the reestablishment of diplomatic relations between Albania and the United States.

Moskos also remained active at home. He has become a familiar voice in the Op Ed pages of America's most influential newspapers and as the author of articles in respected magazines for general readers. As the well-known creator of the idea of national service, he has become a frequent adviser to congressional committees and cabinet departments, and as a leading scholar of Greek-American life, he has become a prominent intellectual leader of that ethnic community.

Along with these pursuits, the popular professor has found time and

energy to sustain his usual pace at Northwestern, teaching more than 1,000 students each year and publishing a steady stream of scholarly works.

Moskos' career demonstrates the importance of military institutions in our national life. His specialty links an involvement in scholarly matters with participation as a citizen in the most important policy debates. But military sociology showed no such promise when he first went into it. Even today, he says candidly, it is not a practical choice for a beginning sociologist, and he would not advise it. Nevertheless, it has been the route for him to achieve a public role. He gives credit where credit is due: "I'd like to thank my draft board." It was his years as a conscripted enlisted man in the mid-1950s, after his graduation from Princeton, that laid the foundation for his lifelong interest in the armed forces and society. As an added benefit, Moskos says that most military sociologists are classically marginal people who are not alienated from their work; they are fun to talk to.

Moskos' itinerary the past year was

ambitious. In August 1990, he travelled to Albania, where he acted as a go-between for the U.S. State Department and the Albanian Foreign Ministry. From there, he went to the Israeli Institute of Military Studies, and a November trip to Saudi Arabia followed to interview combat soldiers preparing for the Gulf War. Because his access was informally arranged, Moskos avoided the censorship that hampered the work of most journalists. December took him to the British Military Studies Group of Kings College at the University of London, and in February 1991, he spoke on the professional vs. the conscripted army at the Foundation for National Defense of the French Defense Ministry in Paris. In April, Moskos travelled to Helsinki as the guest of the Finnish Defense Ministry and the University of Helsinki, and finally, he spent the spring of 1991 at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, D.C.

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"Sociology has been gorged with facts; it needs to digest them."

George C. Homans



NSF Program Update

Six NU graduate students and two post-doctoral sociologists are among the first group of fellows selected for special training in advanced urban poverty research in a unique program funded by the National Science Foundation. NSF awarded the \$1.43-million grant last September jointly to Northwestern and the University of Chicago to improve interdisciplinary graduate education in the social and behavioral sciences.

This fall, Karen Haskin, David Rhodes, and Christopher Wellin from sociology, and Yasuyo Abe, Charles Pierret, and Robert Fairlie from economics — all third and fourth year graduate students — formally entered the program. As part of their training, they will serve as research assistants to core NSF sociology and economics

faculty. These faculty also have appointments at the Center for Urban Affairs and Policy Research, where the program is housed.

Rebecca Blank, associate professor of economics, and education and social policy, will direct the Northwestern component of the program, replacing Prof. Christopher Jencks of Sociology who is on leave this fall. Sociologist William J. Wilson will continue directing the University of Chicago segment. When it is fully operational, the program will train nine graduate students and several post-docs a year on each campus, in a three-year cycle.

The newly selected post-docs are Michelle Byng, who studied the black political elite of Richmond, Va. for her

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Grad Students Busy with Professional Travel

Sociology students continue to be busy with professional travel this year. The following were presenters at various conferences:

David Brown, American Sociological Association (ASA), "Higher Educational Expansion and Changing Labor Markets"; **Kelly Devers**, SSSP, "The Organization of Adult Intensive Care Units: Workflow, Triage Practices, and Equity"; **Mark Ellis**, Midwest Sociological Society (MSS), "Formality—The Process That Can Lead to Disaffection: Assessing the Damages of a Conservatory Music Education"; **Mary Erdmans**, Association for Humanist Sociology, "Why Poles Didn't Emigrate: The Morality of Hanging In There," Polish American Historical Association, "Solidarity-Era Emigration," MSS, "The Social Construction of Emigration as a Moral Issue," and ASA, "Relations Between New and Established Movement Organizations: A Case Study of Aborted Cooperation";

Ken Gould, MSS, "Pollution and Perception: The Impact of the Social Visibility of Pollutants on Local Environmental Political Mobilization," and ASA, "Who Mobilizes Whom? The Role of National and Regional Social Movement Organizations in Local Environmental Political Mobilization," with **Adam Weinberg**; **Brian Gran**, Midwest Student Sociological Conference, "The Legal Consciousness of the Poor"; **Sharon Groch**, Society for Disability Studies, "The Emergence of Disability Consciousness";

Karen Haskin, MSS, "Adoption Markets: Empowerment and Disempowerment and Institutional Control in a Situation of Excess Demand"; **Kevin Henson**, Interdisciplinary Conference on Gay/Lesbian Studies, "The Role of Volunteerism in Building Affectional Gay and Lesbian Community," and ASA, "Making Community: How Gays and Lesbians Find One Another"; **Michael Huff**, National Black Graduate Student Conference,

"The Need for Black Graduate Students"; **Mary Kate Driscoll**, ASA, "Self-Denial and Body Transformation: Nuns' and Anorectics' Transcendence of Conventional Femininity" and "Women Growing Old vs. Women as Elders: The Qualitative Diversity of Aging";

Judith Levine, ASA Eastern Conference, "Parental Strategies in Disadvantaged Neighborhoods: Some Ethnographic Observations"; **Alfonso Morales**, MSS, organizer of "The Urban Informal Economy" session, National Association of Chicano Studies, "Water Rights and Changing Forms of Habit and Resistance," Law and Society Association and ASA, roundtable on the Informal Economy; **Steve Neufeld**, MSS, "Entrepreneurial Ideologies in the Black Community";

Maude Schaafsma, Conference on Feminist Jurisprudence, Yale Law School, "Women Lawyers in the Corporate Law Firm"; **Mitchell Stevens**, ASA, "Home Teaching and the Renovation of Motherwork"; and **Weinberg**, MSS, "The Law and Social Movements: Community Right to Know - A Case Study," and ASA, "Community Right to Know and the Environment: Reconceptualizing the Law."

In additional grad news, **Chris Wellin** was awarded one of six research grants given nationally by the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association for the second consecutive year. His research centers on innovative care settings for older persons with cognitive diseases and ways in which the social organization of care-giving reproduces behavior which is attributed to organic illness. Wellin shares the award with Dale Jaffe of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

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We admitted our largest cohort of graduate students in many years — 22. This was the result of the fact that our acceptance rate has sky-rocketed in the

past few years. Last year approximately two out of three students offered admission and fellowships accepted. This cohort also contains the largest number of African American students that we have ever had in a cohort — six. The presence of so many new and eager people has made the Department a very lively place.

This year we have a much smaller group of entering graduate students — 12. These 12 come from over 150 applicants. As in the previous year our acceptance rate has been approximately two out of three students. The incoming class is a diverse group with three international students — a South African, a Brazilian, and a Uruguayan — two African Americans, a Mexican American, and a Native American.

The changing selectivity of the graduate program is reflected in the number of our students that are being supported on outside fellowships. Of the 70 students in the Department, 15 received fellowships from sources outside the University. Also another 18 have been supported by funds within the University but outside the Department.

This year has been a period of new programs. The new NSF funded graduate training program on "Race, Urban Poverty, and Social Policy" has gotten off to a terrific start (page 4). The number of individuals attending the weekly seminars has at times been overwhelming — 50 to 70. With the University of Chicago's participation, Northwestern is becoming known as a major — if not the major — area for poverty research in the country.

This year Sociology and the Organizational Behavior Department in the Kellogg Graduate School of Business proposed a new joint PhD program. The purpose of this program is to recruit students who will develop an expertise in the analysis of organizations and their environments, and have the training to teach in either a sociology department or business

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There is No Underclass

by Christopher Jencks

Written by Christopher Jencks, professor of sociology and urban affairs at NU, this article appeared in the Op Ed pages of several newspapers across the country including The Wall Street Journal.

Late in 1981, Ken Auletta published three articles in the New Yorker on what he called the American underclass. Mr. Auletta was not the first to use the term, but he was largely responsible for making it part of middle-class America's working vocabulary.

Since the term "underclass" is relatively new, most people assume that the phenomenon it describes must also be new. Yet what we now call the underclass bears a striking resemblance to what sociologists used to call the lower class. Both are characterized by high levels of joblessness, illiteracy, illegitimacy, violence and despair. Ethnographic accounts of lower-class life in the 1960s describe lives that seem very similar in all these respects to the lives described in more recent writing on the underclass.

If the American class structure is changing, the change is not that a completely new class has come into existence but that the old lower class has grown larger and perhaps more isolated from mainstream society. In my judgment, these changes are not large enough to justify substituting the term underclass for the term lower class.

Americans started talking about the underclass during the 1980s because they sensed that their society was becoming more unequal. The rich were getting richer but the poor were as numerous as ever. At the same time, the fabric of lower-class life seemed to be unraveling. Poor parents were less likely to marry, and millions of single mothers were trying to live on welfare checks that paid less per month than the rich spent every day amusing themselves. Crime was rampant in many poor neighborhoods. Inner-city schools seemed unable to

teach most of their students basic skills. As a result, poor children no longer seemed to have much chance of escaping from poverty, as earlier generations had.

If all these problems had arisen more or less simultaneously, the idea that shrinking economic opportunities were creating a new underclass would be hard to resist. In reality, however, while economic conditions began to deteriorate for less-skilled workers in the 1970s, most of the other problems that led Americans to start talking about an underclass followed different trajectories. Some had been getting worse for a long time. Some had gotten worse between 1965 and 1975 but then leveled off. Some have actually gotten better. When we try to link changes in family structure, welfare use, school enrollment, academic achievement or criminal violence to changes in economic opportunity, the connections prove elusive. To see why, it is helpful to compare the time of changes in different areas.

Which problems have gotten steadily worse?

Male joblessness. Long-term joblessness is somewhat sensitive to the business cycle, but the underlying rate among men 25 to 54 years old rose in both the 1970s and 1980s. Among whites the new jobless were seldom poor. Among blacks, however, the kinds of poor men who had worked episodically in 1960 often withdrew from the labor force, increasing the proportion of all blacks who were both long-term jobless and poor.

Unwed parenthood. The number of babies born to unmarried women did not rise much from 1960 to 1975, but the number of babies born to married women fell a lot, so the proportion of babies born out of wedlock rose. After 1975 the number of babies born to unmarried women also began to rise, though not dramatically. Since divorce has also become more common, the fraction of women raising children without male

help has increased steadily. According to the Census Bureau, the share of American families with children headed by women rose to 21.2% in 1988 from 18.6% in 1980 and 9.4% in 1960.

Which problems have stopped getting worse?

Welfare. While single motherhood increases steadily after 1960, the proportion of single mothers collecting welfare rose only from 1964 to 1974. After that, it began to decline again. As a result, the proportion of mothers collecting welfare rose dramatically between 1964 and 1974 but then leveled off. As to the question of race, blacks actually constitute a declining fraction of all welfare recipients — 40% in 1987 vs. 45% in 1969.

Violence. Violent crime doubled between 1964 and 1974, remained roughly constant during the late 1970s, declined significantly in the early 1980s, and edged up in the late 1980s. As a result, violence was somewhat less common in the late 1980s than in 1980 or 1970. This was especially true among blacks.

Which problems have gotten steadily better?

Dropouts. Both non-Hispanic whites and blacks were more likely to earn a high school diploma or a high school equivalency certificate in the late 1980s than at any time in the past. The disparity between blacks and whites was also smaller. Improvements on these indexes were, however, somewhat slower in the 1980s than in the 1960s or 1970s.

Reading and math skills. The proportion of 17-year-olds with basic reading skills rose steadily during the 1970s and 1980s, especially among blacks. The increase among whites was much smaller. Disparities between the best and worse readers, while still high, diminished significantly. The proportion of 17-year-old blacks with basic math skills also rose during the 1980s.

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Intergenerational inheritance. Among blacks, educational attainment became less dependent upon family background between 1940 and 1980. As a result, black children from disadvantaged backgrounds had better educational prospects in the 1980s than in 1970. Among whites, there was little change after 1970.

Which problems have stopped getting better?

Teen-age parenthood. Teen-age motherhood declined during the 1960s and 1970s. There was no clear trend during the 1980s. Teen-age fatherhood rose during the 1960s, declined during the 1970s, and was roughly constant during the 1980s.

Poverty. The portion of individuals with family incomes below the poverty line, which had fallen steadily from 1940 to 1970, has not changed much since 1970. As the Census Bureau has found, blacks constituted 31% of the poor in 1967, and they still constituted 31% of the poor in 1988. But the character of poverty has changed. It has become less common among the elderly and more common among children. Poverty has also become more concentrated among families in which the head does not work regularly.

Which problems have I ignored?

Drugs. Drug use is a persistent problem. But I have not been able to find any convincing quantitative evidence about changes in the prevalence or severity of the problem. Surveys of high school students show dramatic declines in almost all forms of drug use during the 1980s. Yet people who spend time in poor communities are convinced drugs became a more serious problem in the 1980s. Both claims are probably correct.

The trends I have described do not fit together in any simple or obvious way. Those who think that everything has gotten worse for people at the bottom of the social pyramid since 1970 are clearly wrong. As far as I can see, the claim that America has a growing underclass does not help us to understand complex changes of the kind I have described. On the contrary, arguments that use class as

their central explanatory idea obscure what is going on.

Class labels provide a shorthand device for describing people who differ among many dimensions simultaneously. The term "underclass" conjures up a chronically jobless high school dropout who has had two or three children out of wedlock, has very little money to support them, and probably has either a criminal record or a history of welfare dependence. But the relatively few people fit such stereotypes perfectly. We use class labels precisely because we want to make the world seem tidier than it is.

The illusion of class homogeneity does no harm in some contexts, but it encourages two kinds of logical error when we try to describe social change. Whenever we observe an increase in behavior that has traditionally been correlated with membership in a particular class, we assume that class must be getting bigger. If more working-age men are jobless, for example, we assume the underclass must be getting bigger. The second error is that, once we decide a class is growing, we tend to assume that every form of behavior associated with membership in that class is becoming more common. Having concluded the underclass is getting bigger, for example, we assume that dropout rates, crime and teen-age parenthood must also be rising.

But to understand what is happening to those at the bottom of American society, we need to examine their problems one at a time. Exaggerating the correlations among social problems can have political costs as well. Portraying poverty, joblessness, illiteracy, violence, unwed motherhood and drug abuse as symptoms of a larger metaproblem, such as the underclass, encourages people to look for metasolutions. We are frequently told, for example, that "piecemeal" reform is pointless and that we need a "comprehensive" approach to the problem of the underclass. Some even believe we need "revolutionary" change.

But if we cannot manage piecemeal reforms, looking for metasolutions is

almost certain to be time wasted so far as the American underclass is concerned. If we want to reduce poverty, joblessness, illiteracy, violence or despair, we will surely need to change our institutions and attitudes in hundreds of small ways, not one big way.

Department Holds Colloquia

The Department hosted 25 colloquia over the 1990-91 academic year featuring a wide range of experts in the sociological field.

In January, Mary Jo Bane, JFK School of Government, discussed "Poverty, Disadvantage and Risk Among Children." Philippe Bourgeois, visiting scholar at the Russell Sage Foundation, addressed an overflow audience in February on the subject of "Ideology and the Crack Economy: Fieldwork in El Barrio." Also that month Michael Mann, UCLA, spoke on "The Emergence of Classes and Nations in the Modern West, 1760-1920," while March brought William Finlay (NU PhD '83), University of Georgia, with a presentation on "Attitudes vs Skills: Technology and Hiring Decisions in Electrical and Textile Plants."

In April, Glen Elder, University of North Carolina, discussed "Family Adaptations to Economic Decline"; Ann Orloff, University of Wisconsin, presented "Gender in Early United States Social Policy."

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Undergraduate from page 10

In 1990-91, 105 students were sociology majors, and 27 seniors graduated in June with majors in sociology. Among these were Kathleen McCarthy and Tracy Swagler who received departmental honors. In spite of the increased number of majors, the Department is among the leaders in the College in offering undergraduates the opportunity to do independent research with the guidance of professors.

ALUMNI NEWS

Esther Epple ('27) served in the Evanston public schools as teacher and nurse for 41 years; now resides in Montrose, MN where she is active in the community.

Leola Woodhull Jones ('31), grandmother of 10, retired in Jamesburg, NJ; has worked as head nurse and administrator of staff development at a community hospital.

Harold S. Jacoby ('32) retired professor emeritus from the University of the Pacific where he worked over 40 years.

Helen Zilka Jaworski ('35) worked in various aspects of the social work field including a 19-year stint as a social worker for the Municipal Tuberculosis Sanitarium in Chicago.

S. Roberta Church ('37) Memphis, TN, retired from the federal government where she worked in several agencies; last year named "Senior Citizen of the Year" by the Memphis Kiwanis Club; authored two books on Memphis history.

Jeanette Simmons Malnekoff ('37) retired from her husband's business where she was employed as a comptroller; keeps busy attending literature groups and transcribing Braille textbooks for the blind.

Frances Philbrick ('37), retired from her work as counselor, supervisor of the Family Counseling Service of Evanston and Skokie Valley; continues to do volunteer work with the Evanston Historical Society.

Marie Klopsteg Graffis ('39) has a special interest in supporting research of retinitis pigmentosa (Ushers Syndrome); she has three adult sons coping with the disease; writes, "special education has been an ongoing interest of mine."

Dorothy Rath Miller, Aptos, CA ('39) school social worker for 13 years and employed in mental health and migrant clinics; since retirement, has lectured throughout the United States, Europe and the Far East on Japanese folk arts.

Phyllis Graham Stigall ('39) retired from her job as manager at IBM Research

Library, Yorktown Heights, NY.

Jean Chubb Hardy ('41) real estate broker since 1969; resides in Pelham Manor, NY.

Margery Mayer Waldner ('41) secretary to the Assistant Vice President/Budget Planning, Analysis and Allocation at Northwestern and a volunteer for a literary program where she teaches adults at Oakton Community College; has also worked in the teaching and public relations fields.

Fremont Fletcher ('42) received a JD from the University of Minnesota Law School and practiced law for 42 years before retiring last year.

Jo Simon ('43) employed for the past 30 years as administrative director for the Clinic of the Institute for Psychoanalysis in Chicago.

Naomi Staple Hult ('44) graduated from Evanston Hospital's School of Nursing in 1947 and followed a nursing career for 40 years; since retiring, has done volunteer work with hospice and handicapped children.

Jean Levy London ('45) retired clinical social worker currently doing volunteer work for Planned Parenthood, Children's Memorial Hospital, and Evanston's senior citizen center.

Anne Jorjorian Samaan ('48) spent 15 years on the faculties of schools in the US, Egypt and Nigeria teaching psychology and over 30 years as a psychologist in private practice; now in private practice in Worthington, OH.

Sylvia Fleis Fava ('56) taught at Brooklyn College from 1951-86; resides in Jackson Heights, NY; published six books and over 20 articles on urban life.

Janet Goan-Burdick ('58) Fox Point, WI, on the Advisory Committee of CASA (Court-Appointed Special Advocates) and training for the Exchange Club Centers' program for the prevention of child abuse; former caseworker for the Milwaukee County Welfare Department.

Richard Crisman ('59) served as pastor in several United Methodist churches in

central Illinois communities for the past 40 years; now resides in Mason City, IL.

Claire Whinery Bobinet, ('61) Indianola, IA, middle school secretary and the mother of two; previously employed as a pension administrator associate secretary for the Des Moines Convention Bureau and assistant personnel director for the American Institute of Business.

Joan Forster Ross ('63) heads a private psychotherapy practice with offices in Highland Park, IL and Chicago's Loop.

Elaine Polacek Collins ('64) spent career in consumer research; currently vice president of Group Research Director of BBDO of Chicago, an advertising agency she joined in 1966.

Barbara Savadge Horton ('64) Evanston; author of a chapbook of poetry and a soon-to-be-published children's book; marketing coordinator with NTC Publishing Group in Lincolnwood, IL.

Barbara Sheppard Lang ('64) "ended up in the business world," although she "uses her psychology and sociology background very effectively to deal with the varying constituencies I have come across as part of the 'corporate' world and now in rural America;" most recently, serves as executive vice president of Cable Services and resides in Jamestown, ND.

Sharon Sax Levin ('65) licensed clinical social worker employed part-time in private practice and part-time at Stanford University's Help Center doing both short-term and ongoing psychotherapy; resides with her family in Los Altos, CA.

Claire Gilbert ('66), Deerfield Beach FL; wrote a novel set in the year 2000 and based on her professional interests in environmental sociology, futuristics, and social theory.

Robert Perry ('66) held several positions in the academic world, the latest that of sociology instructor at Johnson County Community College in Overland Park, KS; spent three years as a Peace Corp volunteer in Kenya and an exchange teacher to Northeastern Polytechnical University in Xi'an, Shaanxi Province, China.

ALUMNI NEWS

Richard S. Cohen, M.D. ('68) head and neck surgeon from Grants Pass, OR; chief of staff at Josephine Memorial Hospital and on the teaching faculty of the University of Oregon's Health Sciences University.

Janice Liebling Rosenberg ('68) freelance writer who has published articles in Ladies Home Journal, Working Mother, Bridal Guide and Seventeen; her book of essays written with five other women, Reinventing Home, published earlier this year.

Patricia L. Carroll ('69), Madison, WI, received her PhD from the University of Wisconsin at Madison; trainer for the state's Division of Economic Support, Department of Health and Social Services.

Leonard Freed ('69) associate professor of zoology at the University of Hawaii; project director of grant from the MacArthur Foundation for ecological and genetic studies of endangered Hawaiian birds.

Richard Tye ('70) in dental practice in Evanston since graduating from Northwestern's Dental School in 1974.

Stephen Wilson ('70), Evanston; senior vice president and chief financial officer of CF Industries, Long Grove, IL.

John Hoppock ('71) a "55-year-old early retiree from the business world" when he received his Northwestern masters degree; reports that his time here "was a great experience and a fine launching pad for his second career which involved full-time assignments with the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and a major Loop law firm.

Rose Bencomo Johns ('71) psychometrist for a private psychology group in Phoenix; president of the NW Chapter of the Arizona Association for Gifted/Talented Education.

Sam Mueller ('71) on faculty of University of Akron; his paper, "The Opportunity Cost of Discipleship: Ethical Mutual Funds and their Returns," appeared in the March issue of Sociological Analysis, and it has received

much media coverage including Money Magazine, CNN's "Moneyline," and PBS' "Nightly Business Report."

Peggy Linne Rosenblatt ('71) worked for 12 years as an urban planner/project manager and for the past seven as a senior manager of a New York City environmental/planning consulting firm.

Howard Schechter ('71) professor and chair of Development and Transformation at the California Institute of Integral Studies, San Francisco; Rekindling the Spirit of Work is his "book-in-progress."

Graham Spanier ('71) chancellor of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln; current books include Parting: the Aftermath of Marriage and Recycling the Family: Remarriage After Divorce.

John Sibley Butler ('74) named the Dallas TACA Centennial Professor of Liberal Arts last year; has written a book, Entrepreneurship and Self-Help Among Black Americans: A Reconsideration of Race and Economics and published numerous articles in the area of military sociology; on the faculty of the Department of Sociology, University of Texas at Austin.

Michael O'Neil ('77) president of O'Neil Associates, a full-service marketing and public opinion research firm in Tempe, AZ; writes that he is "continually amazed at the reaction of former colleagues upon my leaving academia a decade ago: 'Whatever happened to Mike O'Neil? — he seemed to have such a promising career.' It was as if they were talking about someone who died!"

Joan Toms Olson ('78) associate professor of sociology at Mary Washington College, Fredericksburg, VA.

Luis Salces ('78) senior vice president of Unimar in Chicago.

Karen Bissonnette Kelly ('82) director of Annual Giving at Wheaton College, Norton, MA.

Lorie Chylak McClure ('82) practices law in Chicago and helps her husband in their marketing services company.

Wim Wiewel ('84) has two forthcoming books: Neighborhood and Economic Development Policy in Chicago, 1983-1987; (editor) with Pierre Clavel, and An Urban Agenda for the 1990s; an associate professor in the School of Urban Planning and Policy, University of Illinois at Chicago, and the director for the school's Center for Urban Economic Development.

Esther Benjamin ('88) "free-lances" research skills with one teaching stint for variety; completed the divorce study for the Illinois Women's Agenda; conducted a study of hospital administrators' family life; currently winding up a feasibility study for a not-for-profit agency serving the disabled.

Louise Cainkar ('88) director of the Palestinian Human Rights Information Center in Chicago; during the recent war in the Middle East, appeared on numerous radio and tv stations.

Miles Horton ('88) student at Georgetown University Law Center.

Helen Rosenberg ('89) principal investigator at the Thresholds Research and Training Center in Chicago; heads a study to investigate the determinates of vocational outcomes for people with severe mental illness served through the Illinois Department of Rehabilitation Services.

Mary Ann Schwartz professor of sociology at Chicago's Northeastern Illinois University where she has also served as chair of the department; in 1972, co-founded the school's Women's Studies Program.

Thanks to the many alumni for sharing their career moves and outstanding accomplishments. Please continue to send your news to NUSociology, 1810 Chicago Ave., Evanston, IL 60208-1330.

Grad Students Awarded Summer Fellowships

Last summer, the Department of Sociology began a new, experimental program in which the Department provided funds to support graduate students to work with faculty on collaborative research projects. The purpose of the program was to encourage students and faculty to co-author work. Four projects were supported.

Lisa Staffen received the summer research fellowship in order to code and analyze the reams of data she and Prof. Carol Heimer collected doing field work in two neonatal intensive care units. The two are co-authoring a paper, "Labels and Excuses: The Social Control of Parenting in Neonatal Intensive Care Units," which was presented at the American Sociological Association's meeting in August. They plan to revise the paper and submit it to a journal for publication.

David Maurrasse and Prof. Aldon Morris researched the case of Knight vs. Alabama in which Alabama State University and Alabama A&M (black colleges) sued the state over the lack of funding and overall respect accorded other Alabama public universities (University of Alabama and Auburn). The suit contends that this practice has resulted in an unequal situation today and black colleges are therefore attempting to seek remedies for existing vestiges of segregation. Upon completion of this research, the two will write an article for the *Yale Law Review*.

Kelly Devers teamed up with Heimer to combine data from two qualitative studies currently underway, comparing adult and neonatal intensive care units on a number of dimensions. Of particular interest is the issue of agency: Who is viewed as the appropriate person to speak for patients when they are deemed incompetent? How is this determined by medical personnel? How is this process the same or different with infant and adult patients, etc?

Amy Binder and Prof. Nicola

Beisel researched the rock music censorship movement that occurred and is occurring in this country from the mid-1980s to the early 1990s. They studied how the movement chose to "frame" its activities over the years by looking at such questions as the following: How were "obscene" lyrics packaged as a social problem? What results did the censorship movement promise? Who was portrayed as the villain in these appeals for censorship?

Support for this summer program came from current departmental funds. If successful, it is hoped that outside funds can be found to support it in the future.

Undergraduate Program News

The Department of Sociology continues to offer some of the most popular courses for undergraduates with 4734 students enrolled in sociology classes this past academic year.

The College of Arts and Sciences has inaugurated two new undergraduate offerings: junior tutorials and 15-week courses. Junior tutorials are small classes (between three and eight students) that meet once a week to deal with special topics, involving independent reading and writing assignments. They are limited to juniors and serve to introduce students to the process of independent research (they will confront it as seniors in C98-1 and 2, the senior seminar required of all majors.) Fifteen-week classes extend for one-and-a-half quarters and carry one-and-a-half course credits. They are a means of achieving some of the benefits of the semester system under the umbrella of the traditional quarter system. The Department of Sociology has developed several offerings under both programs, continuing its reputation as being among the first to explore the benefits of experimental programs.

The number of sociology majors continues to increase slowly but steadily. Although still below the peak numbers of majors in the 1960s, the current numbers represent a new interest in serious study of sociology since the early 1980s. This shift may reflect changes in student thinking and a revived interest in and optimism about social change after more than a decade of cynicism and self-interest.

Continued on page 7

Teplin Recipient of Two Top Awards

Adjunct faculty member Linda Teplin (NU PhD '75) received two prestigious awards during the past year. She was recently awarded the 1990 Judith Silver Young Science Award from the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill and the MERIT (Method to Extend Research in Time) award from the National Institutes of Mental Health.

This was the first time the Judith Silver Young Science Award was given to a sociologist rather than a biological researcher. The objective of the MERIT award is "to provide long-term stable support to outstanding investigators for their ongoing research."

Teplin holds a continuing NIMH-sponsored research grant to examine the prevalence of serious mental disorders among female jail detainees and determine the extent to which these women are detected and given treatment. An accompanying grant studies the same two questions on prevalence and treatment in relation to multiple alcohol/drug/mental disorders.

Teplin serves as a professor in Northwestern Medical School's Department of Psychiatry and Behavior Science and director of its Psycho-Legal Studies Program.

Women In Combat - The Same Risks as Men?

by Charles Moskos

Written by Charles Moskos, professor of sociology at NU, this article appeared in the Op Ed pages of several newspapers across the country including the Washington Post.

Army Capt. Linda Bray's command of troops in a combat operation in Panama was a shot heard around the world, or at least around the Pentagon. Although the details surrounding the incident remain murky, the effort to lift the combat bar for women soldiers gained new momentum.

Rep. Patricia Schroeder (D-Colo.) immediately proposed legislation of women in the combat arms. The legislation is based on an earlier recommendation from a Defense Department advisory committee for women. Were the results of such a test to reflect favorably on women soldiers, the pressures to remove the bar on women in the combat arms would be nigh irresistible.

On the surface, the proposal for an experimental trial period sounds eminently reasonable. How can we know whether women will measure up to the stresses of combat without assigning them to combat training and seeing what happens? Admittedly, training is not the same as actual combat, but a pilot program would tell us more than we know now.

There is another side to consider, however. Let us assume that the presence of women in combat units will not deleteriously affect the combat performance of the men in those units. Let us also assume that in the event of hostilities the death of female soldiers would not cause much more upset at home than the death of male soldiers. After all, as Panama showed, female soldiers are now assigned positions where they can come in harm's way, even though they are technically barred from direct combat roles.

Let us finally assume that a pilot program will show that some number of women have the physical and psychological endurance to perform

well in combat, at least as well as some men already in combat roles. Even ambiguous results—the most likely outcome—would add to the pressures to incorporate women into the infantry, armor and cannon artillery.

“True equal opportunity would mean the same liability for women and men soldiers alike.”

Would allowing qualified women to enter the combat arms finally mean the resolution of what has become a nettlesome issue? Unfortunately, no. For there is much double talk from proponents of lifting the combat exclusion rule for women. The issue is not simply “opening up” combat assignments for military women. The core question is should women soldiers confront the same combat liabilities as men.

Today, all male soldiers can, if need arises, be assigned to the combat arms whatever their normal assignment. True equal opportunity would mean the same liability for women and men soldiers alike. To allow women but not men the option of entering or not entering the combat arms would cause immense resentment among male soldiers. To allow both sexes to choose whether or not to go into combat would be the end of any effective military force. Honesty requires that supporters of lifting the combat ban for women state openly they want to put female soldiers at the same combat risk as male soldiers.

A study I conducted of American women soldiers found they were quite aware of the difference between letting females volunteer for the combat arms versus treating women soldiers the same as men. Among enlisted women, views about women in combat divided almost equally into two groups: about half of the enlisted

women said women should not be allowed in combat units, reflecting approval of the present policy. About half stated that women who were qualified should be allowed to volunteer for combat roles. None of the enlisted women favored forcing women into combat assignments.

Among the female officers, views also divided into two more or less equal groups. The officer responses, however, reflected the reality that the combat exclusion rule limits career advancement. About half of the women officers believed qualified women should be allowed to volunteer for combat units, as did half of the female enlisted soldiers. But half of the officers said women should be compelled to go into combat units in the same manner as men. Few of the female officers favored the status quo.

“The problem of a trial program of women in combat roles is not that it will prove women cannot fight, but that it will prove they can.”

One other consequence of ending the combat exclusion rule must be mentioned. To tell women recruits they would be subjected to the same combat liabilities as men would surely cause a drop among women joining the military (Combat liability certainly reduces male propensity to join the armed forces.) If the number of women entering the all-volunteer force dropped, calls for a renewed draft would gain strength raising the question of conscription of women. With no exclusion rule, women could be drafted into combat units—a state of affairs that could tear the country apart.

The problem of a trial program of women in combat roles is not that it will prove women cannot fight, but that it will prove they can.

DEPARTMENT REPRESENTED AT AMSTERDAM LAW CONFERENCE

The 1991 International Conference on Law and Society was sponsored jointly by the Law and Society Association and the Research Committee on the Sociology of Law of the International Sociological Association and held in Amsterdam, The Netherlands in June. The theme of the meeting was "Law and Society in the Global Village" and drew more than 1,200 participants. Our department was represented by the following professors and graduate students: Prof. Nicola Beisel presented the paper, "Law and the Legitimacy of Art Censorship in New York, 1880-1890"; Prof. Bruce Carruthers, "Work in Progress in Corporate Bankruptcy and Reorganization"; Prof. Carol Heimer, "Counterproductive Rules: When Do Floors Become Ceilings?" and chair of "Birth and State" session; Prof. Robert Nelson, "Markets, Managers, and Gender Inequality: The Case of the EEOC V. Sears," and "Lawyers' Work" session; Prof. Arthur Stinchcombe, "The Social Demand for Formality in Law, Regulation, and Administration"; Alfonso Morales, "Property and Entrepreneurship in the Informal Economy: Chicago's Maxwell Street Market" and "Gender and Work in the Informal Economy"; and Maude Schaafsma, "Identities for Women in the Legal Profession: Frameworks for a Study."

SOCIOLOGY & LAW : SOCIOLOGY & LAW : SOCIOLOGY & LAW

Grad Students Form New Group

During the 1991 winter quarter, Prof. Robert Nelson taught sociology of law, a survey course covering a range of issues and topics. Realizing that there is a large body of literature on this subject, a group of students from the class and others sought to continue to build on the foundation established in the class. To this end, a core group of students has organized the "Law and Society Group."

They intend to create a student-centered group that will investigate the various interests of the participants. The group encourages the participation of students and faculty from other departments and uses the meetings as forums where students may present ideas and works in an environment that is supportive and productive. They also plan to review literature and attend lectures.

.....
"Our responsibility is not discharged by the announcement of virtuous ends."

John F. Kennedy

ABF Update

Northwestern's Department of Sociology has strong ties with the American Bar Foundation, the research affiliate of the American Bar Association, having graduate fellow appointments there since 1976. The Foundation conducts basic empirical research on law and legal institutions.

Currently, Profs. Carol Heimer and Robert Nelson have part-time appointments with the ABF while present holders of ABF Professionalism Doctoral Dissertation Fellowships include Pam Brandwein, Ronen Shamir and Jerry VanHoy. Alfonso Morales continues with his ABF Minority Fellowship in Law and Social Science, and research assistants include Mitchell Stevens and Debra Schleaf.

Prof. Bruce Carruthers held a Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship and Prof. Wendy Nelson Espeland held a research assistantship at the Bar during their graduate careers.

Law & Social Sciences Program

In the Law and Social Sciences Program, a graduate student earns a PhD in a social science discipline such as sociology and a JD in law. To be admitted to this very selective program, students need to apply for admission to both the social science graduate program in which they wish to study and to the Law School.

Herbert Jacob, professor of political science and the current director of the program, notes that this unique program not only combines the craft of the lawyer with the skills of the social science researcher, but also brings students into contact with peers who are studying legal issues from the perspectives of many social science disciplines. There is a large community of scholars at NU who specialize in socio-legal research so that students in the program (also those pursuing socio-legal research without the law school component) benefit from an exposure to multidisciplinary perspectives.

Recycling, Remanufacturing and Redistribution

(Editor's note: From time to time, *NUSociology* will invite faculty members to write articles expressing their opinions on current social issues. This is the first in the series.)

By Prof. Allan Schnaiberg

Contrary to contemporary media views, the concept of recycling has been in use by environmental movements for some 25 years. Moreover, from a comparative and historical basis, societal recycling practices have been the rule rather than the exception. Twentieth-century America and other advanced industrial states represent a departure from a recycling economy to a historically-unprecedented degree.

According to my research in the past two years, what is new about current recycling is (1) the greater involvement of the state, (2) a growing market involvement with recycling, and (3) the centrality of remanufacturing in recycling, rather than the historical model of re-use. Taken together, these features pose some problems for both environmentalists and for those social movements who foresaw recycling as a new opportunity for low-skilled employment. Interestingly, despite my attempt to call this to the attention of policymakers and media people, there has been a disattention to these issues in both camps and a jumping on the bandwagon of recycling and "green marketing."

The social reality of modern recycling is that it has limited ecological and social goals. Rather, recycling has been commodified. The 1980's pressure for recycling was initiated by rising costs and political resistance to landfill siting and expansion. Landfills were declared to be nearly "full:" NIMBY (not in my back yard) groups opposed landfill expansions, in part because of

growing fears of toxic waste exposure.

Recycling was a policy jointly proposed by economic and political actors to "solve" the landfill problem, and they used the environmental rhetoric as justification. Recycling was to be a more complex process in this new arrangement: the state would help collect materials at the local government level and would mandate by law some private sector collection. Then these wastes were to be remanufactured by for-profit organizations. Finally, these remanufactured products would be marketed back into private consumption. Note that this is markedly different from small-scale technologies for re-use of materials: the smelter now replaces the flea market, craftpersons, and haulers that moved old materials from one user to another without major physical or chemical transformations.

Note that the remanufacturing and marketing is now to be done on a market basis, albeit using materials collected on a subsidized basis by governments. For these economic actions, profitability is the dominant criterion. Hence market criteria dominate earlier political goals (such as environmental protection and redistribution through new employment for poverty groups).

Accordingly, we now emerge in a decade of "recycling" that becomes socially and environmentally selective. Those materials that offer high profit potential, such as aluminum cans, are highly sought. Municipalities pass laws to prohibit scavengers (usually low-income groups) from taking such materials once local curbside collections have been initiated. Remanufacturers are not only bypassing low-income collectors, but are often bypassing small business intermediaries. Their goal is to establish a sustained and predictable supply of raw ("recycled") materials: i.e., they have become "rationalized."

At the other end, newsprint is a "glut" on the recycled market despite the fact that it is a large component of landfills. It is simply less profitable

and provide employment in sorting, packing and other reprocessing jobs. Many recycling centers collect newsprint and quietly dump it into landfills. Other materials fall between these two extremes primarily based on market prices and profitability. Ironically, local costs for curbside collection are rising despite these variable environmental outcomes.

The moral of this tale? Sociologists should be cautious about the social effects of policies that have been praised but unanalysed!

Two Share William Exum Award in June

The fourth annual William Henry Exum Award was shared jointly by sociology undergraduates Carla Banks and Therese Leone for a paper on black feminism. The award was presented May 16 at African American Affairs (Black House).

The award is given annually in honor of the late associate professor who served in the Departments of Sociology and African-American Studies. Joining Northwestern in 1977, Exum was actively involved in scholarly work and service on behalf of minority students in higher education. He died in 1986 at the age of 37.

The award committee included Profs. Bernard Beck, Arlene Daniels, Ray Mack and Charles Payne from the faculty with Marisa Alicea and Helen Rosenberg representing the graduate student alumnae who had worked with Exum when he taught here.

"We are very pleased that the award continued to attract excellent applicants from our department and throughout the undergraduate departments," commented Daniels. "We think Bill Exum would have been pleased and proud — we certainly are.

"We wish only that we could have awarded further prizes because the candidates were exceptionally good this year."

Chair from page 5

school. The business school has recently hired two sociologists — Paul Hirsch from the University of Chicago and Jerry Davis from Stanford University. Paul is the James Allen Professor at Kellogg and will direct this new program. In the coming year we will be recruiting our first class.

The amount of press coverage of faculty in the Department has also been considerable this year. As always Charlie Moskos is quoted everywhere as are Sandy Jencks, Allan Schnaiberg, Aldon Morris, and Bernie Beck.

Subtle changes are also occurring in the Department. We are actively seeking the funds both internally and externally to provide better support for graduate student (and we hope in the future, undergraduate) research. As described on page 5, the number of graduate students giving papers at professional meetings has increased enormously. We have also started a new summer fellowship program to support joint faculty/student research (page 3).

This coming year the Department will consider how to restructure the undergraduate program. The undergraduate interest in sociology has grown rapidly in the last several years, and we now have many more majors than we had a few years ago. Currently the undergraduate program has both a methods and theory requirement but is quite flexible beyond that. We will be debating whether future students should be required or encouraged to specialize in a particular subfield such as organizations, urban, social inequality, or comparative-historical sociology. We would be very interested in hearing from all of you about how you think an undergraduate program in sociology should be structured these days.

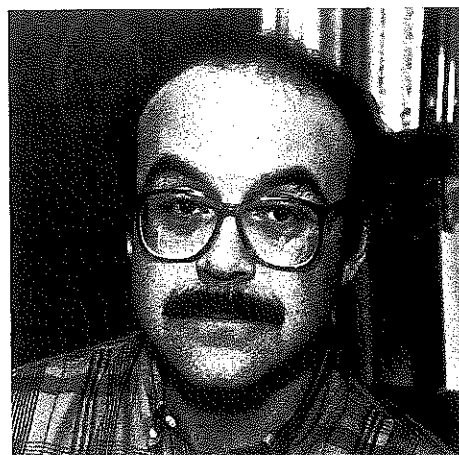
I hope that the second *NUSociology* will be of as much or greater interest to you as the first. We want you to know what is going on here and we enjoy hearing from you. I hope many more of you will write this year. Also, if you are considering

making a gift to Northwestern, please remember Sociology. My best wishes to all of you and may the coming year be one of your very best.

— Chris Winship

.....
“Under Park, I did the first, or one of the first, ecological field studies in Chicago, working the area north of the river along Clark Street to Chicago Avenue. I am told that later the graduate students literally ‘wore out’ my M.A. thesis, reading it as a ‘bad example’ and as a warning ‘what no to do.’”

Kimball Young



Chris Winship

.....
“You have an interesting array of data there, nicely presented. All that remains is for you to answer the crucial question: so what?”

Howard W. Odum

NFS Program Update from page 4

PhD from the University of Virginia; and Robin Jarrett, a faculty member at the Loyola University in Chicago, who will continue her work on multigenerational families. The program aims to broaden the research perspectives of younger junior faculty by exposing them to an array of disciplines and viewpoints in the field of urban poverty.

The centerpiece of the NSF program during its first year was a series of Urban Poverty Workshops that explored the effects of neighborhoods on individual behavior from both ethnographic and econometric perspectives. The workshops were offered on alternate weeks at each campus during the winter and spring quarters.

Leading academics in the field of urban poverty were brought in to address the workshops: Sheldon Danziger from the University of Michigan, who elucidated the world of crack dealing in Spanish Harlem; and Mary Jo Bane, Harvard, who offered new perspectives on childhood poverty, disadvantage, and risk. Roberto Fernandez, Tom Cook, Jencks, and Blanks were among the NU faculty presenters.

The lively workshops attracted an average of 50 students, post-docs and

faculty per session. “There was a tremendous amount of interest among students at Northwestern,” said Jencks, pleased at the strong attendance. “We also got a broader pool of applications than I expected.” Jencks was particularly heartened by the interest shown by economics students.

Core faculty at Northwestern include sociologists Aldon Morris, Charles Payne, Christopher Winship, James Rosenbaum, Cook, Fernandez, and Jencks; and economists Joseph Altonji, Bruce Meyer, James Montgomery, and Blank.

.....
“He does not say, ‘Present evidence suggests that when normal adults are repeatedly exposed to abrupt changes in social norms, and to the rewards and punishments consequent upon conformity or non-conformity to these norms, in activities essential to the realization of the most important life-goals of these individuals there is a high probability of motor and/or affective disturbances in behavior patterns associated with such activities.’ Instead he says, ‘shifting standard of behavior make a man nervous.’”

Robin M. Williams, Jr.

NUSOCIOLOGY

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