



**Division on Critical Criminology, American Society of Criminology**  
Newsletter 20:2, Fall 2011

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***From the Chair***

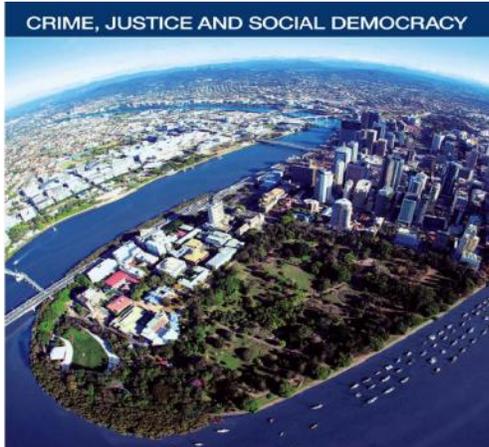
Division members,

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the ASC meetings, and most importantly our social on Friday night of the conference. I am looking forward to our members' music and good times. As you know, we will be having some exciting news and changes within our Division including the election results and new Executive as well as the announcement of our new Division journal Editor which I am sure will be fully supported by you. We will keep you abreast of our financial status and other Division news at the business meeting and do hope to see everyone there as we transition to the social and have our awards ceremony. We are in great shape and it has been a fantastic year. Thank you to all who have helped with committees and all the other behind the scenes work to make this such a smooth year.

Safe travels and see you in D.C.  
Dawn

## Critical Conferences

### Crime, Justice and Social Democracy: An International Conference Queensland university of technology (QUT), Brisbane



*Crime, Justice and Social Democracy: An International Conference* took place in Brisbane just days before the annual Australian and New Zealand Society of Criminology meeting in Geelong, which made late September an ideal time for any criminologist to visit Australia. The topic for the international conference, however, was particularly timely—that is, considering the issues of social justice and democracy in an era of neoliberalism that is just beginning to come to grips with its limitations. In light of the global financial crisis, punitive populism, and the widespread retrenchment of social welfare in “developed” countries with so-called “advanced” economies, how can those of us invested in

the project of critical knowledge production contribute to intellectual and policy debates around crime control and the growth of criminal justice and penal systems?

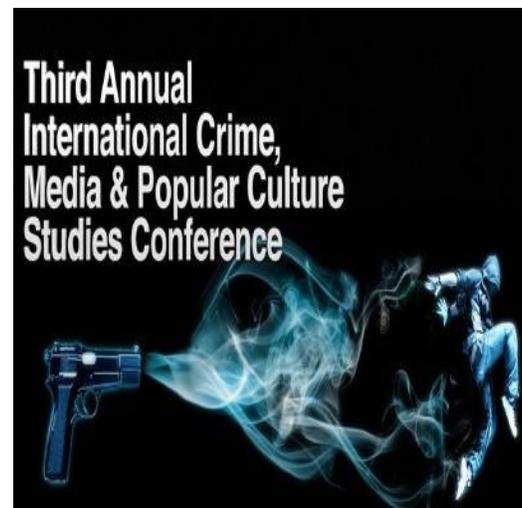
Bringing together an international group of interdisciplinary scholars, *Crime, Justice and Social Democracy* had ambitious aims: to reinvigorate the debates in and around the links between social justice, social democracy and the reduction of harm, crime and victimization through the alleviation of inequalities and building of more socially just and inclusive societies. Like any good conference, it started with a social on Sunday night with the intellectual work beginning on Monday morning. Keynotes by Professors Pat Carlen (University of Kent), Elliott Currie (University of California, Irvine), and John Pratt (Victoria University, Wellington, NZ) reinforced the question of how the “democratic” could re-inform our approaches to crime, criminal justice policy, social justice, as well as our place within these systems. While individual presentations sometimes drifted from these specific concerns, they were nonetheless informative and thought provoking, spanning of a range of important and often overlooked topics. In addition to more traditional criminological concerns, panels were also organized around the following themes: Global Justice, Transborder Crimes and Human Rights; Indigenous Justice; Eco-Justice and Environmental Crimes; Sex, Gender and Justice; Social Justice, Governance and Ethics. All in all, given the breadth of issues addressed, *Crime, Justice and Social Democracy* made for a kind of academic consciousness-raising event. In many ways, it left one’s mind heavy with more questions than answers. How, as Elliott Currie asked us to consider, might we make the concept of “social democracy” as the alternative to predatory capitalism a meaningful one? What *kind* of social democracy should we be striving toward? John Pratt gave examples of how penal systems can reflect a “social democratic image of society,” but how do we go about making those viable possibilities when exclusionary and retroactive policies have long been the norm? How do use Pat Carlen’s insights to posit new “aspirational” imaginaries of criminal justice concepts that are not doomed to repeat the misfortunes of rehabilitation as we have come to know it?

Leaving with these kinds of questions was precisely the point of the meeting, regardless of whether or not the conference organizers fully intended. What is evident from the program was their concern for the most important question underscoring the conference, “What we do now?” And, perhaps, knowing that these are concerns carry global implications, how do we go about pursuing this question in a way that includes and values others beyond Australasia, Canada, Europe, and the United States?

If interested in doing so, but you could not make it to *Crime, Justice and Social Democracy*, never fear: The conference proceedings—406 pages featuring 22 presentations—are available online. Please go to <http://www.crimejusticeconference.com/>

### **International Crime, Media, Popular Culture Studies Conference** **A CROSS DISCIPLINARY EXPLORATION**

On September 26, this year scholars from around the world descended on Indiana State University in Terre Haute, Indiana for the Third Annual International Crime, Media and Popular Culture Studies Conference. Sponsored by the Indiana State University Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice and cosponsored this year by the Eastern Kentucky University Department of Criminal Justice the ICMPCS Conference continues to go in popularity due largely to its unique approach to the conference atmosphere. “Frankfest” lovingly named for its founding chair Dr. Franklin Wilson, continues to grow in popularity predominately among Ph.D. students and new faculty. Arguably the large percentage of younger scholars may demonstrate a new surge in interest in this area of study among criminologists and scholars from other disciplines or simply provides a long needed forum. The ICMPCS Conference not only encourages cross disciplinary research but also encourages both qualitative and quantitative research all in the hopes of encouraging more scholars to examine and subsequently impact policy and legislation.



This year the conference saw attendees from a large number of states and 15 different countries (Ireland, UK, Canada, Sri Lanka, India, Israel, Barbados, Mexico, Nigeria, Australia, Belgium, Switzerland, Malaysia, Turkey, and the United States) and featured over 60 papers and six featured speakers. The conference kicked off on Monday with Dr. Gary Potter of Eastern Kentucky University presenting on “Constructing Crime in an Era of Globalization” followed by Dr. Mitchell Roth of Sam Houston State University presenting on “The Texas Prison Rodeo: Where Texas Tough Meets Popular Culture”. On Tuesday attendees listened to Dr. John Hagedorn of the University of Illinois at Chicago present on “Reframing Gangs: The Case of Jacqueline Montanez” and then listened to a presentation/live musical performance by Dr. Terry Cox and Dr. Ken Tunnell of Eastern Kentucky University along with Mr. Eddy Green of Kansas State University entitled “Scholarship, Songwriting and Social Justice: A Performance and Discussion”. Then, on Wednesday, Dr. Gregg Barak of Eastern Michigan University presented on “Newsmaking Criminology, Policy Making, and Popular Culture: Reflections from the

Margins” followed by Dr. Raymond Surette from the University of Central Florida who presented a paper entitled “New Media and Copycat Crime Among Offenders”. Past featured speakers have included such notable scholars as Dr. David Altheide, Dr. Jeff Ferrell, Dr. Frankie Bailey, Dr. Jock Young, Dr. Victor Kappeler, Dr. Keith Hayward, Dr. Stephanie C. Kane, Mr. Brett Mervis, Dr. Gregory Snyder, Dr. Staci Strobl, Dr. Nickie Philips, Mr. Robert Weide, Dr. Vikas Kumar Gumbhir, Dr. Viviane Saleh-Hanna, Dr. Judah Schept, Dr. Angela Nelson, and Mr. A. Aaron Weisburd.

In addition to paper presentations and feature speaker presentations, each year Dr. Wilson schedules evening events related to the overall theme of the conference. This year attendees and the general public attended a Monday evening colloquium entitled “The Depiction of Terrorism in the Decade Following 9/11”. The Colloquium presenters included Dr. Gregg Barak, Dr. Mark Hamm, Dr. Gary Potter, Dr. Mitchel Roth, and Dr. Raymond Surette. Tuesday evening the conference featured the international award winning one woman stage performance SNAPSHOT: A True Story of Love Interrupted by Invasion written and performed by Carmen Mitzi Sinnott. This one woman performance explored one bi-racial daughter’s journey to find her father who has been missing since the Vietnam War and how war impacts everyone in society. In past years evening events have included four time poetry slam champion Taylor Mali and acclaimed screen writer, movie director and former writer for *Law and Order SVU* Mr. Stephen Belber.

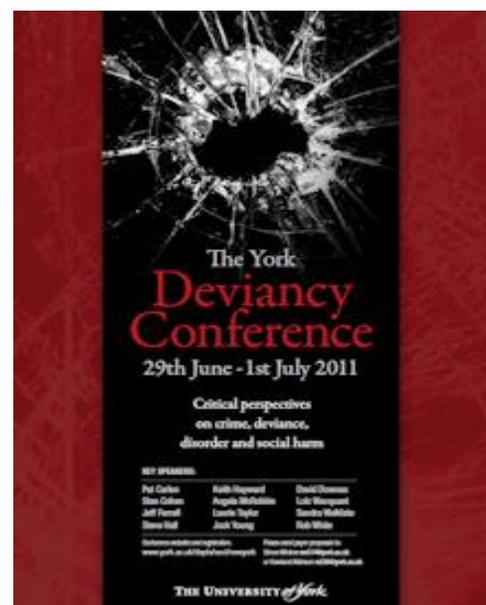
Each year, the conference offers a unique forum, seeking to push the boundaries imagination by encouraging new and innovative methods and topical areas of research. It continues to expand not only cross disciplinary collaborations but helps to establish transcontinental research collaborations in the area of Crime, Media and Popular Culture. We encourage you all to consider spending some time with the good people in Indiana next at the 4<sup>th</sup> annual “Frankfest”!

## **The York Deviancy Conference**

### **Critical perspectives on crime, deviance, disorder and social harm**

The York Deviancy Conference held from June 29th to July 1, 2011 added more empirical support to the claim that critical criminology is very much alive and well. The conference generated fond memories for those who participated in the first National Deviancy Conference held at the University of York in 1968. This event also brought together scholars from around the globe to discuss new progressive theoretical, empirical, and political work that needs to be done in this current era. We definitely learned much from this inspiring gathering, and we developed new intellectual partnerships and friendships.

Nearly 300 people participated in the York Deviancy Conference and they constitute the tip of the critical criminological iceberg. To be sure, critical criminology is an international enterprise and many progressives were



unable to travel to York. The breadth of work done since Taylor, Walton, and Young published their pioneering book *The New Criminology* in 1973 is one of the key reasons why we decided to edit the *Routledge Handbook of Critical Criminology* (to be published November 8, 2011). It is a daunting task to keep up with all the new writings in the field, and there are not enough bookshelves in our offices to hold all the critical books, journal articles, and other written materials produced by our colleagues. This collection brings together 51 key thinkers to provide a contemporary view of major issues in critical criminology, including recent developments in areas such as feminist criminology, cultural criminology, and left realism.

The *Handbook* challenges mainstream scholars' assertion that critical criminology is little more than a school of thought devoted to exposing the weaknesses of orthodox ways of thinking about crime, law, and social control. The chapters included in this anthology show that critical criminologists are heavily involved in theory construction and theory testing, and they use a variety of methods to gather and analyze qualitative and quantitative data. Critical criminologists also don't simply call for radical social, political, and economic change. Although this is one of their central goals, additionally, they propose numerous short-term ways of chipping away at broader social forces that influence crime and that buttress unjust laws and methods of social control. Examples of such recent initiatives are scattered throughout the *Handbook*.

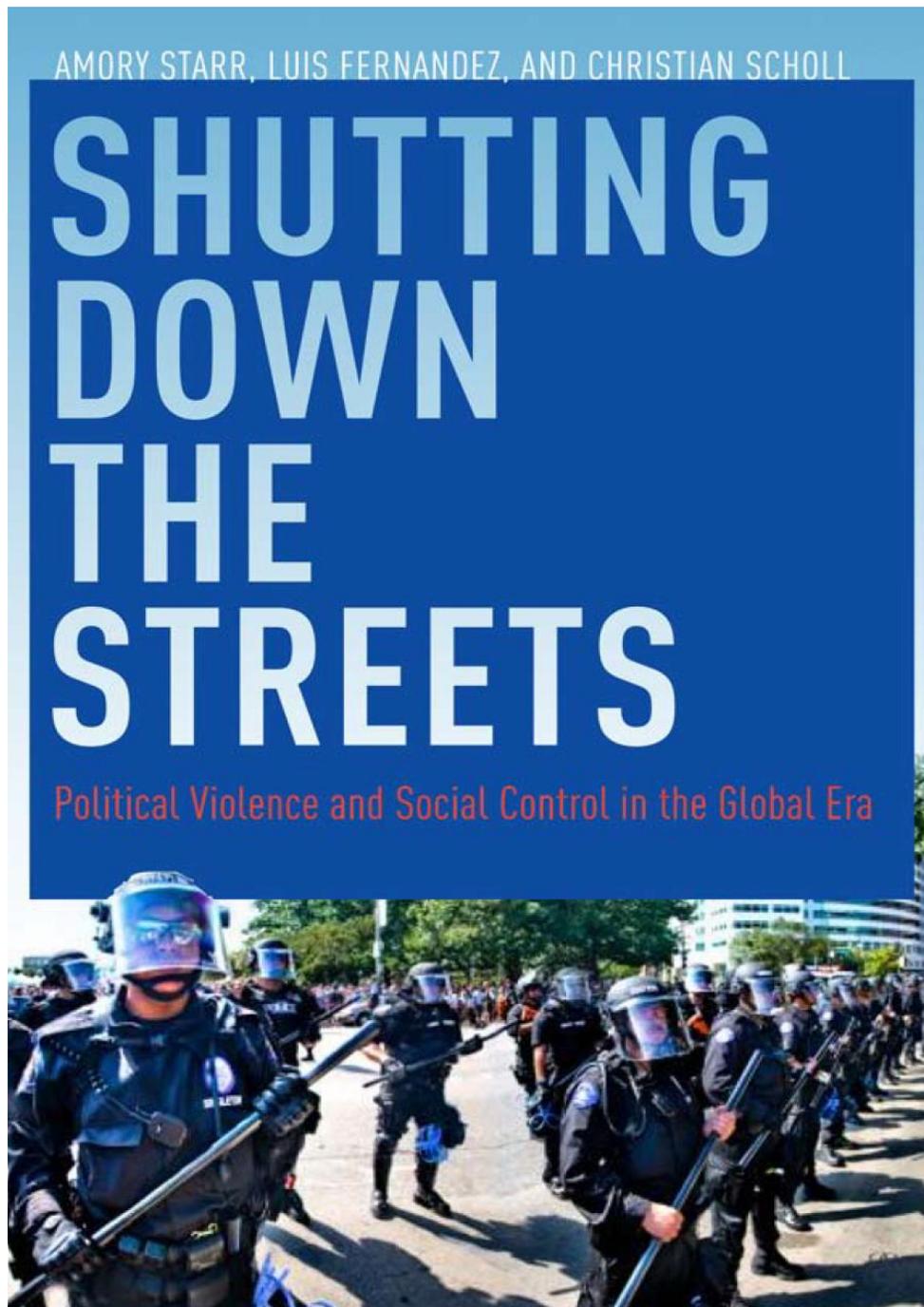
Critical criminology is often criticized for ignoring gender. True, early works, such as *The New Criminology*, said nothing about women and the gendered nature of society; however, as demonstrated in the *Handbook*, at the York conference, and elsewhere (e.g., Walter DeKeseredy's *Contemporary Critical Criminology*), things have changed considerably since 1973. It isn't only gender issues that are taken more seriously; race/ethnicity, class, and gender are today treated by the bulk of the critical criminological community as equally important. Another thing that the *Handbook* and the York Deviancy Conference have in common is sensitizing the criminological world to the fact that critical criminology reaches beyond its most recognized birthplaces - the United Kingdom and the United States. You will also find vibrant groups of progressive scholars in Australia, Canada, Germany, Italy, Latin America, Norway, and in other places. New information technologies now make it much easier for critical criminologists to exchange ideas with peers based outside their respective countries and to develop collaborative projects. In fact, the *Handbook*, like other new edited volumes, would not have come to fruition had it not been for electronic mail.

Given the current global economic crisis, mass incarceration in the United States, famine in Africa, and a myriad of other major social problems, many would agree with Jock Young's assertion that, "If there ever was a need for a new criminology, it is now." Staying the course has done little, if anything, to make the world safer from violence and related harms. Further, as Jock Young vividly describes in his new book *The Criminological Imagination*, much of criminology today is characterized by what the late sociologist C. Wright Mills referred to as "abstracted empiricism" and is uninspiring. Isn't it, then, time to think critically about crime?

Regards, Walter DeKeseredy and Molly Dragiewicz, University of Ontario Institute of Technology. Reprinted with permission, Walter DeKeseredy and Molly Dragiewicz (2011), Website: <http://socialcriminology.webs.com/crimsoceditorialpage.htm>

## ***Critical Scholarship***

### **Recent Publications**



**"A compelling treatise that is at once sublime and in-your-face, yielding an insightful foray into the inner workings of social control-and an indispensable guidebook on how best to resist it." Randall Amster, author of Lost in Space**

## Forthcoming from Routledge Criminology

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### Routledge Handbook of Critical Criminology

Edited by **Walter S. DeKeseredy** and **Molly Dragiewicz**

The *Routledge Handbook of Critical Criminology* is a collection of original essays specifically designed to offer students, faculty, policy makers, and others an in-depth overview of the most up-to-date empirical, theoretical, and political contributions made by critical criminologists around the world. Special attention is devoted to new theoretical directions in the field, such as cultural criminology, masculinities studies, and feminist criminologies.

Its diverse essays not only cover the history of critical criminology and cutting edge theories, but also the variety of research methods used by leading scholars in the field and the rich data generated by their rigorous empirical work. In addition, some of the chapters suggest innovative and realistic short- and long-term policy proposals that are typically ignored by mainstream criminology. These progressive strategies address some of the most pressing social problems facing contemporary society today and that generate much pain and suffering for socially and economically disenfranchised people.

Part of the Routledge International Handbooks series, the *Handbook of Critical Criminology* explores up-to-date empirical, theoretical, and political contributions, and is specifically designed to be a comprehensive resource for undergraduate and post-graduate students, researchers, and policy makers.

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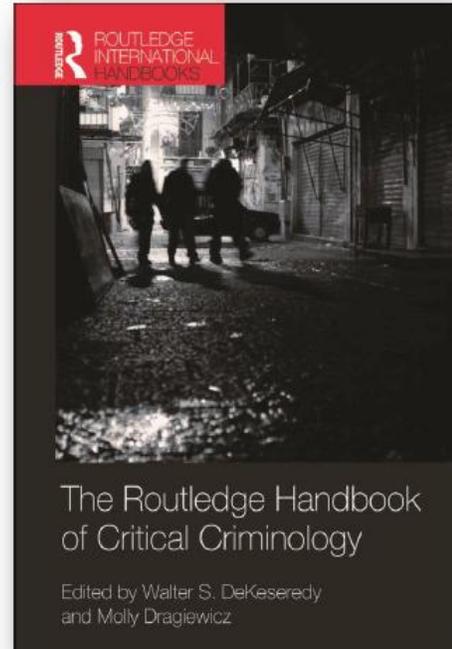
**Introduction:** Critical criminology: past, present and future **Part I:** The History of Critical Criminology - International **Part II:** Theoretical **Part III:** Select Topics in Critical Criminology **Part IV:** Policies

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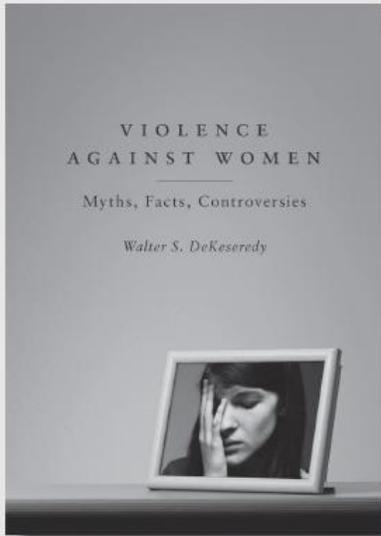
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# Violence Against Women Myths, Facts, Controversies

By Walter S. DeKeseredy

Paperback \$22.95  
ISBN: 978-1-44260-399-8

"Renowned criminologist Walter S. DeKeseredy provides a comprehensive and compelling examination of violence against women in a jargon-free accessible format. He debunks myths, summarizes research findings, challenges backlash and misplaced assumptions about battering, answers common questions, and offers policy recommendations. A must-read for anyone who cares about stopping violence against women."

—Susan L. Miller, University of Delaware

In *Violence Against Women*, award-winning author Walter S. DeKeseredy offers a passionate but well-documented sociological overview of a sobering problem. He starts by outlining the scope of the challenge and debunks current attempts to label intimate violence as gender neutral. He then lays bare the structural practices that sustain this violence, leading to a discussion of long- and short-term policies to address the issue. DeKeseredy includes an examination of male complicity and demonstrates how boys and men can change their roles. Throughout, he responds to myths that dismiss threats to women's health and safety and provides an impassioned call to action for women, men, and policymakers.

**Walter S. DeKeseredy** is a Professor in the Faculty of Social Science and Humanities at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology. He has written extensively on issues of gender, violence, and rural crime. In 2008, he was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by the American Society of Criminology Division on Critical Criminology.

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5. Why Can't Abused Women Leave Home?
6. The Consequences of Violence Against Women
7. "What Can We Do?" Policy Options



ANNOUNCING THE PUBLICATION OF  
**THE TOUGHEST BEAT**

Politics, Punishment, and the Prison Officers Union in California

By Joshua Page



**THE TOUGHEST BEAT:**

"A brilliant and readable critique.... Anyone interested in the relationship between politics, special interests, and the build-up of America's prisons must start their analysis with this book."—Joan Petersilia, Adelbert H. Sweet Professor of Law, Stanford Law School

"A breakthrough in the sociology of punishment."—Jonathan Simon, Adrian A. Kragen Professor of Law, University of California

*The Toughest Beat* uses sociological theory and extensive fieldwork to demonstrate how the California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA), the labor union representing prison officers and other correctional workers, has transformed from a loose, fraternal organization into one of the most politically potent and feared interest groups in the nation. As its leaders made strides for its members, the union also influenced the nature,

purpose, and scope of imprisonment. To understand California's deep and durable penal crisis, we cannot neglect the story of this group so often known simply as "the powerful prison guards' union."

Order online *Politics, Punishment, and the Prison Officers Union in California* [HERE](#)  
(312 Pages: March 2011 | \$35.00, Cloth: ISBN: 9780195384055)

**Joshua Page** is Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of Minnesota.

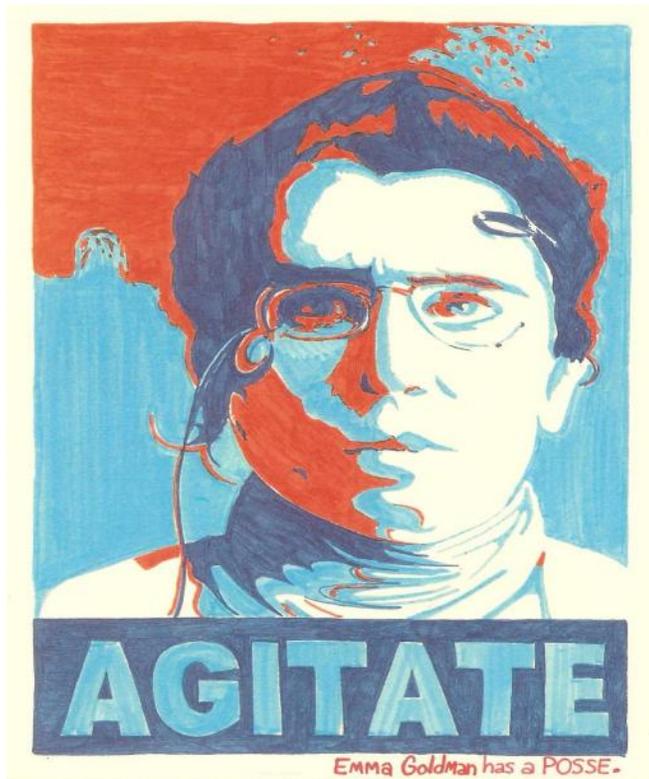
## SESSIONS OF INTEREST

<b>WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16</b>		
8:00am	Theoretical Developments in Convict Criminology	F- Fairchild East, Terrace Level
8:00am	Advances in Teaching/Teaching Pedagogy	G - Gunston East, Terrace Level
11:00am	Over-the-Edgework: Breaking Boundaries in Ethnographic Study	Room L, L'Enfant, Lobby Level
3:30pm	Zombie Criminology	P - Piscataway, Lobby Level
3:30pm	Author Meets Critic: Punished: Policing the Lives of Black and Latino Boys (Victor Rios)	G – Gunston East, Terrace Level
3:30pm	Motorcycle Madness: Biker Identities and Consumer Culture	O - Oak Lawn
5:00pm	Comparative and Historical Issues in Green Criminology	Lincoln West, Concourse Level
<b>THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17</b>		
8:00am	Reporting victimization	Georgetown West, Concourse Level
9:00am	ROUNDTABLE: Green Criminology: An Examination of Environmental (In)justice (Session 1 of 2)	Washington International Terrace 4, Terrace Level
11:00 am	ROUNDTABLE: Green Criminology: An Examination of Environmental (In)Justice (Session 2 of 2)	International Terrace 4, Terrace Level
2:00 pm	Author Meets Critics: Equality With a Vengeance: Men's Rights Groups, Battered Women and Antifeminist Backlash (Molly Dragiewicz)	Coat Room, Terrace Level
<b>FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18</b>		
8:00 am	Author Meets Critics: Contemporary Critical Criminology (Walter DeKeseredy)	Jefferson East, Concourse Level
8:00 am	Motorcycle Cultures and Critical Criminology	International Terrace 3
11:00 am	Author Meets Critics: The Criminological Imagination (Jock Young)	Room 10 Columbia Hall, Terrace Level
2:00 pm	Cultural Criminology, Space, and the City	Room 10 Columbia Hall, Terrace Level
3:30pm	Retracing a Tidemark Anew: The “New Anthropology of Crime” Revisited	M - Morgan Room, Lobby Level
5:00 pm	Personal Experiences Versus Official Claims: Listening to Violent Stories from Ciudad Juarez	N - Northwest, Lobby Level
5:00 pm	Feminist Approaches to Crime Theory and Current Issues	Room 2 Columbia Hall, Terrace Level

## **Critical Creations**

Below are three original works by Carl Root, PhD student in the Department of Criminology at the University of South Florida. As motivation Carl cites John Hagendorn's talk at this year's Crime, Media and Popular Culture Studies Conference. Dr. Hagendorn argued that critical scholarship must not stop at deconstruction, and must be able to also work toward reconstruction. As Carl explains "here I am deconstructing or perhaps ripping off Shepard Fairey, in order to reconstruct the "HOPE" & "CHANGE" campaign focusing on the power of the people as opposed to the pseudo-potential of politicians." Critical creations indeed!





## ***Greetings from the New Editors***

(Co)EDITORIAL

Dear Fellow Critical Criminologists,

After years of dedication and hard work, Dawn Rothe and Stephen Muzzatti have ended very successful three-year positions as Co-Editors of the Division's Newsletter, *The Critical Criminologist*. This past spring, we enthusiastically assumed the position of Co-Editors. We would like to start by congratulating Dawn and Stephen on their skillful editorship and continued support. We would also like to thank all of you for your confidence in us for the upcoming management of this important publication. We realize that Dawn and Stephen's shoes will be hard to fill – perhaps so much so that it will take three of us to do the job.

As the new editorial team of *The Critical Criminologist*, we are excited to contribute to the Division's longstanding tradition of fostering critical analyses of the justice system and working toward positive social change. Our aim is to keep members of the American Society of Criminology's (ASC) Division on Critical Criminology and the Critical Criminal Justice Section of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences informed of ongoing activities and to help foster interdisciplinary and innovative conversations. We hope the newsletter will serve as a vehicle to do so, as we are excited to contribute to the Division that has mentored us all for years.

### *About us:*

Kathryn ("Kate") Henne is a Research Fellow at the Regulatory Institutions Network (RegNet), which is housed at the Australian National University. She adds an interdisciplinary perspective to our team. She brings her experience as a Board Member of the Association for Political and Legal Anthropology (APLA) over the last three years, most recently ending her tenure as Communications Liaison. She also has additional administrative skills obtained while working for the Center of Law, Society and Culture at the University of California, Irvine (2006-2008). She recently received a Digital Humanities Fellowship funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities to support training that will benefit her work in this position.

Travis Linnemann is an Assistant Professor with the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice at Old Dominion University, after recently completing a PhD in sociology at Kansas State University. His research focuses on punishment and social control, media, and culture. Prior to his work in academia Travis worked for several years in criminal justice and social services. Travis is an active member in the section having previously served on the awards committee and is excited to work his fabulous co-editors!

Emily Troshynski's professional service derives from her membership with the ASC, specifically as a long-time member of the Divisions of Critical Criminology, Women and Crime, and International Criminology, as well as the American Sociological Association (ASA), the International Association for the Study of Organized Crime (IASOC), and the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM). Having attended ASC meetings for over ten years, Emily has been asked to serve as a discussant and/or chair of several panels and roundtables at annual conferences. Additionally, Emily brings to this position editorial experience. Working as the co-editor (2009-2010) for the journal, *Theoretical Criminology*, she was able to develop several

lasting professional relationships with other professors who write for, edit, review, and serve as Board Members of this prestigious journal. A recent PhD, Emily is enjoying her new position as Assistant Professor within the Department of Law, Politics, and Society at Drake University.

*Plans for the Future Editions:*

Several factors contributed to our decision to accept this position as a collaborative venture. Mainly, we believe that we can successfully collaborate with the following objectives in mind: 1) a newsletter distribution of four times a year; 2) increased membership recruitment – especially among newer/junior division members; 3) increased publicity by incorporating a transnational component that reaches out to Division members and other professionals abroad; and 4) the synchronizing of Division’s website and this newsletter.

In order to ensure a quarterly distribution of *The Critical Criminologist*, we will send calls for participation roughly four weeks before each published edition. We welcome commentaries related to critical criminology and other relevant Division news. We also encourage other kinds of contributions: research notes, conference and committee reports, fellowship and grant opportunities, calls for papers, reviews of related books, discussions of teaching critical criminological subjects, classroom exercises, and helpful teaching resources for both graduate and undergraduate courses. We hope to make *The Critical Criminologist* a dynamic forum for input on critical criminology, dialogue and debate, as well as a public space for lesser heard voices and relevant artistic expression. Please feel free to contact us with any questions or suggestion for current and upcoming editions of *The Critical Criminologist* – including helpful comments, feedback, and submissions to our new email address: [crit.crim@gmail.com](mailto:crit.crim@gmail.com)

Lastly, we look forward to working with our friends, colleagues, members of the Division of Critical Criminology, including the newly elected Advisory Board. Congratulations to Donna Selman (Chair), Kerry Carrington (Vice Chair), Rita Shah (Secretary/Treasurer), and newly elected Executive Officers Joe Donnermeyer, Jennifer Gibbs, and Jeffrey Ian Ross. We kindly thank everyone for the contributions you have made to *The Critical Criminologist* in the past and look forward to your continued support in the future.

Kind regards,  
Emily, Travis, and Kate

Co-Editors  
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