

THE BERKELEY UNDERGRADUATE SOCIOLOGY ASSOCIATION

PRESENTS

# **“Identity, Ideology, and Society: (Re-) (Dis-) Connecting Patterns of Discourse”**

The Fourth Annual UC Berkeley Sociological Research Symposium

**Friday, April 6, 2012**

## **SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE**

Genevieve Head-Gordon, Alexa Makreas, Maggie Grover, Sarah Newton, Daniela Hernandez, Jana Hopkins, Pamela Yamzon, Sophie Ha, Andrew Levine-Murray, Lily Beirami, and Miriam Gonzalez.

## **SPONSORSHIP**

The Symposium Committee is grateful for the remarkable support provided by the Berkeley Undergraduate Sociology Association, Alpha Kappa Delta, Latino/a Sociology Association, Rhetoric Honors Society, McNairs Scholarship, CalTV, Associated Students of the University of California (ASUC), Campus Life and Leadership for the Student Opportunity Fund Grant, and the UC Berkeley Department of Sociology.

## **ADDITIONAL APPRECIATION**

We would also like to thank the following people and organizations for their significant contributions: Robb Willer, Allison Hall, Cristina Rojas, Rebecca Chavez, the Grant Hiura Trio, Millicent Chaney, Zee Zee Copy, Copy Grafafik, Carol Giannakaras and the University of California, Berkeley.

PUBLISHED BY THE UC BERKELEY SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM, APRIL 2012



# WELCOME

*“Sociological method as we practice it rests wholly on the basic principle that social facts must be studied as things, that is, as realities external to the individual. There is not principle for which we have received more criticism; but none is more fundamental. Indubitably for sociology to be possible, it must above all have an object all its own. It must take cognizance of a reality, which is not in the domain of other sciences. There can be no sociology unless societies exist, and that societies cannot exist if there are only individuals.”*

—Emile Durkheim

**Welcome to the Fourth Annual UC Berkeley Sociological Research Symposium!** Today, we will celebrate unstoppable intellectual inquiry among scholars from multiple departments in both the social sciences and humanities. Intended as a communal space for the sharing and building of new knowledge, the Symposium will exemplify the pursuit of fresh ideas and innovative research.

Today, we honor those who stayed up late at night reading through stacks of books and piles of articles; who revised and then re-revised their research questions; who conducted and transcribed interviews and coded data; and who carefully analyzed findings, contemplated results, and drew thought-provoking conclusions. This occasion is their opportunity to share with you—their peers and mentors—the culmination of incalculable hours of research.

The Symposium also represents the astonishing conclusion of hundreds of hours of planning by Symposium Committee members who have demonstrated a remarkable commitment to showcasing remarkable undergraduate, graduate, and professional research in the social sciences and humanities at UC Berkeley. Above all, we hope this year’s Symposium will offer an exciting celebration of scholarly pursuits.

Genevieve Head-Gordon, SYMPOSIUM CHAIR  
Alexa Makreas, SYMPOSIUM CHAIR  
Maggie Grover, SYMPOSIUM ASSOCIATE CHAIR  
Jana Hopkins, SYMPOSIUM ASSOCIATE CHAIR

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**The Sociology Department** is very pleased to see the successful program that the Berkeley Undergraduate Sociology Association has organized for the Fourth Annual UC Berkeley Sociological Research Symposium. We are proud and supportive of this major effort.

The Symposium will feature a total of 41 papers (32 by Undergraduate students and 9 by Graduate students) by 41 presenters from universities all over the United States, including UC Berkeley, University of Texas, CSU Chico, Georgia State University, CSU Sacramento, University of Arizona, Stanford University, University of Michigan Ann Arbor, the Research Institute for Arts Education Studies in Moscow, Russia, UC Santa Cruz. Among the presenters, you will find Haas Scholars, McNair Scholars, Institute of International Studies Scholars, and many honors thesis students. These presenters come over 15 different disciplines, demonstrating the Symposium’s commitment to interdisciplinary learning.

We look forward to an exciting day of presentations and discussions.

The Fourth Annual UC Berkeley Sociological Research Symposium  
“Identity, Ideology, and Society: (Re-) (Dis-) Connecting Patterns of Discourse”

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY  
FRIDAY, APRIL 6, 2012

**SCHEDULE**

9:00-10:00 A.M.	<b>REGISTRATION</b>
10:00-11:00 A.M.	<b>OPENING CEREMONY, PAULEY BALLROOM</b> GENEVIEVE HEAD-GORDON, SYMPOSIUM CHAIR ALEXA MAKREAS, SYMPOSIUM CHAIR ROBB WILLER, OPENING KEYNOTE SPEAKER PROFESSOR OF SOCIOLOGY, UC BERKELEY
11:15-12:15 P.M.	<b>SESSION I UNDERGRADUATE PRESENTATIONS</b>
12:15-1:15 P.M.	<b>LUNCH, PAULEY BALLROOM</b> MUSICAL PERFORMANCE BY Grant Hiura Trio
1:15-2:15 P.M.	<b>SESSION II UNDERGRADUATE PRESENTATIONS</b>
2:30 -3:45 P.M.	<b>SESSION III GRADUATE STUDENT PRESENTATIONS</b>
4:00-4:30 P.M.	<b>CLOSING CEREMONY, TILDEN ROOM</b> GENEVIEVE HEAD-GORDON, SYMPOSIUM CHAIR ALEXA MAKREAS, SYMPOSIUM CHAIR ANDREW LEVINE-MURRAY, VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

## SYMPOSIUM KEYNOTE SPEAKER

OPENING KEYNOTE SPEAKER, **Robb Willer**

PROFESSOR OF SOCIOLOGY, UC BERKELEY



**Robb Willer** is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at UC Berkeley. During his time at Berkeley, Willer has held several prestigious positions, including the Director of the Department of Sociology's Laboratory for Social Research, a member of the Greater Good Science Center's Executive Committee, and a member of the Cognitive Science faculty and is affiliated with the UC Berkeley's Institute for the Study of Societal Issues, the Institute for Personality and Social Research, the Institute of Business and Economic Research, and the Institute for Cognitive and Brain Sciences.

Professor Willer's teaching and research focuses mainly on the bases of social order; investigating the factors driving the emergence of collective action, social norms, group solidarity, altruistic behavior, and status hierarchies. In other research, he explores the social psychology of political attitudes, especially the role of fear, prejudice, and gender identity in contemporary U.S. politics. His research has been published in impressive scholarly journals such as the *American Sociological Review*,

*American Journal of Sociology*, *Annual Review of Sociology*, *Administrative Science Quarterly*, *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, *Psychological Science*, *Social Psychology Quarterly*, *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, and *Social Networks*. His work has received paper awards from the American Sociological Association's Mathematical Sociology, Rationality and Society, and Peace, War, and Social Conflict sections.

Professor Willer teaches several courses in social psychology at the undergraduate and graduate levels at UC Berkeley as was awarded the Golden Apple Teaching award in 2009—the only teaching award given by UC-Berkeley's student body.

## THE DANESHA MCCOY AWARD



The Symposium is honored to offer presenters the opportunity to win the Danesha McCoy Award, an annual prize established in memory of sociology undergraduate Danesha McCoy.

An integral member of the sociology department, Danesha was a Symposium coordinator, member of the Berkeley Undergraduate Sociology Association, and sociology peer adviser. In preparation for the Symposium 2010, Danesha was a fiercely motivated conference coordinator. She ensured that people with special needs were accommodated, spearheaded food organizing, and tirelessly worked the registration table the day of the Symposium. Danesha passed away on March 1, 2011 from a lengthy battle with cancer.

The Symposium is privileged to create this award for Danesha's outstanding contributions to the UC Berkeley academic community. The Danesha McCoy Award will be given to four outstanding Symposium undergraduate presenters during the Symposium on Friday, April 6. These four winners will be presented with a plaque during the Symposium's closing ceremony.

# SESSION I

*"We contend that the "doing" of gender is undertaken by women and men whose competence as members of society is hostage to its production. Doing gender involves a complex of socially guided perceptual, interactional, and micropolitical activities that cast particular pursuits as expressions of masculine and feminine "natures."*

—Candace West and Don Zimmerman, *Doing Gender*

## UNDERGRADUATE PRESENTATIONS

11:15 A.M.-12:15 P.M.

*We expect all presenters and attendees to arrive before 11:15 A.M. and stay for the entire session. Please refrain from leaving or entering a presentation already in progress.*

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY UC BERKELEY SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM: APRIL 6, 2012

**ROOM: TAN OAK, MLK STUDENT UNION**

**THEME: THE ENVIRONMENT AND FOOD**

**Laura Ruchinskas, UC Berkeley**

**“Exposing Myths: “Food Deserts” In South Los Angeles”**

In 1992, a Scottish resident first used the phrase “food desert” to describe his experience in a deprived neighborhood where food was expensive and relatively unavailable. The term quickly gained popularity within the UK and spread to the US. The term evolved, shifting in meaning and also gaining controversy. Critics note that the term masks the structural causes of unequal access to food. For my research, I interviewed 21 residents in Central Alameda. Instead of a “food desert,” I found a place with adequate stores where money, not access, is the driving barrier. This is not to say “food deserts” (urban areas where a supermarket is at least a mile away) do not exist. However, for my subset, we cannot underestimate the importance of money. In this essay, I will expose a series of myths surrounding South Los Angeles “food deserts.” The first myth is that access is the main barrier to food. Obama’s Healthy Food Financing Initiative, is perhaps misguided: bringing in closer stores is meaningless when people cannot afford them. The second myth is the idea that the poor rely on fast food. The recent “victory” of prohibiting new LA fast food restaurants seems irrelevant when 87% of my participants cook seven nights a week. Thirdly, I will disprove the myth the federally dependent are “lazy.” My participants strategically use resources to feed many mouths for many days. I am writing this paper to both dignify my participants and also to point public policy in more appropriate direction.

**Patrick Donnelly-Shores, UC Berkeley**

**“At Home in the Wasteland: Conceptualizing The Desert in the Nevada Water War”**

In the high desert of Nevada, there is a burgeoning water war, pitting rural residents against urban interests from Las Vegas. At question are a series of aquifers underlying the desert, which Las Vegas’ water utility has proposed to utilize to augment the city’s water supply. This conflict has arisen in part due to an articulation of a dominant cultural discourse, which regards the desert as empty and worthless. This paper begins with a review of the literature regarding this discourse, which has been central to natural resource conflicts throughout the Southwest. The political, economic, and cultural institutions and practices emerging from this discourse are then examined. Particular attention is paid to power relations, how they have been structured through the dominant discourse, and how they have influenced claims to natural resources. Discursive resistance is offered as being central to rural residents’ ability to fend off these claims.

**Skyler Hoffman, UC Berkeley**

**“Social Coping Mechanisms in the Fair Trade Movement”**

This paper uses text-based research and in depth interviews with representatives from many organizations within the Fair Trade movement in order to highlight the mechanisms that such organizations have used to cope with upholding the values that the movement originally set out to achieve, while attempting to infiltrate an unsympathetic free market. I will demonstrate that there are two categories of coping mechanisms to deal with this dilemma: human empowerment based mechanisms and market-economy based mechanisms. Each of these mechanisms has its own form of accountability; structural accountability and certification-based accountability, respectively. Finally, I will evaluate the effectiveness of each of these mechanisms and forms of accountability for upholding the values that the Fair Trade movement originally set out to achieve.

**ROOM: MADRONE, MLK STUDENT UNION**

**THEMES: ISSUES OF HEALTHCARE AND THE BODY AND ITS IMPACT ON IDENTITY EXPERIENCES**

**Robyn Smigel, UC Berkeley**

**“Reification, Contention, and Confusion: Postfeminism in Contemporary Food Advertising”**

Contemporary research on the sensibility referred to as “postfeminism” has been contentious and varied, resulting in a blurred understanding of the concept and a difficulty in grounding it in specific cultural realities. My research seeks to give form to the meaning of empowerment for women and men in a postfeminist context, and asks: to what extent are “masculine” and “feminine” coherent categories, and to what extent are they desirable? Turning my focus to issues of the body, I examined sixty television commercials for food products from the last thirty years, most from the last ten. These commercials reflected a complicated picture, one that included rigid, traditional definitions of physical masculinity and femininity, but demanded a psychological denial of conformity for women, and a sarcastic distance for men. It was considered inappropriate for women in the commercials to want to reproduce normative gender, but it was also inappropriate for them to not conform. What was left was a kind of doublethink in which women actively tried to embody normative femininity, but believed they had a different goal. For men, there was a clear resurgence of belief in biological gender, and a call for men to return to their “natural” selves. The call, however, could not be made directly, but was filtered through sarcasm, parody, or fantasy. This research supports the view that postfeminism is characterized by an interweaving of feminist and antifeminist themes, and adds some fullness and complexity to an as yet small body of literature concerning postfeminism in advertising.

**Andres Tobar, UC Berkeley**

**“Conveying Sobriety”**

Working within the Spanish speaking community of Bay Area Alcoholic Anonymous (AA) meetings opens a space for thinking about what conditions and problems surface as one approaches sobriety in contemporary urbanism. Along the California fault lines of an identity increasingly growing out of minority status, group members shape and constitute a modified value system derived from the Big Book of AA. Each meeting gives content to AA protocol and procedure, each story shapes the trajectory of one’s unique path to sobriety. What results is a hybrid of Spanish run meetings located within a unique milieu of personalized (re) interpretations of selfhood, constructed in the narrative form, that attaches identifications across blurred boundaries at levels of citizenship, kinship and pedigree, as well as in the sphere of the political “addict.” Furthermore, the crossings of such tangible and invisible boundaries promise an insightful investigation. This research relies heavily on the objective observation of group formation and facilitation, contextualized and grounded by informant’s subjectivity.

**Huzaifa Ahmad, UC Berkeley**

**“Clinical Assessment: Access to Healthcare in the Yemeni Community In The Bay Area”**

Has immigration compelled the healthcare system to adjust to the needs of immigrant populations from various backgrounds? According to the census data from Kaiser Permanente Oakland, a substantial number of their patients that come from a Yemeni background require Arabic interpreters. Problems of access that have been cited stem from language barriers, issues involving gender roles in the American Yemeni context, the current medical infrastructure, and socioeconomic factors. This paper examines the methods of interpretations and translation utilized by physicians in clinical settings when dealing with Arabic speaking populations in the San Francisco Bay Area. Working alongside Susan Adham, of Walnut Creek, we employ various recommendations that resulted from previous focus groups and interviews with the Yemeni community in the SF Bay Area. In order to assess the current climate of the situation, I conducted participant observation at the Claremont Children’s international clinic shadowing various physicians. This research is addressed in the following three ways. First, I will discuss what difficulties and barriers Yemeni population faces and the problems that arise from lacking a certain agency. Second, the paper will provide insight into understanding how barriers can prevent the establishment of a sound and trusting doctor-patient relationship. Finally, we will address how various mediums are being used to better doctor-patient relationships in order to bridge the gap of language and cultural incompetency. Ultimately, the project is geared to illustrate the healthcare needs of the Yemeni community.

**ROOM: BARROWS 420**

**THEME: DISABILITY AND IDENTITY**

**Willie Joe Marquez, UC Berkeley**

**“Managing Type I Diabetes During Adolescence: Social Relationships and Identity”**

This study explores the effects of chronic illness on adolescents' life experiences. Previous research on the effects of chronic illness has studied adults, but adolescents' experiences may differ because adolescence is a pivotal developmental period for independence (mainly from the family), friendships, and self-esteem. This period of growth means that adolescents may have not yet gained the resources and developed their intellectual capacity to deal with an illness the way adults have. My study draws on 30 interviews conducted with UC Berkeley undergraduates, 10 of who were diagnosed with Type I Diabetes as adolescents. The other 20 students serve as a control group representing the "typical" UC Berkeley adolescent experience. Drawing on these interviews with young people with and without diabetes, I explore how diabetes affects friendships, relationships with parents, social and academic comfort at school, and identity. These findings suggest new ways for schools, parents, and medical professionals to physically, mentally, and socially support chronically ill adolescents.

**Kaitlin Kimmel, UC Berkeley**

**“Stories From The Heart: The Lived Experiences of Adult Females With Complex Congenital Heart Disease”**

Due to new surgical techniques and advancements in medical technology within the past thirty years, babies born with complex congenital heart disease have been able to survive into adulthood in larger numbers than ever before. Because this population is so new, there does not yet exist a formalized certification program for medical specialists in adult congenital cardiology, leaving adults with congenital heart disease the most underserved cardiac subspecialty. Thus, the effects of aging with complex congenital heart disease have not been significantly studied medically or socio-culturally. The purpose of this paper will be to gain a better understanding of the lived experience of female adults living with complex congenital heart disease. I will be focusing mainly on the relationships they have with their condition and how they cope with having no apparent physical disability that often physicians don't even understand. To do this, I will first conduct semi structured interviews with approximately 10 women and I will also ask them to complete a follow-up written questionnaire about their experiences. I will combine theories and frameworks from disability studies and medical anthropology to think through the effects that a rare chronic illness and an invisible disability have on the lives of these women.

**Briana Beaver, CSU Chico**

**“Physical Disability and Intimacy: The Impact of Socialization on Expectations and Experiences”**

This study examines how people with physical disabilities perceive their experiences as sexual beings. Six participants identified as having either cerebral palsy, spina bifida, vision impairment or blindness, while one participant did not specify the type of his disability. The purpose of this research is to understand how socialization impacts the beliefs and expectations that people with physical disabilities have regarding romantic and sexual relationships. Interviews were conducted with seven individuals between the ages of 20 and 65, who identify as having a physical disability. By recognizing that societal values for sexuality vary based upon ability level as well as other social influences, this research calls upon individuals as the experts of their own experiences and thereby validates the legitimacy of their views.



**ROOM: BLACK OAK, MLK STUDENT UNION**

**THEMES: GENDER, IDENTITY AND SEXUALITY**

**Lillygol Sedaghat, UC Berkeley**

**“Female Suicide Bombers in Sri Lanka and Palestine”**

For centuries, women were considered the bearers of life. Their innate maternal tendencies, governed by preservation, growth, and acceptability, associated them with nonviolence and were used as symbols of national collectivity by various states and movements. However, beginning in the late 1980s, women embraced new roles as suicide bombers, particularly as members of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) in Sri Lanka and as shahidas in Palestine. The structural and physical suppression by the Sri Lankan state and Israeli interference in Palestine violated human rights principles outlined in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). The need to emotionally recover from the violations created a void that religion could not appropriately heal. Without a strong civil society to address heightened vulnerabilities and combat feelings of marginalization, female suicide bombers emerged. As close loved ones were killed by forces outside of the individual's control, women were unable to voice their concerns and as a result, recognized their insignificance in relation to the larger international forces at play. Such spaces of extreme vulnerability existing within cultural structures that traditionally stifled the freedom of speech of women caused states to create their own enemies.

**Sandra Nunez Portocarrero, UC Berkeley**

**“Organizing to Survive: Women in Post-Conflict Ayacucho”**

It is a commonplace to say that civil society organizations play an important role in the improvement of the quality of life of citizens. When talking about post-conflict societies, many scholars have agreed that organizations have a significant impact in the economic development of their members. Based on 48 interviews conducted in the province of Ayacucho-Peru, this study explores the relationship between the economic and personal development of the female members of the National Association of the Relatives of the Disappeared of Peru (ANFASEP) and their level of affiliation to the organization. I explore the dynamics of ANFASEP and the impact of the organization in the lives of its members. Ultimately, I hope to use my findings and analysis to contribute to the development of a sustainable, inclusive, and solid process of national reconciliation in Peru.

**Jaime Gamblin, UC Berkeley**

**“One of the Guys: Cross-Sex Bonding and Barriers in the US Military”**

My focus is on the general narrative of female-to-male social interactions in the US military in the past decade. This includes how male soldiers involve or exclude female soldiers from the everyday social bonds that are simultaneously based on and inform the hierarchies of a unit. Through interviews with military service members and research, I have found that men and women in the military create mutual understanding and closeness differently when dealing with the opposite sex as opposed to those of their own. The way that men and women bond is informed by gender stereotypes in the hypermasculine arena of the military, in which women attempt to express more ‘tough’ exteriors while repressing any emotions or actions that may undermine their status by representing them as feminine and weak. Men must overcome the stigmas and personal concerns attached to friendships with women in their unit, including the idea that women are oversensitive about playful teasing or joking, which may be sexualized, and the issue of a potential sexual or romantic interaction. Women express frustration in attempts to prove their worth and bond with their male counterparts, while focusing more on accomplishing tasks without expressing possibly feminine traits they would otherwise be less encouraged to repress. Knowledge of these practices and a better understanding of how to create positive relationships between men and women in the military are paramount, as unit cohesion determines the fate of women’s roles in the armed forces as well as in the broader context of gender relations and equality.

## SESSION II

*“In particular, the changes now occurring in the organization and functioning of the international economy will have dramatic and profound effects on how race and gender relations are constituted, and, conversely, the way race and gender relations are constructed in response to the new globalization can have powerful impacts on the pace and direction of economic and social change. For those concerned with social justice, it will be more important than ever to be alert to the shifting and dynamic constructions of race and gender within the new international economy.”*

—Evelyn Nakano Glenn, *The Social Construction and Institutionalization of Gender and Race*

### UNDERGRADUATE PRESENTATIONS

1:15 P.M.-2:15 P.M.

*We expect all presenters and attendees to arrive before 1:15 P.M. and stay for the entire session. Please refrain from leaving or entering a presentation already in progress.*

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY UC BERKELEY SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM: APRIL 6, 2012

**ROOM: MADRONE, MLK STUDENT UNION**

**THEMES: EDUCATION AND SOCIALIZATION**

**Ray Friedlander, UC Berkeley**

**“Cultivating Schools from “Illegal” Soil: Ensuring Education and Land Access for Peasant Children in the Agrarian Conflict Zones of West Java, Indonesia”**

During my four-month women’s rights internship in the settlement Pasawahan, West Java, I found that the language of school children reflected a life shaped by conflicts over land rights. “We do not own this land and do not have a home,” several middle school students wrote on the chalkboard. Such encounters led me to question the relationship between education and the challenges faced by children growing up on contested land. Beginning with the 1965-66 genocide of over half a million accused communist members and sympathizers, the Suharto regime implemented decades of “procapitalistic agrarian programs” that resulted in the mass displacement of peasants from their land and the dissolution of political organization in rural areas. After Suharto’s fall in 1998, new peasant-led unions remobilized rural populations and put the idea of agrarian reform back on the national political agenda. Organizing more than fifty village chapters in Ciamis, Garut, and Tasikmalaya, the Sundanese Peasants Union/Serikat Petani Pasundan (SPP) is one of the largest peasant unions involved within the agrarian reform movement of West Java. Among other activities, SPP helps organize occupations of state forest and plantation lands. In 2004, SPP built a middle and high school on occupied land so that peasant children could receive an empowering, higher education despite their economic condition. This paper looks at the role of the schools within West Java’s land reform movement, focusing on how the physical and institutional presence of schools serve as evidence for the legitimization of occupied lands while also ensuring access to education.

**Megan Blanchard, UC Berkeley**

**“Unseen Barriers! How Social Positioning Produces Resource Preference and Structures Opportunity”**

This project attempts to analyze racial divisions and the achievement gap within the public education system. Primarily, how can we explain the disparities in academic success between blacks and whites within public colleges and universities? And, to what extent does voluntary segregation have an impact on a student’s academic trajectory? This research project will examine the impact voluntary segregation has on the mobilization of resources and opportunities, the ability to build broad and diverse networks with peers, community involvement, and the socially constructed racialization of space for black students. This project emphasizes a focus on the effects, rather than only the causes of voluntary segregation, with the hope of shedding light on how institutions can better support the historically underserved black community. Attempting to understand the potential relationship between the practice of clustering together on school campuses as a coping mechanism, trends in resource mobilization, and academic underperformance is the first step in learning how to better communicate and channel resources towards black students, and ultimately create a more equitable academic environment. Using data gathered from 66 surveys completed by black and white students at the University of California, Berkeley, I find that voluntary segregation has a statistically significant impact on the types of academic resources students mobilize. Additionally, I use a series of 21 semi-structured interviews with students, administrators, advisors, and counselors to further understand the differences between the tracks that lead to the use of two separate pools of resources available for minority students on college campuses: ethnicspecific and general campus resources.

**Hyerim Ko, UC Berkeley**

**“Racialization through Play: How Children Understand, Perceive, and Enact Race in the Context of Play”**

This research paper studies how children between the ages of five and seven understand race and racism in the context of play. Previous research conducted regarding this issue has mainly been experimental. Recently, there has been a shift from experimental to ethnographic and adultcentric to childcentric studies in order to find out more detailed information about how children behave in a non-artificial environment. This study was conducted as a participant observation from a semi-participatory least adult stance using a shallow cover at an after school program in the city of Berkeley with approximately 100 students of various races and ethnicities. It explores children’s understandings of race and racism in the context of play because play is an important activity in which children develop and create “social status, social power, and shared values” (Frost, Reifel, & Wortham 2008:47). This research suggests that more attention should be given to how children are socialized, especially in regards to race, and are actors in their own right.

**ROOM: TAN OAK, MLK STUDENT UNION**

**THEMES: LANGUAGE/DISCOURSE, RACE, NATIONAL IDENTITY, AND CITIZENSHIP**

**Shelby Lohr, Georgia State University**

**“Examining the Rhetorical Effectiveness of The Cherokee Phoenix: A Sociohistorical Introspection”**

This sociohistorical qualitative research project uses a combination of domain, hermeneutical and content analysis in order to examine the “civilizing” process of the Cherokee people—a Native North American ethnic group—as chronicled in The Cherokee Phoenix newspaper. The researcher uses quasi-primary sources of The Cherokee Phoenix, which are verbatim excerpts of the newspaper reprinted in scholarly books. The researcher uses four of the prominent rhetorical techniques— pathos-driven rhetoric, metaphor, pro-temperance rhetoric, and pro- “civilizing” rhetoric—in order to determine whether The Cherokee Phoenix was effective at generating antiremoval support amongst European American readers. A biographical overview the newspaper’s editor, Elias Boudinot, is also interspersed into the analysis. By considering the newspaper’s use of English and subsequently examining the normative language of the Cherokees, the researcher destabilizes Boudinot’s notion that the intended audience for his publication was indeed the Cherokee people. The researcher also constructs the following arguments by employing both sociohistorical and rhetorical analysis: 1. Boudinot’s use of pathos-driven rhetoric was largely ineffective for European- American readers; 2. Due to conflicting 18th century European rhetorical theories, one cannot conclusively determine if Boudinot’s use of metaphor was effective given the European audiences; 3. Boudinot’s protemperance rhetoric was effective for European readers; and 4. Boudinot’s use of pro- “civilizing” rhetoric was overwhelmingly ineffective due to European audiences’ and scholars’ deeply ingrained perceptions of the Cherokee peoples as helplessly barbarous. Ultimately, the research demonstrates that Boudinot correctly employed the rhetorical but he did not achieve his desired intention of generating support for the Cherokees.

**Tyler Naman, UC Berkeley**

**“Message in a Bottle: An Advertising Campaign’s Appropriation of Obama’s Inclusive Rhetoric, and What This Reveals About National Identity”**

It took little time after Obama’s election for his language of bi-partisanship and inclusivity to become a marketing slogan to sell perfume. In fact, on January 20th, 2009, the same day that Obama was sworn in as the 44th president of the United States, Calvin Klein launched a major new television and print ad campaign to sell its unisex fragrance, ck one. What specific linguistic and ideological features of Obama’s campaign message were used to re-construct ck one’s brand identity through this 2009 advertising campaign, and how? What does this say about the language used in Obama’s campaign, and about the advertising tactics used to market this product? I argue that these advertisements’ messages, as conveyed through text, directly appropriate language of unity and inclusivity used by President Obama. In addition, the advertisements’ visual imagery directly mimics and represents Obama’s campaign messages of unification across racial, gender and age lines. Lastly, I’ll contend that the advertisements’ creators have taken these political messages and slogans out of the historical context in which Obama used them and have stripped them of their historical antecedents, thus transforming them into the realm of myth as described by Roland Barthes in his seminal work mythologies.

**Astrid Ackerman, UC Berkeley**

**“AB 540 Asian and Latino (Un)documented Students Schooling, Racialization Processes and Sense of Belonging”**

Legal vulnerability determines the contours of American identity. This article examines the definitions of American identity and citizenship through four in-depth interviews with Asian and Latino AB 540 (un)documented students. I argue that the racialization of Latinos-as-illegal determines the extent to which they can define their American identity. In contrast, Asian students lack of racialization as illegal, fosters a flexible definition of American identity and citizenship. Furthermore, racialized notions of immigration status are learned through the different political participation activities in schools.

**Blaze Javier-Mandela, Georgia State University**

**“A Statistical Exploration of Diversity in Elite Law School Admission Trends**

This quantitative research project explores the intersectionality of legal studies and gender-specific/ racially divergent attributions by examining demographic information at elite law schools. The researcher investigates financial aid award, median undergraduate grade point average (UGPA), median Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) score and tuition rates as predictors of both racial and gender diversity at the top fourteen U.S. law institutions. Rank is determined according to the 2011 U.S. News and World’s national law school ranking scores, and demographic information is representative of the class of 2013 cohort. The project uses an original data set, with information compiled from the websites of the included universities, the Law School Admissions Council (LSAC) and U.S. News and World. The researcher presents the bi-hypothesis that (1) Median LSAT and median UGPA will have a

statistically significant relationship with the percentages of women admitted; and (2) median LSAT and tuition rates will have a statistically significant relationship with the percentages of non-Whites admitted. The researcher conducts two separate multiple regressions using SPSS statistical software in order to evaluate the effect of the prospective predictors on racial and gender distribution. The results of the study indicate the nullification of all of the prospective predictors as valid prognostics. Elite law schools remain a comparatively unexplored area of research within legal studies, particularly within the framework of discriminatory admissions trends. This research may bring attention to the degree to which this subject is in need of scholarly contributions and expansion.

**ROOM: WHEELER 121**

**THEMES: FAMILY, MOTHERHOOD, AND IDENTITY**

**Melissa Adams, UC Berkeley**

**“Factors Surrounding Amniocentesis: Pregnant Women and Mothers of Newborns’ Perspectives on Prenatal Testing”**

In the midst of their pregnancy, women are put into a moral, social, and medical crossroads, where they must decide which path to walk down. When women are pregnant, they are given the option of getting an amniocentesis, prenatal genetic testing, typically around weeks fifteen to eighteen of their pregnancy. The procedure is often offered to women who are at high risk for genetic diseases, and it can often look for some birth defects early on. The reasons for getting—or not getting—this test can vary, however, depending on factors such as people’s moral standpoints, genetic history, doctor’s recommendation, or social influences, among others. In my research, I ask, for women who are pregnant, who, or what, is the most influential factor that contributes to the choice of whether or not to get their amniocentesis? To collect my data, I am conducting in depth interviews with five women who are in their third trimester of pregnancy or women who have been pregnant within the last year. During the in depth interviews, I ask women to describe their experiences that they have had with those around them about prenatal testing. I ask them to describe how important each person, or factor, was in their decision. My preliminary results are that all of the women whom I’ve interviewed have opted out of the test, and, for many of them, they emphasized that they were fearful of the risks that the test could have on the baby’s health, fearing miscarriage.

**Vickie Chen, UC Berkeley**

**“Work vs. Family: The Effects of Full-Time Employment on the Parent- Adolescent Relationships”**

Debate over the ideal balance of family and work life continues to change with new perspectives on gender roles and women’s place in society. With females’ entrance into the workforce, societal expectations of the role of parents in U.S. society has changed from women being the primary caretakers and men as breadwinners to a broader perspective of whether dual earners or single earner families is better for children and the parents. This switch in ideology has allowed work to be a place where both mothers and fathers find identity. Not only can one see oneself as a mother or father, but one is also a part of the working world, whose tasks and performance affects the outside economy. As parents spend most of their time at their job, studying their interactions can bring insight to human behavior and the ways current notions of the ideal life influences parents’ decisions on time spent in the home or on the job. I examine the way full-time employment affects the relationship between parents and their high school children. Through the use of surveys, I explore how work experience, the way parents balance work and family time, and working longer hours in addition to a typical day, influences the parent-adolescent relationship. This, in turn, touches on the importance of family roles that parents feel they must fulfill and their own career aspirations. Looking at parent-child interactions to see whether and how work influences the parent will encourage further studies on work and home life.

**Mara Constantine, UC Berkeley**

**“The Unique Experiences of Mothers over 40”**

While the average age for a woman to give birth to her first child is 25 in the United States, an increasing number of women are giving birth over the age of 40. There has been extensive research on the obstacles to conceiving these women often face due to declining fertility as well as significant research on the reasons why increasing numbers of women are delaying childbearing, but not much is currently known about the experiences of older mothers once their child is born. In-depth qualitative interviews with four older mothers, whose children are now young adults, reveal that while all the women believe that becoming a parent at an older age has certain advantages, none recommend it for their own children. A desire to establish themselves professionally was commonly cited as an important reason for delaying childbearing, but the most significant reason for all mothers in the sample was that they had not yet met an appropriate partner. In terms of their experiences once their children were born, the mothers felt that they were better parents due to increased patience and financial resources but lacked the energy they would have liked to share with their children. All of the mothers in my sample worked full-time when their children were growing up, and several felt that being able to work fewer hours would have helped them compensate for their age in terms of energy level. Overall, my findings present a unique view of how parenting is experienced by older mothers.

**ROOM: BARROWS 104**

**THEMES: TECHNOLOGY, MEDIA, AND SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES**

**Adam Roth, CSU Chico**

**“Disconnected: You have my divided attention”**

This study attempts to understand college students' behavioral patterns regarding cell phones and how they perceive cell phones to affect their face-to-face interactions. Cell phones, an ever-expanding realm, constantly make both public and private appearances in social life. Therefore, it is important to understand their effects on face-to-face interactions, the most basic and intimate form of communication. Despite the importance of cell phones there is a paucity of sociological studies on cell phone use. The research relies on both qualitative and quantitative data gathered to gain an understanding of the relationship between cell phones and face-to-face interactions. Arguably, college students are not only a readily available population to study, but also their lives and social interactions are influenced by cell phone use more than any previous generation. Eight on-campus college students took part in interviews lasting between one hour and one-and-a-half hours. In addition to these interviews data were gathered through a paper-based survey administered to approximately 220 on-campus college students at California State University, Chico. It is hypothesized that although intended to increase connectivity and strengthen personal relationships, cell phones now weaken our face-to-face interactions as they increasingly consume our daily lives. Discussions will rely on the theoretical frameworks of Durkheim, Simmel, Berger and Luckmann.

**Thor Barrera, CSU Sacramento**

**“The Chaotic Nature of Social Order”**

The past 150 years have seen an enormous explosion in technology, population, and social and cultural interaction. Historians have been quickly filling whole bookshelves on the developments of the past ten decades; highlighting the incredibly blinding speed at which society has evolved and changed. Patterns appear, disappear, or evolve in such a brief period of time that it has become rather difficult to map and understand the direction in which societies are moving. In order to understand the complex and ever-changing nature of modern society, we can use the Chaotic and Stochastic analysis techniques often utilized in the computation of unstable physical systems, or systems that are “sensitive” to initial conditions. The Occupy Wall Street movement, Arab Spring, and many other social activities can be analyzed and understood through the use of these tools. But perhaps what's more interesting is; the revelation that mathematically individuals are often non-deterministic, yet they follow larger scale deterministic patterns. An analysis of this phenomenon is presented and a simple method for performing such analysis is offered as a consideration for future research.

**Chrystal Redekopp, UC Berkeley**

**“Webcomics: An Analysis of the Social Repercussions of New Media”**

In this paper, I seek to illuminate how new media are affecting social interaction. Because the Internet is a relatively recent phenomenon, sociologists are only beginning to delve into its effects on social relationships. I fill a portion of this gap by investigating whether new media are facilitating a broader definition of humor in contemporary social life. Specifically, I inspect how self-publishing on the Internet is changing the content of humor through a semiotic analysis of webcomics. Drawing on literature about the sociological nature of comic strips, theories on the potential social impacts of the Internet, semiotics, and humor, I analyze the daily strips from fourteen of the Internet's most popular web comics. The resulting typologies of form, subject matter, content, and humor speak to whether the Internet is allowing the freedom of form and content that some theorists predict.

**ROOM: BARROWS 151**

**THEMES: RELIGION, NATIONAL IDENTITY, AND CULTURE**

**Hardeep Dhillon, UC Berkeley**

**“Perceptions of Muslims in a Post- 9/11 America: A Comparative Analysis of Arab Orthodox Christians and the American Public”**

Despite the prediction of secular theorists that religion would cease to play a critical role in modern societies, religion remains an integral part of civil society in nearly every country, including the United States. Following the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, the religion of Islam, in particular, has been analyzed by media figures, policy experts, academics and religious leaders alike. The terrorist attacks on September 11 have pushed Americans to rethink identities, specifically in terms of citizenship, religion and ethnicity, as the “War on Terror” continues to be fought abroad. This research paper probes the question of how an ascribed, chosen or declared Arab identity influences the perceptions of American Arab Orthodox Christians towards Muslims in the post 9/11 era. By contrasting these perceptions against those of a larger and more diverse pool of Americans, this paper reveals how American perceptions of Muslims are informed by a particular encounter with Muslims and Islam that differs widely from Arab Orthodox Christians. Three critical questions form the core of its examination: In what ways do the perceptions of Muslims held by Arab Orthodox Christians and the American public differ? What factors give rise to these differences? And how does an analysis of these perceptions help us to better understand the role a shared ethnic identity has in informing the perspectives of Arab Orthodox Christians?

**Zoe Rudow, UC Berkeley**

**“Camp is Life the Rest is Just Details”: Jewish Nationalism in American Jewish Summer Camps”**

Each summer over 70, 000 campers flock to Jewish summer camps throughout North America, many to a Union For Reform Judaism (URJ) camp, the world’s largest Jewish camping network. Paramount to the Jewish camping experience is an attempt to inculcate the centrality of Israel to a Jewish identity through a carefully devised Israel Education curriculum. Current research on Jewish camps uncritically characterizes this process as fostering an apolitical “connection” to Israel. Drawing on Michele Foucault’s theory of discipline (1977), I examine how Jewish nationalism is experienced and produced to create nationalist advocates for the State of Israel. Based on data collected through participant observation at one of the URJ camps and qualitative interviews with American and Israeli staff, I argue that the dominant characteristics of the Jewish nationalism produced at camp are the objectification of the Israeli staff, the sexualization of Israeli militarism, and the reduction of Israel to a palatable and simplistic ideal. These characteristics of Jewish nationalism are disciplined through the mechanisms of enclosed physical space, ritual and prayer, formal camp programs and informal relationships between American and Israeli staff. Under the banner of Israel education, American Jewish summer camps work as a space of political socialization, disciplining bodies and minds towards a specific context of Jewish national unity that puts Israel in the center. This research provides a critical analysis of the process of political socialization at work American Jewish summer camps while contributing to our understanding of nationalism in general and Jewish nationalism in particular.

**Ariella Megory, UC Berkeley**

**“Moving Left: Examining Ideological/Political Shifts within Israeli Society”**

The tensions inherent in it's contradictory formation make Israel unique. It claims to be a democratic state, yet it is a Jewish state and, many even argue, a colonialist state (Ram 1993). Since the Oslo peace process in the 1990s, peace discourse of the Israeli left has become more conservative than it had been in the past, increasingly condoning and even promoting dominant Zionist discourse of the Israeli right (Stein 1996). Nevertheless, there have always been a small number of people who choose away from these perspectives (Beinin and Stein 2006). Bourdieu's notion of doxa may be used to address the ways in which Zionism comes to be a taken-for-granted belief for the majority of Israelis; while his dynamic notion of habitus might explain how it has been possible for leftist NGO workers to arrive at heterodox, politically challenging beliefs by developing innovative strategies at the level of practical NGO interventions. My research asks how some Israelis come to think and behave in unconventional ways, critically analyzing their own nationalistic views on Palestinians. More specifically, I will explore life experiences, interpersonal interactions, and historical contexts that may have contributed to this shift. To address this question, I will interview members of Israeli political leftist NGOs who at some point in the past identified with the Israeli right. By addressing the reasons why these political transformations take place, my Anthropology Honors Thesis explores the motivations for these political transformations and the ways in which individuals become critical of cultural assumptions of their community.



**Humberto Ortiz, UC Berkeley**

**“I’m Expected to Marry Someone With Papers”: Latino/a Undocumented Youth and their Navigations of Intimate Relationships”**

This paper moves beyond investigating how undocumented (im)migrants are excluded from accessing equitable material resources and public services, and instead focuses on how this population faces unique social consequences of lacking “legal” status. Drawing from in-depth interviews with undocumented Latino/a college students, this article examines how undocumented young adults experience undocumented status with respect to romantic social relationships, namely dating and marriage. In coping with the lack of viable options to legalizing their status, this population learns to view these interpersonal relationships as tools of sociolegal mobility. Undocumented youth are pressured to exclusively date U.S. citizens in order to eventually marry them for the privileges and opportunities that accompany citizenship. Ultimately, as undocumented youth consequently negotiate dating and marriage with this pressure in mind, they experience relationship strains, psychological tensions, and emotional anxieties. Therefore, this examination of social relationships contributes to understanding how state policy deeply constricts undocumented (im)migrants’ agency not just on an legal, economic-political terrain, but in an visceral emotional, intimate level as well.

## SESSION III

*“All the distinctions that made up our standard picture of the modern state—the borders that divide domestic from international, the police from the military, crime from war and war from peace—have been overthrown. It was precisely those distinctions that defined the nation state. Without them, it is a zombie idea. It still looks alive, but it is dead.”*

—Ulrich Beck, “The Terrorist Threat: World Risk Society Revisited”

### GRADUATE PRESENTATIONS

2:30 P.M.-3:45 P.M.

*We expect all presenters and attendees to arrive before 2:30 P.M. and stay for the entire session.  
Please refrain from leaving or entering a presentation already in progress.*

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY UC BERKELEY SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM: APRIL 6, 2012

**ROOM: BARROWS 402**

**THEMES: MOTHERHOOD, PARENTING, AND GENDER**

**Hannah Emery, UC Berkeley**

**“Original, But Not Stupid”: The Modern American Search for Perfectly Distinctive Baby Names”**

Over the last 75 years, American parents from all demographic groups have increasingly rejected the “most popular” names for their children, instead seeking out ever more unique alternatives. My study moves beyond the existing analysis for this phenomenon, which seeks to construct distinctiveness as a contemporary “taste” and the trend as reflecting parents’ view of names as fashion artifacts, and instead uses in-depth interviews to explore how modern American parents account for their rejection of “ordinary” names. My respondents overwhelmingly reported choosing distinctive names to help their child “stand out” and “be an individual,” conditions seen as unequivocally positive. However, parents also wanted their children’s names to be socially acceptable, with most positioning their chosen name(s) as simultaneously distinctive and accessible. Overall, my findings suggest that parents see their child’s name as a tool that should allow them to feel unique, but not socially isolated, following Fischer’s model that paints “American individualism” as individuation.

**Amanda Lubold, University of Arizona**

**“The Effect of Employment on Breastfeeding Duration”**

It is well established within the scholarship on work and the family that women overwhelmingly are the ones who have to make the most sacrifices in both work and family spheres. One specific manifestation of this trend is a woman’s ability to breastfeed after she has a child. Many women report that upon return to work, they are unable to continue breastfeeding due to a lack of institutional support. In this paper, propensity score matching is utilized to assess the effect of employment status of new mothers on breastfeeding duration. Propensity score matching is an especially suitable method in that it allows the researcher to match respondents with similar pretreatment factors and causally assess the influence of one variable, employment status, on another, breastfeeding duration. Analyses reveal that new mothers who enter the workforce at any time within six months of having a child experience, on average, seven- and-half fewer weeks of breastfeeding than new mothers who do not enter the workforce within six months of delivery. This is an important finding, because it shows that all else being held constant, there is a significant causal effect of entering the paid labor force on duration of breastfeeding. For employment to decrease the duration of breastfeeding by almost two months suggests that women find it very difficult to manage both professional paid work and mothering responsibilities.

**Sandra Nakagawa, Stanford University**

**“The Role of Gender Identity Maintenance in Health Disparities between Men and Women”**

Previous attempts to explain health disparities between men and women have looked at a range of social and biological factors. One recent study provides correlational evidence that men with stronger masculinity beliefs are less likely to seek preventative care (Springer and Mouzon 2011). We argue that men’s efforts to maintain their sense of masculinity has both a direct and an indirect causal effect on macrosocial patterns of health outcomes. The direct causal path, which we propose links the experience of a masculinity threat to a negative arousal state that is characterized by detrimental health effects such as heightened blood pressure. We also posit an indirect causal link between men’s reactions to gender identity threats and the adoption of behaviors that exemplify the prescriptive norms of masculinity (e. g., eating large amounts of meat). While these behaviors may reaffirm masculinity, they also have a negative impact on men’s long-term health. Using a laboratory experiment, we demonstrate that experiencing a threat to masculinity leads men to have higher blood pressure relative to those who have their masculinity confirmed. In addition, threatened men indicate a preference for less healthy dietary choices and also report greater feelings of shame. We found no similar patterns of physiological or attitudinal results for women who received threats to their gender identity. These results support the notion that the maintenance of masculinity is one factor that contributes to health disparities between men and women.

**ROOM: WHEELER 121**

**THEMES: RACE, CULTURE, AND IDENTITY**

**Matthew Andrews, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor**

**“From a Liability to an Asset: Reconciling Racial Differences in Multiracial Individuals’ Personal Relationships”**

In sociology, racial difference traditionally has been seen as an obstacle to the formation of close, sustained relations between social groups that either ceases or endures. Drawing on focused life story interviews with 50 multiracial adults born to Filipino/non-Filipino interracial relationships, this paper explores how a majority of respondents, across demographic characteristics (e. g., gender, parentage, region), came to see racial difference as neither ceasing nor enduring as an obstacle but as an asset in their personal relationships (i.e., family, friends, romantic partners). Respondents presented this seemingly counterintuitive claim by telling a particular story, a reconciliation narrative, through three narrative strategies: 1) legitimization, 2) naturalization, and 3) disassociation. This paper illustrates the ways in which symbolic structures enabled these multiracial individuals to transform something traditionally perceived as a liability into an asset and, in turn, expand the possibilities of racial difference’s role in our most intimate interactions.

**Elena Polyudova, Research Institute for Art Education Studies, Moscow, Russia**

**“Personal Culture Concept from American and Russian Youth Standpoints”**

This presentation considers the understanding the personal culture concept in Russian and American youth social environments. This particular subject was a part of my research interests. Interviewing college students in the USA and Russia, I encountered the outstanding differences in their perception and understanding the concept itself. The meanings of understanding students put in their definitions reveal cultural and social gap that exists between two cultural paradigms of the countries. In the presentation I am going to render the typical patterns of this concept understanding from American and Russian youth standpoints. The results of the interviews were discussed in American students’ audience from the perspective of social and cultural space. A conclusion American students have reached will be discussed in the end of the presentation.

**Aun Ali, University of Texas-Austin**

**“Imposing Representations, Disrupting Expressions: Scrutinizing “Sectarian Conflict” in Pakistan”**

This paper interrogates received narratives of sectarian conflict based on field observations of Sunni-Shia relations in Pakistan. It complicates the notions of identity and conflict by contrasting academic history and collective memory, journalistic accounts and lived experiences, and ideal-type construction of ideologies and relational construction of politics. The paper argues for developing more penetrating analytical tools and frameworks to better understand the complex, fluid, and multifaceted ground realities.

**Ramon Quintero, UC Berkeley (Undergraduate)**

**“Dominican Domestic Workers in the City of Madrid, Spain”**

The national Dominican identity was created in different historical moments. One of these moments was out of the independence movement against Haiti, the Dominican identity that denies its African "black" slave roots. The Dominican identity was formed against the Haitian “oppressors” the slave rebellion that liberated the Spanish side of the Hispaniola Island. The Dominican Republic national identity was one based on the idea of mixing of Spanish and native Indian blood. According to a study by the CUNY Dominican Studies Institute, about 90% of the contemporary Dominican population has West African ancestry to varying degrees. However, most Dominicans do not self-identify as black, in contrast to people of West African ancestry in other countries. A variety of terms are used to represent a range of skin tones, such as *moreno/a* (brown), *canelo/a* (red/brown) ["cinnamon"], *indio/a* (Indian), *blanco/a* (dark white), and *trigueño/a* (literally "wheat colored", or olive skin). Ramona Hernández, director of the Dominican Studies Institute at City College of New York asserts that the terms were originally a defense against racism: "During the Trujillo regime, people who were dark skinned were rejected, so they created their own mechanism to fight it." She went on to explain, "When you ask, 'What are you?' they don't give you the answer you want ... saying we don't want to deal with our blackness is simply what you want to hear." Identities can help us understand how material and social resources are distributed. But identities can do change and are not set in stone or natural, but rather identities are constantly changing in hierarchy depending on space and time. Moreover, identities are also larger representations of the historical material process of accumulation of social capital and power. In a colonial global capitalistic economic system, individual identities serve as one of the pillars that legitimize the overall systems of inequality. Deconstructing how identities can give us an opportunity to contribute to the production of knowledge.

**ROOM: BARROWS 104**

**THEMES: MILITARY AND POLITICAL ACTIVISM**

**Alan Zandi, UC Berkeley (Undergraduate)**

**“From Underground Guerrillas to Conventional Military: The Transformation of the Kurdish Peshmerga in Iraq”**

To explain the development and modernization of the Kurdish peshmerga in Iraq, I am suggesting the following causal mechanism: two principal forms of external resources utilized by the peshmerga have been defecting Kurdish soldiers from the Iraqi army as well as arms from Iran or the U.S. in their efforts to destabilize the Iraqi political establishment. Furthermore, these resources have been absorbed into the Kurdish political field and have been mediated by the contentious politics within that realm. The outcomes of these internal Kurdish struggles have determined how the peshmerga military organization has developed over time. Altogether, this overall process of change in the nature of the peshmerga has revealed a shift from loosely organized tribal forms of resistance, followed by semi-organized guerrilla warfare, and finally, a highly bureaucratized modern conventional army. This transformation of the peshmerga from clandestine guerrillas to legitimized security forces will have several implications not only for the future of the Kurdistan region, but for the stability of Iraq as a whole. More generally, this research seeks to uncover how modernizing processes affect the framing and perception of armed resistance groups within both national and global contexts.

**Gabriel Hetland, UC Berkeley**

**“A Different Way to Occupy City Hall: Participatory Budgeting from Venezuela and Bolivia to Oakland”**

The Occupy movement has revealed the shortcomings of representative democracy and sparked a renewal of interest in more direct, participatory forms of democracy. Participatory budgeting has proven to be one of the most viable ways of implementing participatory democracy in cities around the world. This presentation will explore the tension between two moments of PB: (1) the institutional moment and (2) the insurgent moment. Drawing on 2 years of fieldwork in Venezuela and Bolivia, I argue that the key to making PB work involves combining these two moments. I will show how this was done in the municipality of Torres, Venezuela, where the mayor turned over 100% of the municipality's investment budget to a PB process but had to fight against city councilors, regional political leaders and national bureaucrats in order to make the PB effective. This is contrasted with my fieldwork in El Alto, Bolivia where a lack of institutional innovation has produced waves of insurgency, which have failed to translate into meaningful avenues for participatory democracy. Finally, I will reflect on how these South American cases hold out important lessons for attempts to bring PB to the US, drawing on my own involvement with a citizen's initiative that is currently trying to bring PB to the city of Oakland. The challenge in Oakland (and elsewhere in the US) involves combining the insurgent activism of the Occupy movement with institutional reform that directly transforms governance practices.

**Mike King, UC Santa Cruz**

**“Coordinated Delegitimation: Public Relations and the National Raid Against Occupy”**

The Occupy movement is a radical and insurgent movement. It has also been the target of counterinsurgency efforts to control, co-opt, divide and destroy it. The 18-city raid in mid-November coordinated by Homeland Security and the FBI, according to the Justice Department, utilized police repression, but also a tailored media campaign. The intent is not simply to apply physical police force, but to discredit the movement and create divisions within it, to legitimize police repression, but also to make it less necessary. These raids were accompanied with an extensive PR campaign, designed by the FBI. Concerns about public safety and sanitation were reiterated in city after city right before the 18-city raid took place. This rationale of public safety and sanitation serves a dual function – to mar the encampment as dirty and full of criminals while reestablishing the police and City's role as providing order and security for the people of the city – all of this couched in bureaucratic legalisms about zoning, noise complaints or rat infestations. I will examine newspaper reporting in 4 cities that were raided in mid-November, in the three weeks that preceded. I will examine the arguments made in the press about safety, sanitation and public nuisance in Oakland, New York, Portland and Denver, identifying similarities in the arguments used and their sources. I will illustrate the importance of the media strategy in laying the groundwork for, and legitimating, the raids, while serving to mitigate strengthening the movement in the process of police repression.

**ROOM: DWINELLE 242**

**THEMES: NEIGHBORHOODS**

**Julia Kite, UC Berkeley**

**“People and Their Places: “Community” as a Driver of Neighborhood Satisfaction in Urban Regeneration Zones”**

The evaluation of the New Deal for Communities, an area-based regeneration initiative aimed at reducing deprivation in 39 English neighborhoods between 1998 and 2010, asked questions relating to personal characteristics and perceptions of place to several hundred residents living within each partnership area. The NDC project, a flagship initiative of the New Labor government under Tony Blair, focused heavily on the idea of community involvement as a means to improving neighborhoods, as well as the consideration of local people’s subjective opinions, while still relying on the decades-old area based initiative model for urban regeneration. Examination of the survey results for the ten partnership areas in Greater London indicates that the questions asked of residents are not particularly useful predictors of whether people are satisfied with the neighborhoods in which they live – an outcome variable of key importance to the UK government. Place-based variables were more closely associated with neighborhood satisfaction than person-based variables such as level of education, employment status, and self rated health. Results also cast doubt on the idea that community involvement is particularly useful for improving local resident satisfaction, a finding supported by existing literature on lack of unity and common goals in deprived urban neighborhoods.

**Amanda Lim, UC Berkeley (Undergraduate)**

**“Gentrification in San Francisco: An Analysis of the History and Attitudes in the Mission from the 1980s to Today”**

Although “gentrification” is a term common in today’s lexicon, it is actually a process that takes on a myriad of meanings when placed in different contexts. For the Mission District in San Francisco, as an ethnic, moderately distressed community at the cusp of significant physical and social change, gentrification is a complex process. Through qualitative interviews with residents, grassroots organizations as well as planning officials in the city council, in addition to ethnographic observation, it can be surmised these actors have very different opinions as to their involvement in the Mission’s future and solutions to its current housing affordability and commercial viability problems, resulting in conflict and tension external to the neighborhood itself. The fracturing of the usual gentrification process into two main concerns with the built environment and the culture and community of the district results in varying levels of success of policy implementation so far in the area. As such, through the formation of a cohesive narrative and an empirical foundation of urban renewal processes in the area, this study hopes to aid future policy and reform efforts in the Mission, reconciling the interests of all actors and continuing development in a sustainable and equitable manner.

## PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

**Astrid Ackerman** is a second generation Mexican (im)migrant and grew up in the Tijuana-San Diego border region: two aspects that have informed her academic interests: the construction of illegality/citizenship and migration in the era of the neoliberal state. Astrid is a Regent's and Chancellor's Scholar and a Millers Scholar who transferred from Southwestern Community College. She is a Sociology major intending to pursue a Ph. D. in Sociology after attending Law School.

**Melissa Adams** is a fourth year sociology major and Turkish minor at UC Berkeley. Adams is from a rural town in Northern California (Fortuna, a town in Humboldt County), but considers Berkeley her home. Adams is half- Chinese, half- Caucasian, a Christfollower, and from a single parent household, and because of her background finds almost every aspect of sociology interesting. Upon graduation, Adams plans to spend a year overseas as a missionary in a country in the Middle East, with graduate school as a likely possibility after. Her interest in the controversy of amniocentesis comes from a course that she took in the fall about disability studies, and she is currently working on this research project in her Sociology 190 course, "Parenting in the Contemporary U.S.: Myths, Trends and Controversies."

**Huzaifa Ahmad** is a third year Integrative Biology major, which has influenced his interest in the field of medicine and public health, and is currently investigating health education and accessibility at Children's Hospital Oakland and Highland Hospital. As an international student born in France, raised in Saudi Arabia with a Pakistani background, Huzaifa is exploring the accessibility of healthcare to minority populations. He is working with Dr. Susan Adham of Kaiser with a CATCH grant to shed light on health disparities within the Yemeni community, a population on which very little research has been done. Through this project he hopes to gain insight into obstacles faced by the Yemeni community in the Bay area and their healthcare needs in order to foster understanding as well as promote positive change that can address this issue, which many other minority communities face in the United States."

**Aun Ali** is a doctoral candidate in Sociology at UT Austin. He works in the areas of political sociology, social movements, and social policy and development. His dissertation focuses on Religion, State, and Shia Politics in Pakistan during 1977-88.

**Matthew Andrews** is a PhD candidate in sociology and Ford Fellow at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor. He currently resides in the Bay Area, where he is completing his dissertation entitled "Refashioning the Intimate: Race and Personal Relationships in Contemporary Multiracial America." His research interests broadly are in the areas of cultural sociology, race and ethnicity, family, and Asian American studies. He earned his BA in ethnic studies from the University of California-Berkeley, where he was a McNair scholar.

**Thor Barrera** is a theoretical, computational, and experimental physicist, a sometimes wanderlust traveler, investor, entrepreneur, guitar player, and rock climber. His interests extend through many related disciplines and fields of knowledge; constantly searching for how the methods and ideas in physics are interconnected with other fields. He is an advocate for the proliferation of science, education, and academic professionalism.

**Briana Beaver** graduated with a degree in Sociology from Chico State in December of 2011. Beaver chose this field because she enjoys learning about social arrangements and how they affect the well being of communities, especially for populations who remain stratified in multiple ways. Her research project was completed for her undergraduate Honor's thesis and she hopes to further this study by diversifying the sample to include other participants from various geographic locations. Beaver would like to extend this research project to explore the ways in which the medical field contributes to individuals' with disabilities sense of sexuality and reproduction, as well as their access to reproductive health care. It is Beaver's hope that her education and research experience will help her to contribute to society as a force for positive social change and empowerment for all people.

**Megan Blanchard's** personal career goal is to always be involved with sound research that explores the current social and political elements, which perpetuate the reality of social inequality and works towards innovative solutions and alternatives. At UC Berkeley, Blanchard's academic focus was on the achievement gap, both educationally and economically. Although she wrote her honors thesis on the achievement gap as it pertains to higher education, Blanchard hopes to focus on domestic economic policy and its effects on disadvantaged communities in graduate school. Currently, Blanchard is planning to apply to several joint PhD programs in Sociology and Social Policy (for the Fall of 2013).

**Vickie Chen** is a fourth year undergraduate at the University of California, Berkeley, studying Sociology, with a minor in Dance and Performance Studies. She grew up in the Bay Area and enjoys volunteering, watching musicals, dancing, and trying different ethnic foods. Having taken quite a few sociology classes, she finds the study of how society influences the behavior and thinking of individuals fascinating and often finds sociology applicable to much of her life.

**Mara Constantine** is a senior at UC Berkeley studying sociology and public health. She came to Berkeley after working as an au pair in Switzerland for a year, which provided her with many sociological issues upon which to ponder. She is currently the vice president of Alpha Kappa Delta International Sociology Honor Society, Chi Chapter as well as an active member of the Cal Undergraduate Public Health Coalition. Mara currently works as a research assistant for Professor Kristin Luker and volunteers as tutor in the YWCA's English-in-Action program. Future plans include working with AmeriCorps after graduation before applying to graduate school, likely in public health.

**Hardeep Dhillon** graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from the University of California, Berkeley with a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies and South Asian Studies. As a student at U. C. Berkeley, Dhillon taught undergraduate courses focused on religion and ethnic violence in South Asia, as well as world religions. Her interest in teaching stemmed from her earlier work tutoring disadvantaged youth during her underclassmen years. Dhillon also served as a Research Assistant for anthropologist and professor Saba Mahmood to explore the European Court of Human Rights' interpretation of religious freedom. In 2010, Dhillon's interest in political parties, communalism and India's 1947 partition culminated into her honors thesis which probed the Nehru Report (1928) and its interpretation of the communal problem in India. Her analysis on liberal feminism and Hindu women has also been published by the Duke Undergraduate Journal of South Asian Studies.

**Patrick Donnelly-Shores** is a re-entry junior transfer, double-majoring in Conservation & Resource Studies and Political Economy. He spent the decade prior to attending Berkeley working on a variety of conservation and land management projects for non-profits and for the Bureau of Land Management. His research interests are varied, and include resource use in arid portions of the American West; policy mechanisms for renewable energy production; and ecological restoration of degraded landscapes. Weekends and summers he leads young people on backpacking trips and conservation projects with the Student Conservation Association and the National Outdoor Leadership School. While his studies have brought him to Berkeley, the high Mojave Desert of southern California remains home.

**Hannah Emery** is a sixth-year graduate student in UC Berkeley sociology, with primary research interests in the construction and maintenance of collective and individual identity. Her dissertation focuses on the increasing emphasis modern American parents place on finding distinctive names for their children, and suggests that this is a manifestation of increasing cultural pressure toward individuation. Her previous research includes an examination of the ways in which English-speaking parents use the choice of foreign language immersion schools to model a liberal and cosmopolitan identity for their families.

**Ray Friedlander's** interest in agrarian reform and peasant resistance to state and corporate power originated from his relationship to Professor Nancy Peluso, a political ecology professor on Berkeley's campus. While taking Peluso's political ecology course, Friedlander was exposed to the contemporary agrarian reform movement in Indonesia and was moved by the power state territorialization could have over the lives of peasants in the countryside. Nancy introduced Friedlander to Dr. Noer Fauzi Rachman, her PhD. student at the time, who inspired Friedlander to go to Indonesia and get a ground perspective on the abstract histories and theories political ecology had taught her about Indonesia at Berkeley. The partnerships Friedlander formed with peasant educators, children, scholar activists, and NGOs since working within Serikat Petani Pasundan/Sundanese Peasants Union have cultivated her into an agrarian reform/social justice advocate who firmly believes in the right to education regardless of land classification.

**Jaime Gamblin** was born in San Diego to a family with a long history of military service, from my mother and father to one General Stephen Ramseur in the Civil War and beyond. Gamblin went to community college and then UC Berkeley, and Gamblin's brother is currently serving in the US Marine Corps. It is Gamblin's remembrance of their shared adventures that has informed Gamblin's interest in how women and men bond in what has too long been seen as the "boy's game" of the military.

**Gabriel Hetland** is a current Sociology PhD Student and member of the Community Democracy Project in Oakland that is trying to bring participatory budgeting to the city. Hetland's dissertation research focuses on participatory budgeting in Venezuela and Bolivia.

**Skyler Hoffman** is a fourth year Sociology student interested in Demography and Public Policy. Hoffman helped



start the Berkeley Student Food Collective (BSFC) during his first semester, and he currently runs their food events department. Hoffman became inspired to research the Fair Trade movement while doing food justice organizing through the BSFC and the California Student Sustainability Coalition. Hoffman is currently writing his honors thesis and will walk this semester before studying abroad next semester in Sweden. Hoffman will then do some travelling before attending graduate school at some point in the future.

**Blaze Javier-Mandela** is a junior (class of 2013) at Georgia State University and Georgia Perimeter College. Her majors are English and African- American Studies. Her research interests have most predominately centered on the intersectionality of legal studies and racial/gender specific divergences using statistical analysis. She has also researched qualitatively in the English Literature discipline and has utilized poems, novels and movies as mediums of study. These projects in the English Literature discourse represent a more broad range of topics—from existentialism to imagistic characterization to period specific analyses. She is also interested in the study of the Mandarin Chinese language, and would like to enroll in a language immersion program in China for at least a year after graduating from undergraduate school. She has not decided on a precise PhD track, but is considering a Master's in Chinese Language and Literature and doctoral degrees in African- American Studies, English or Law.

**Kaitlin Kimmel** is a fourth year undergraduate majoring in Interdisciplinary Studies with an Area of Concentration of Ability and Disability: Power, Medicine and the Body. She is interested in the connection between the discourses of Medical Anthropology and Disability Studies; she is curious as to how they intersect and how they can inform each other. She is currently a 2012 McNair Scholar, and has dedicated her undergraduate studies to answering questions about the intersections of the disabled body, womanhood, society, power, control and agency. Her academic interests have both come from and been driven by an obsession with understanding the social implications of her father's newly acquired cognitive disability and her fifth open heart surgery that occurred her freshman year at Cal. She is currently working as a Disabled Students' Program Peer Advisor where she has been able to use her experience of having a complex congenital heart defect to help her peers.

**Mike King** is a PhD candidate in Sociology at UC–Santa Cruz. His areas of academic interest include Political Economy, Social Movements, and Criminology. His dissertation explores the mechanisms of social control that seek to divide, discredit and destroy Occupy Oakland, from the police and elected officials, to the media and non-profits. His work draws heavily from field experience as an organizer in Occupy Oakland, and seeks to identify the primary techniques of repression and counterinsurgency that the movement will need to navigate as it pursues substantive social change.

**Julia Kite** is a graduate student in the Department of Sociology at UC Berkeley. She holds a Masters of Science in Social Policy and Planning from the London School of Economics, for which she was awarded the Richard Titmuss Prize for Best Overall Performance. She obtained her BA in Urban Studies at Columbia University. Her research interests center around social policy, particularly regarding housing and urban regeneration initiatives. She is currently studying the redevelopment of public housing projects as mixed-income communities and subsequent interaction between residents of different social classes. She also maintains interest in the sociology of poverty and disability research. Julia formerly worked as a researcher for Ipsos MORI, the British Urban Regeneration Association, and the London School of Economics Personal Social Services Research Unit, all in London, England.

**Hyerim Ko** is a soon-to-be graduating senior attending the University of California, Berkeley with a double major in Sociology and Ethnic Studies. Hailing from the county of Los Angeles, a very multicultural area, a few topics she is interested in are issues of race/ethnicity, nationalism, and immigration. After graduating, she plans to move back to Los Angeles and a few of her post-graduation goals are to apply to graduate school, brush up on her Spanish language skills, and volunteer at a refugee organization.

**Amanda Lim** is an undergraduate student in her senior year, majoring in Political Science and Sociology with a minor in City and Regional Planning at UC Berkeley. Originally from Singapore, she developed an interest in urban design, planning and management early on, as a result of an intimate and continuous interaction with urbanization and gentrification processes that are even more acute in a country with an area of only 272 square miles. Her other engagements include being the Academic Chair of Alpha Kappa Delta (Chi Chapter), participating in Pi Sigma Alpha, working as a security monitor on campus and arranging pieces for the UC Women's Chorale.

**Shelby Lohr** is a junior at Georgia State University (GSU), where she is pursuing a degree in History with a minor in English. After graduating high school she spent three months volunteering in Honduras, where she primarily taught English classes. This experience kindled her interest in becoming a professor. She currently serves as the Secretary for a statewide political organization that oversees 30 chapters at colleges across Georgia. In addition to her political

work, she is a member of her university's debate team, the president of GSU's Pre-Law club and an editor of two newspapers. She was recently nominated by the Honors College faculty to receive the inaugural research assistantship with the Dean of the Honors College, Dr. Berman. As his assistant, she edits the upcoming edition of his Pearson Education published textbook, *Approaching Democracy*. In her free time she enjoys painting, reading and interior designing.

**Amanda Lubold** is a 4<sup>th</sup> year Ph.D. student in sociology at the University of Arizona. Lubold is interested in gender, public health, and welfare state policies. Lubold has an M.A. in sociology from the University of Arizona, and a B.A. in sociology and a B.S. in biochemistry/molecular biology from Lebanon Valley College, Annville, PA. She is currently writing a dissertation on the influence of welfare state policies on breastfeeding practices.

**Willie Joe Marquez** is a graduating senior majoring in Sociology at the University of California, Berkeley. Although school poses as a significant challenge to him, he makes sure to enjoy some of the simple things in life, such as spending time with his family, socializing with his friends, traveling, photography, and tasting foods from different cultures. With these interests available, Willie recognizes his privilege and hopes to utilize his fortunate opportunities as a community college professor inspiring and motivating students to persevere through their personal hardships and reach their potential.

**Ariella Megory** is a fourth year Cultural Anthropology major and Global Poverty and Practice minor. She is interested in identity formation and patterns of political "radicalization" among 2<sup>nd</sup> generation Middle Eastern and North African Israeli-Jews.

**Sandra Nakagawa** is a second year graduate student in Stanford's Sociology department and her research looks at status, prosocial behavior, and gender from a social psychological perspective. The work she is presenting today looks at the relationship between gender identity and health outcomes, though she is also currently working on a project that examines the link between social class and perceptions of ability in task-oriented settings. Sandra graduated from UC Berkeley in 2010 with BA's in Sociology and English and is a proud to be Cal alum!

**Tyler Naman** is a senior at Cal and will be graduating in May, 2012 as an American Studies major with a minor in Education. Naman has a cumulative 4.0 GPA, and is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and will graduate *summa cum laude*. The research for his presentation at the Symposium began last summer when Naman was a Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) Scholar at Cal. Naman was the plenary speaker at 2011 SURF conference and his presentation from that conference was published in the Berkeley Undergraduate Journal. Naman plans to pursue a career in the education field. When not engaged in his academic pursuits, Naman enjoys the sport of wrestling, and serves as president and head coach of the Berkeley Wrestling Club. Naman also serves as a kayak instructor with Cal Adventures here in Berkeley, and as a whitewater raft guide on the American River during the summer.

**Sandra Nunez Portocarrero** is interested in the way organizations impact the lives of people, specifically of women. During her time at Berkeley, she has focused on learning qualitative methods to conduct research through the Haas Scholars Program, the MC Nair Scholars Program and the Institute of International Studies, working with Professors Laura Enriquez and Kim Voss as her mentors.

**Humberto Ortiz** is a 3<sup>rd</sup> year Sociology major who transferred from Pasadena City College (PCC), where he completed an A.A. in Social and Behavioral Sciences with various honors and awards from the PCC Social Science Department. His research interest include deconstructing migrant "illegality" through investigating the complex lived experiences of undocumented (im)migrants. As a first-generation university student coming from a working-class Mexican (im)migrant family, his academic endeavors are driven by a need to work towards social justice as he sheds light on the dehumanization experienced by (im)migrant communities, particularly the undocumented.

**Elena Polyudova**, a Russian scholar, has more than 20 years' experience in teaching Art Appreciation and Aesthetics. In Moscow, Russia, Dr. Polyudova has been conducted the experimental research of the aesthetic experience development in school and extra-curriculum environment. Last four years, living in the USA, Dr. Polyudova works on the comparative study of American and Russian Art Education systems from cultural, sociological, and instructional perspectives. Being an independent scholar, she is a member of the Editorial Board of an international almanac "Humanity Space", a member of NAEA, and participates in conferences in the USA and abroad. She is actively collaborates with her colleagues from Russian Institute for Art Education Studies and Russian Institute for Cultural Research. Dr. Polyudova is interested in studies of modern M-Generation students' educational traits, the dialogical educational space, and developing the new approaches for the Art Education's instructions.

**Ramon Quintero** was born in Culiacan, Sinaloa, Mexico and is a SSS Scholar, a James J. Parson Scholar, and a UC Berkeley McNair Scholar. He studies Geography and Ethnic Studies at UC Berkeley and transferred from Rio Hondo Community College.

**Chrystal Redekopp** is from the state of Montana and in her paper, she investigates how self-publishing on the Internet is affecting humor.

**Adam Roth** is a senior at California State University, Chico. Roth is currently working on his undergraduate honors thesis. This thesis focuses on cell phone behaviors and their effects on face-to-face interactions. Roth's interests within the field of sociology include social psychology, technology, and quantitative research. Upon graduation Roth plans to work in Germany and travel the rest of Europe. From there he will return to home and apply to graduate school in pursuit of a doctorate in the field sociology with hopes of becoming a sociology professor.

**Laura Ruchinskas** grew up in Los Angeles. She is interested in environmental policy and issues of food justice. She hopes to join AmeriCorps after graduation.

**Zoe Rudow** is graduating senior double majoring in Middle Eastern Studies and Peace and Conflict Studies at UC Berkeley. Her academic passions include cultures, identities, and nationalisms of the Middle East, focusing specifically on Israel/Palestine. Her research explores the disciplining of Jewish nationalism at American Jewish summer camps. Rudow lives in the beautiful Kingman Hall, a Berkeley Student Cooperative, and believes much can be learned from cooperative living.

**Lillygol Sedaghat**, a native of sunny San Diego, is currently a second year at the University of California, Berkeley studying Political Economy and minoring in Public Policy. Her strong interest in international affairs and love for culture stems from her Iranian heritage and fascination with the arts and traditions of other peoples. Her dream is to engage in a global mission of cross-cultural exchange by becoming a professor of international relations and traveling the world's universities to educate the youth on foreign policy issues. Aside from her studies, Lilly enjoys breakdancing and views dance as one of the few mediums through which diverse individuals can come together and creatively celebrate the essence of humanity.

**Robyn Smigel** is a 4<sup>th</sup> year Sociology major at UC Berkeley. Her specific interests are in gender and media in a postfeminist context.

**Andres Tobar** is a graduating senior of the University of California at Berkeley and double majoring in the discipline of Rhetoric with an emphasis in History and Theory and in the field of Anthropology with an emphasis in Socio-Cultural Theory. Not having done excessively well at the High School level (he in fact never graduated), Andres was given a second chance at the City College of San Francisco where he excelled in his studies. Included in this new academic direction were scholastic recognitions in his Honors research concerning biological evolution, G.P.A., and in the resurrection of the College's Anthropology Association. Coming to UC Berkeley in the Fall of 2010, Andres has since held positions as Secretary, Treasurer, and Co-Chair of the Association for Undergraduate Anthropologists (AUA); has volunteered time at San Quintin state correctional facility to help the men in prison complete their GED as he once did, does work at the Phoebe A. Hearst Museum of Anthropology, and is currently working on his Senior honors thesis of which is the topic of his BUSA presentation. After college, Andres plans to pursue a Ph.D. in Education and follow both his parents in their careers as teachers.

**Alan Zandi** is an undergraduate double major in Sociology and Film & Media. He was born and raised in San Diego by a Kurdish father and Mexican mother. He speaks Spanish fluently and grew up immersed in Latino culture, yet his father instilled in him a strong sense of Kurdish identity through folklore, music, language, and history. As a student at Berkeley, Alan became increasingly interested in Middle Eastern politics & culture and has taken courses in elementary Kurdish, Persian, and Arabic. His main interests lie in exploring how Political Sociology (specifically, issues pertaining to the "Third World") can be incorporated into documentary/experimental film for the purposes of social change.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND APPRECIATION**

### **SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE**

**Genevieve Head-Gordon**, Chair  
**Alexa Makreas**, Chair  
**Maggie Grover**, Associate Chair  
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### **SYMPOSIUM VOLUNTEERS**

Maria Garcia, Karina Solis, David Azcarruga, Melissa Adams, Sarah Smith, Marelle Goodlander, Gabriel Orellana, Armine Alajajian, Anna Chan, Vickie Chen, Javier Silva, Kylee Lin, Tiara Tahmizian, Eric Forter, Joshua Wells, and all those who helped today.

### **GRANT HIURA TRIO**

**Grant Hiura**, piano  
**Trevor Hillebrand**, bass  
**Thomas Yopes**, drums

### **PARTICIPATING PROGRAMS AND STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS**

Alpha Kappa Delta (AKD)  
Berkeley Undergraduate Sociological Association (BUSA)  
Latino/a Sociological Association (LSA)  
*Eleven: The Undergraduate Journal of Sociology*  
Haas Scholars Program  
McNair Scholars Program  
Undergraduate Research Apprentice Program (URAP)

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## INDEX OF PRESENTERS

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Blanchard, Megan	Madrone	II
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