

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY RESEARCH NEWSLETTER

Winter 2017

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MESSAGE FROM THE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

This newsletter is part of the Research Committee's broader mandate to support research in the Department of Sociology.

As this is the first newsletter we have published, we welcome your feedback.

Please send comments and suggestions to Arthur McLuhan (mcluhan@yorku.ca).

We plan to publish Fall, Winter, and Summer editions.

Most of the content is dependent on your contributions, so please answer the committee call for research news.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2017 Department of Sociology Annual Lecture

Tuesday, March 21, 5-7 PM

Senate Chamber (940 Ross N)

The Department of Sociology presents its Annual Lecture, featuring Professor Saskia Sassen, a distinguished sociologist of globalization, migration, and global cities.

Please mark your calendars and encourage your students to attend.

Learn more about Saskia Sassen:
www.saskiasassen.com

RESEARCH UPDATES

Pat Armstrong

Pat Armstrong and colleagues continue to develop their project on Re-imagining Long-term Residential Care. From the project website:

The Re-imagining Long-term Residential Care project seeks to identify promising practices for thinking about, planning and organizing long-term residential care.

Residential care facilities are home to some of our most vulnerable citizens and the workplace for paid and unpaid providers, most of whom are women and many from racialized communities. How we treat this vulnerable population and those who provide their care is a critical indicator of our approach to equity and social justice, as well as to care. Our project aims to identify the many ways to allow residents and their care providers to flourish and be treated with dignity and respect.

To deal with the complexity in long-term residential care, our research is divided into four areas: Approaches to Care, Work Organization, Accountability, and Financing and Ownership.

Our international interdisciplinary team is led by Dr. Pat Armstrong at York University, and includes academics from five Canadian provinces, three American states, the U.K., Sweden, Germany and Norway. It includes people trained in sociology, medicine, social work, history, media studies, philosophy, architecture, health policy and more. Graduate students, who will be the next generation of long-term care researchers, are full team members.

Partners in this research are representatives from workers' unions, employer associations, and community organizations that represent older people.

Other interested people and organizations are supporting the research team by providing information and feedback, attending community consultations and sharing resources. Re-imagining Long-term Residential Care is supported by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.



Recent Publications

Armstrong, Pat, and Suzanne Day.
Forthcoming 2017. *Wash, Wear, and Care: Clothing and Laundry in Long-Term Residential Care*. McGill-Queens University Press.

Armstrong, Pat, and Susan Braedley (eds.).
2016. *Physical Environments for Long-Term Care: Ideas Worth Sharing*. Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

Baines, Donna, and Pat Armstrong (eds.).
2015. *Promising Practices in Long-Term Care: Ideas Worth Sharing*. Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

Andil Gosine

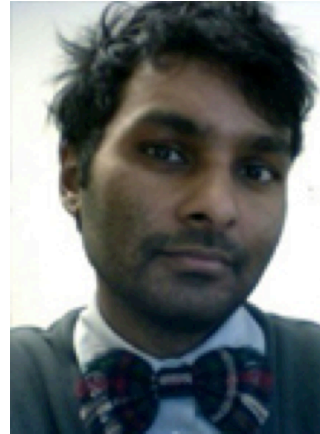
Through the support of successful SSHRC Insight and Connections' grants, Andil Gosine's research on "Visual Arts After Indentureship" has resulted in the staging of exhibitions in the UK, US and Canada, including of his works "Coolie Colors" in Belfast and Glasgow, "Cane Portraiture" at the Art Gallery of Ontario, the coming "Coolie, Coolie Viens" to be staged across three galleries in Toronto starting March 22, and his "Our Holy Waters, And Mine" at the Museum of Latin American Art in Los Angeles.

As well, Andil is Guest Editor of a special related issue of Columbia University/Duke Press journal *Small Axe*, to be published in July.

Essays on his art practice by other scholars have also recently been published, including in the volume *Indo-Caribbean Feminist Thought*.

Andil has also organized, and the Department is supporting a special dialogue between poet-scholars Khal Torabully and Ramabai Espinet on March 22, that will mark the 100th anniversary of the end of the indentureship program that brought Indians as replacement plantation labour to the Caribbean and elsewhere, following the end of slavery.

After 13 years in the department, Andil moves to the Faculty of Environmental Studies in July 2017.



Recent Publications

Gosine, A. 2017. "Visual Art After Indenture: Autoethnographic Reflections." *South Asian Studies*, London: Routledge.

Gosine, A. 2016. "My Mother's Baby: Wrecking Work After Indentureship," in *Indo-Caribbean Feminist Thought*, G. Hosein and L. Outar, eds., London: Palgrave.

Gosine, A. 2016. "Punghah/Men in Skirts: A Plea for History," *Gender and Development: Critical Engagements in Feminist Theory and Practice*, Wendy Harcourt, ed., London: Palgrave.

J. Paul Grayson

Over the past three years I have conducted research on the experiences and outcomes of mainly female students in the late 1950s and early 1960s in Canada and the United States. On the basis of previously unanalyzed survey data collected at Glendon College, York University, during the 1960s, archival records, analyses of the student newspaper, and interviews with former students I have published articles on the religious, political, and gendered experiences of students at Glendon College and ways in which a liberal arts education contributed to change. While historians have recently turned their attention to student activists these articles are the only systematic Canadian studies of average students in the 1960s.

Given that Glendon remains a small liberal arts college with roughly the same enrollment as in the 1960s I decided to replicate entry and exit surveys carried out in 1963 and 1967 respectively and to compare the experiences and outcomes of the first cohort to receive a York degree with the experiences and outcomes of students fifty years later. As a first step, in 2013, using the facilities of the Institute for Social Research, I conducted a survey, that contained many of the same questions as the 1963 survey, of all students entering Glendon. This year, using many of the same questions as the 1967 survey, the Institute for Social research will be conducting a survey of all students who entered in 2013 and who remain enrolled in the College. As a result I will have a four-year longitudinal study. Since 2013 I have been analyzing the student newspaper and other documents relevant to an identification of the current nature of student culture at Glendon. Later this year I will conduct some in-depth interviews to complement the findings of the scheduled survey and insights gained through document analysis. When all data are collected this will be the only study anywhere that systematically compares the effects of a liberal arts curriculum on the experiences and outcomes of students in the same university college with roughly the same enrollment in time periods fifty years apart. Funding for this endeavor has been made available through the LAPS Minor Grant (2014) and SSHRC Small Grants (2016) programs.

Since 2013, while engaged in various aspects of the historical comparative study of Glendon students, I have also researched and written on the experiences and outcomes of female students who enrolled in the small liberal arts based Connecticut College for Women in 1959. The results of this examination were published recently.



Recent Publications

Grayson, J. P. 2016. "The way they were: 'Conn Girls' and American culture in 1959." *Historical Studies in Education*, 28(2), 76-98.

Grayson, J. P. 2015. "The 'Feminine Mystique' and problems of a cohort of female Canadian university students in the early Sixties." *The Sixties: A Journal of History, Politics and Culture*, 8(1): 50-74.

*Grayson, J.P. 2015. "Repeated low teaching evaluations: A form of habitual behaviour?" *Canadian Journal of Higher Education*, 45(4). 298-321.

Grayson, J. P. 2014. "The experiences and expectations of Canadian female university students in the 'Dawn of the Age of Aquarius'." *Journal of the History of Childhood and Youth*. 7(2), 267-294.

*Grayson, J. P. 2014. "Negative racial encounters and academic outcomes of domestic and international students in four Canadian universities." *Journal of International Students*, 4(3), 247-261.

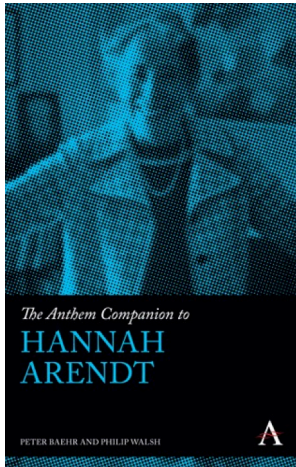
Grayson, J. P. 2013. "Talkin' 'bout my generation: Political orientations and activities of a cohort of Canadian university students in the mid-sixties." *Journal of Historical Sociology*. 26(2). 200-233.

*With SSHRC support.

RECENT BOOKS

The Anthem Companion to Hannah Arendt

Edited by Peter Baehr and Philip Walsh



As recently as 2000, Hannah Arendt was considered an esoteric author within the fields of humanities and social science. Since that time, Arendt has moved from the fringes of intellectual discussion toward its center. Arendt, a wide-ranging thinker with much to say about politics, society, science, history, aesthetics, philosophy and education, is a natural beneficiary of this process.

Extant compendiums of Arendt's work show a strong bias toward philosophy and political theory. In contrast, *The Anthem Companion to Hannah Arendt* is written principally by sociologists and authors with a keen interest in sociology and social theory. The result is a genuinely original contribution to Arendt studies. The book examines Arendt's most important books as they bear on modern social theories, issues and disputes. Her key conceptual distinctions – totalitarianism and dictatorship; labor, work, action; power and violence; thinking, willing and judging – are clarified. The controversies in which Arendt was caught up – notably over the 'banality of evil' epitomized by Adolf Eichmann – are explained. Written by a distinguished group of international scholars, the clear descriptions and stimulating interpretations of *The Anthem Companion to Hannah Arendt* bring Arendt's work into the forefront of sociological discussion.

The Tattoo Project: Commemorative Tattoos, Visual Culture, and the Digital Archive

Edited by Deborah Davidson



The Tattoo Project is composed of original writings from a multi-disciplinary group of academics stemming from various areas including sociology, cultural anthropology, communication and culture, and computer science, as well as professionals, practitioners, and community members. This methods-based collection examines the process of building a community-contributed digital archive of commemorative tattoos. It also discusses the social meanings and implications of commemorative tattoos, disrupting commonly held notions about who gets tattooed and why.

The archival project reveals intersections between the public and the private, providing a valuable resource for the collection and sharing of commemorative tattoos and the stories that are embedded within them. This text, which demonstrates public sociology and the democratization of knowledge, considers both the production and mobilization of knowledge across communities, disciplines, and space, bridging the gap between academic and popular audiences. It also includes captioned tattoo photography in a 12-page full-colour glossy insert and original poetry by Canadian writer Priscila Uppal.

Wash, Wear, and Care: Clothing and Laundry in Long-Term Residential Care

Pat Armstrong and Suzanne Day



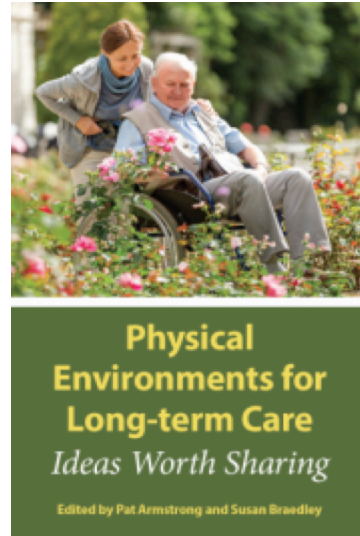
Clothing and appearance are steeped in social and personal significance, conveying individuals' gender, class, culture, and occupation. In the communal setting of long-term residential care, where residents' autonomy and mobility are often limited but their dignity and identity are paramount, clothes have become crucial issues and the source of tension for residents, their families, and staff.

Assessing the neglected but important labour involved in ensuring that clothes promote respect for both the washers and the wearers, *Wash, Wear, and Care* analyzes the roles that laundry and clothing play in nursing homes, and raises questions about the wider social, political, economic, and historical contexts of these facilities. Drawing on interviews and observations from twenty-seven long-term residential care homes across Canada, Germany, Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States, Pat Armstrong and Suzanne Day provide an extensive and vital base of information on the daily organization, tasks, meanings, and concerns associated with clothing, laundry, dressing, and appearance in care facilities.

An original study of an overlooked subject, *Wash, Wear, and Care* illuminates the shifting political and economic dynamics at work in long-term residential care homes and the health care system, raising larger theoretical and policy questions in the process.

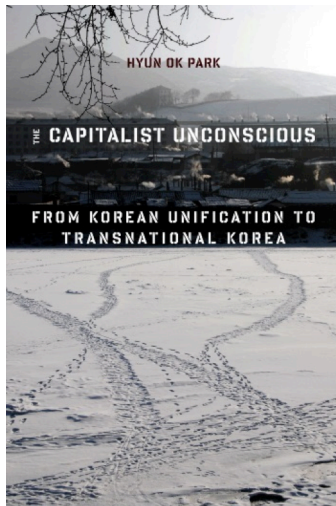
Physical Environments for Long-Term Care

Edited by Pat Armstrong and Susan Braedley



This book provides concrete examples of promising practices for physical environments in long-term residential care: everything from the location of a nursing home and the structure of gardens to the floor coverings, chair arms, and spaces for memorials. Physical environments are about more than setting the conditions for living and care provision. They also shape and reflect how care and life in nursing homes are understood. They construct limits and possibilities for residents, staff, families and volunteers. Our hope is that readers will use the information in this book to contribute to these environments.

AWARDS & HONOURS



Hyun Ok Park's *The Capitalist Unconscious: From Korean Unification to Transnational Korea* (Columbia University Press 2015, pp. 370) received Honorable Mention in this year's James B. Palais Book Prize competition in the Association for Asian Studies in North America.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

One-Minute Videos

Some of you might recall the one-minute video project featuring sociology faculty and research. Due to some technical issues, those videos will not work for the department's purposes. However, a new plan is in place to reshoot these faculty videos in a consistent and professional manner. You should receive a Call for Participation in the coming months. For more information, contact Deborah Davidson (debd@yorku.ca).

Five-Minute Research Update Schedule

March: Barbara Hanson

April: Marcello Musto

May: Aryn Martin

REFERENCES AND CREDITS

York University Logo: <http://cpa.info.yorku.ca/marketing/>

Pat Armstrong's research update: <http://reltc.apps01.yorku.ca>

Cover and Description of *The Tattoo Project*: With permission of the author

Cover and Description of *The Anthem Companion to Hannah Arendt*: With permission of the authors

Cover and Description of *The Capitalist Unconscious*: With permission of the author

Cover and Description of *Wash, Wear, and Care*: With permission of the authors

Cover and Description of *Physical Environments for Long-Term Care*: With permission of the authors

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