

# ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIOLOGY NEWS

Newsletter of the American Sociological Association's  
Section on Environmental Sociology

January 2020

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John Zinda [jaz65@cornell.edu](mailto:jaz65@cornell.edu)  
**Chair of Fred Buttel Distinguished Contribution Award Committee:**  
Tammy Lewis [TLewis@brooklyn.cuny.edu](mailto:TLewis@brooklyn.cuny.edu)  
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**Chair of Robert Boguslaw Award for Technology and Humanism:**  
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## SECTION CHAIR'S MESSAGE

I hope this newsletter finds you all staying warm and doing well. Amidst the news of continuing violence and destruction around the world, I keep part of my attention on the inspirational, crucial movements through which people collectively organize – often at much risk to themselves – to fight against oppression and demand justice.

Additionally, I have found solace in preparing my syllabus for the coming semester and anticipating several more months of meaningful conversations and learning with my students. This semester, I get to teach a graduate seminar called



Foundations of Environmental Justice, the pillar course for the Graduate Certificate in Environmental Justice here at the University of Colorado Boulder. **In designing my syllabus, I have been engaging**

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## Chair's Message (cont'd)

**in a practice that helps redress historical patterns of exclusion within the academy: showcasing the work of scholars of color, Native American scholars, those from the Global South, and those from other historically marginalized groups.** As I continue to learn how to help support movements for justice, I have committed to be doing this more and more each semester. Please consider how you can do so as well.

**To help foster this practice and to diversify how the Section publicly represents the “canon” of environmental sociology, several Section members have been working to cultivate lists of recommended scholarship** that addresses the following topics in relation to the environment: gender and sexuality; indigeneity and traditional/Indigenous ecological knowledge; experiences/communities of illness; disability; intersectionality; race and ethnicity; emotions; and other critical and underrepresented bodies of literature. Publications Committee Chair Josh Sbicca is leading this effort, with help from Ike Leslie, Michael Haedicke, Ethan Schoolman, Emily Kennedy, and Nathan Lindstedt. Thanks so much to all of them for this work! We will let you know when they have posted these lists on the section website.

**Additionally, I worked with Section Council this past year to carefully deliberate and craft several modest but important proposed changes to our Section bylaws (detailed below).** We did so through many conversations, quite a few email exchanges, all-Council conference calls in May and October, our in-person Council meeting in August, correspondence with ASA administrators, and an anonymous Council vote on final language in October. Per ASA policy, we submitted our proposed bylaws changes to ASA administration for review in November. If approved by ASA, the proposed bylaws changes will appear on the ASA ballot in April 2020 for all Section members to vote on. Below, I will describe each of these proposed changes. They are intended as steps toward fostering a more inclusive, meaningful, and positive space for all. They also adjust dated language in our bylaws and awards and bring them in line with ASA rules. You'll see these items on the ballot next year – PLEASE be sure to vote, and

please discuss them with me, any other council members, and each other.

1. First, council voted to propose that we add in our bylaws the following statement to the description of duties of each Section Officer and other Members of Council, which charges all of those positions with the responsibility to help create a more inclusive and diverse section: “As with all other Council members, this individual will participate actively in efforts to create a meaningful, positive, and inclusive space for participation of all members and to help diversify Section membership. This includes, but is not limited to, reading the most recent Racial Exclusion and Equity report; actively reflecting on their routine responsibilities and those of other Council members; suggesting changes to position responsibilities to implement positive practices; and contributing or soliciting 1-3 newsletter articles, email postings, or tweets per year that diversify our collective space. Additionally, each Council member's annual report, due July 1, will include a section on 'Racial Exclusion and Equity' that summarizes their work over the year toward these ends.”
2. Second, council voted to propose adding to our bylaws a new standing committee called the Committee on Racial Exclusion and Equity (CREE). This committee will formalize what has been the Section's ad hoc Committee on Racial Equity. As a reminder, the ad hoc Committee on Racial Equity was founded in 2016, partially in response to numerous section members' concerns about insufficient attention to racial exclusion and racial inequity within the section. Members included Elisabeth Wilder, Lauren Richter, Michael Mascarenhas, Jennifer Carrera, and Raoul Liévanos. The committee investigated racial and ethnic diversity within the section, assessing the professional climate for scholars of color, recommending changes in section policies and practices, organizing a mini-conference on race and the environment, editing a special issue of *Environmental Sociology* to showcase scholarship from that conference, and engaging environmental sociologists in laying the foundation for a more inclusive scholarly community. In 2018, Section

Council expressed support for integrating the committee's recommendations into all aspects of section practice; in fall 2019, council developed the new bylaw (first proposal above) that will enact this. Additionally, in 2018 and 2019 council meetings, Section Council expressed support for formalizing the committee from ad hoc to permanent status within the Section. To craft the bylaws language specifying the committee's role and responsibilities, I worked with our Past-Chair Kari Norgaard, Secretary Hannah Holleman, and ad hoc Committee on Racial Equity members Jennifer Carrera, Raoul Liévanos, Lauren Richter, and Elisabeth Wilder. In October 2019, Council voted to propose new bylaws language that formally establishes a new standing committee called the Committee on Racial Exclusion and Equity (CREE) and specifies the committee's roles, responsibilities, and processes for appointment and succession of committee leadership and membership.

3. Third, council voted to propose that we amend Section bylaws to remove gendered language (replacing "he/she" with "they" in the bylaws).
4. Fourth, council voted to propose that we amend section bylaws language pertaining to many of our section awards. Three of these changes are substantive changes designed to reduce unintended institutional exclusion. First, our bylaws currently state that, to be eligible for our publications awards, the applicant must be a member of ASA and our section at the time that they apply for the award. This innocuous-seeming requirement effectively requires that one must pay their membership dues in order to apply for the award. Although certainly we want to encourage folks to renew their memberships, this requirement precludes scholars who lack those funds from applying from our section awards. Our proposed bylaws revision thus specifies that the *winner* of each award must be a section member at the time that they *receive* the award (which is required by ASA). The second substantive change to awards bylaws language pertains to the Section's Teaching and Mentoring Award and is designed to make the application process more accessible and less arduous for applicants. Namely, the proposed bylaws specify that applicants first only need to submit a brief

nomination letter and that the awards committee will then request a complete nomination packet from a narrower selection of potential winners and/or their nominators. The third substantive change to our awards bylaws language pertains to the Section's Practice and Outreach Award. Namely, we propose changing the bylaws so that the award "honors faculty members/scholar-activists who demonstrate outstanding practice and outreach contributions that advance equity in the context of socio-environmental relations." The other proposed changes to awards bylaws language are simple bureaucratic adjustments that clarify unclear language, make language consistent across awards, and bring our awards names and bylaws language into line with ASA policies (e.g., ensuring that each award name includes our section name). If changes to the award section in our bylaws are approved by section membership, calls for nominations will be updated in accordance with the new language.

Many sincere thanks to Section Council for their time and thoughtfulness in helping to craft these proposed bylaws changes. These are small but important steps, and each took considerable time and work. The next step is for Section members to vote on each of the proposed bylaws changes. **Therefore, please be sure to vote on them, and on the open Council positions, in the upcoming ASA election.** Personally, I feel that all of these bylaws changes are important ways in which we can help strengthen our section, so I encourage you to vote in favor of them.

Note: Council and other Section members have informally proposed many additional ways in which our Section could more effectively address racial exclusion and sexual harassment and otherwise become a more inclusive and diverse space. This includes, as some of you will recall, a concern raised about the fact that the individuals honored in the names of our section awards are all white men and that this may unwittingly perpetuate a narrow and alienating message about "who we are" as a section and discipline. This proposal, like many others we received, deserves more discussion and consideration before we can decide whether and how to act on it, and you will hear more

about many such proposals in the coming years as we deliberate them as Council and in conversation with you. Please feel free to reach out to me with questions or suggestions.

As a reminder, please visit the following page of our website, where the documents relating to the ad hoc Committee on Racial Equity's work are now available for all to read: <http://envirosoc.org/committee-on-racial-equity/>

An additional mechanism for supporting scholars of color is the ASA Minority Fellowship Program. This program supports the development and training of doctoral students of color in sociology programs with any area of sociology. Please consider donating to this important program – you can do so here:

<https://www.asanet.org/donate>. Graduate students interested in applying for this program (the deadline is January 31!) can find information here:

<https://www.asanet.org/careers/grants-and-fellowships/minority-fellowship-program>

**Annual section award calls for nominations have been announced.** Please see those announcements below (from page 7). All nominations are welcome. Please take a few minutes to think about nominating someone whose scholarship, teaching, or service challenge and deepen environmental sociology, particularly those whose backgrounds and life experiences enable them to bring perspectives and insights that have historically been marginalized within our field. Notably, please take the time to nominate women and scholars of color for our section awards – these are important moments in which we can support scholars doing valuable work – and a more inclusive field than has been honored historically.

Finally, please be sure to renew your membership to ASA and the Environmental Sociology Section, and encourage and help your students do so as well.

Sincerely,

Jill Lindsey Harrison

Chair, Environmental Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association

Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Colorado Boulder

## FEATURE ARTICLES

### Remembering Denton Morrison

Riley E. Dunlap, Oklahoma State University

Denton E. Morrison made major contributions to the establishment of our Section, and the field of Environmental Sociology more generally. He did so via scholarly work, quiet leadership, strong collegiality, and a ready willingness to share ideas—all of which made him a key figure in the 1970s and 1980s. I had the good fortune of meeting Denton while still in graduate school, and would like to highlight his scholarly contributions and accomplishments, as well as give a good sense of how he contributed in many other ways to the birth and institutionalization of our field and to the advancement of others' careers. To illustrate the latter, I will discuss my own experiences with his wise and generous mentoring.

Born in South Dakota, Denton received his B.S. (1954) and M.S. (1958) degrees in Rural Sociology from South Dakota State University, with active duty in the S.D. Air National Guard in between them. He moved to Wisconsin where he received a PhD in Rural Sociology in 1962, and then spent two years as Assistant Professor of Sociology at UC, Berkeley. In 1964 he joined Michigan State University's Department of Sociology, with a research appointment in MSU's Agricultural Experiment Station, where he remained until his early retirement in 1990 (more on this below).

Reflecting his academic training in Rural Sociology, Denton's earliest research (and his dissertation) was on farmers (Morrison 1964), and then a farmers' social movement (Morrison and Steeves 1967). The latter focus evolved into a general interest in social movements and collective action (Morrison 1971), which he turned to the environmental movement when Earth Day brought environmentalism to the fore. Denton quickly published some extremely insightful analyses of environmentalism that highlighted the equity issues and social conflicts associated with it (Morrison et al. 1972; Morrison 1973), a broad focus that contributed to the small body of emerging literature on societal-environmental interactions that helped define our new field (Morrison 1976).



Denton's interest in environmentalism continued into the 1980s (Morrison, 1986; Morrison and Dunlap 1986), but often took a new twist stimulated by the prominence of energy issues and the emergence of alternative energy sources and appropriate technology more generally (Morrison 1980; 1983). He was particularly interested in the conceptualization of Hard Path/Soft Path (HP/SP) energy systems introduced by Amory and Hunter Lovins, and with his student Dora Lodwick wrote a detailed analysis of their ideas that emphasized the need for social science research to test the presumed social impacts of transitioning to a soft energy path (Morrison and Lodwick 1981). It remains a definitive analysis of the Lovins' ideas and their implications, and those now examining the need for transition to a low-carbon energy future could find it useful.

Denton made many other contributions, often in the form of stimulating conference papers (a couple cited by Ken Gould on our listserv) that didn't always wind up in print, and via comprehensive bibliographies. Indeed, Denton was a champion bibliographer, nearly always compiling one on whatever topic he was currently studying. Probably the two most notable were *Environment: A Bibliography of Social Science and Related Literature*, a 860 page behemoth published by the EPA (Morrison et al. 1973), and *Energy: A Bibliography of Social Science and Related Literature* (Morrison 1975), published in book form by Garland Publishing, but there were several more. I think he would have published more articles had he not devoted so much time to compiling these extremely valuable reference sources for the scholarly community.

Denton's contributions to our field and Section went far beyond his publications and papers. Unlike many rural sociologists who were content working within the Rural Sociological Society's Natural Resources Research Group (organized in the mid-1960s), Denton eagerly embraced opportunities to foster interest in environmental issues within the wider discipline. When an Environmental Problems Division was launched in the Society for the Study of Social Problems in 1973, Denton played an active role, and then in 1975 he was one of the signatories to the petition to ASA Council requesting that our Section be established.

He was very active in the early years of the Section, attending Business Meetings as well as often giving papers, and participating in many lunches, dinners, and social hours with fellow members—offering valuable feedback on ideas, papers, and presentations. As probably common for new Sections, there was a fair amount of turnover among members, especially as newer interests like energy, resource scarcity, and environmental justice came to the fore and others like housing and the built environment seemed to fade. But Denton was a constant presence and his warm and generous personality was invaluable, contributing to what Fred Buttel later (1987:466) described as “a vibrant *esprit de corps*” within the Section.

Although not that far into his faculty career, Denton was nonetheless one of the more established, senior scholars in our new field, and often served as a mentor for junior faculty—while treating us as equals due to his obliviousness to status differences. More generally, having senior faculty from reputable PhD programs like Denton around was crucial for those of us who knew we would soon need to recommend such scholars as potential reviewers when we went up for tenure/promotion—especially in departments where many faculty were suspicious of the legitimacy of sociological attention to the physical environment. Denton did in fact provide a T/P review (and later one for promotion to full) for me, and I'm sure he did the same for several others in the Section.

His visibility in the field made Michigan State University an early center of environmental sociology, especially when he was joined at various points by Fred Buttel, Craig Harris, and Marvin Olsen. Having an environmental sociology “program” at schools like MSU was important for the academic legitimation of our new field, and of course Denton planted the seed for MSU's current stellar program. Along with his wife Bonnie, a professor of Human Ecology at MSU who did pioneering research in household energy consumption (often in collaboration with sociologists) throughout her career, Denton also helped make MSU an important center for social science research on energy, as Tom Dietz noted on our listserv.

Denton played a crucial role in my early career, thanks to an encounter near the completion of my graduate

work at the University of Oregon. He came to Eugene in 1971 to meet with my advisor Richard Gale to discuss research on environmentalism, and I was invited to join them. After discovering we were both avid collectors of literature on environmentalism Denton and I spent the afternoon in my home office going through my collection, with him sharing key references with me. He explained that he was traveling around the country meeting with several social scientists doing research on environmentalism (including Allan Schnaiberg at Northwestern) that was funded by MSU's Agricultural Experiment Station to help use a budget surplus before the end of the fiscal year, and told me to consider rural sociology departments when I went on the job market because they would be supportive of environmental research. I made a mental note despite having no idea of what rural sociology was, and when I was offered a position in Washington State University's Department of Sociology just months later asked about the possibility of a joint appointment in WSU's Department of Rural Sociology. Thanks to a subsequent resignation, I was given a research appointment in Rural Sociology before I moved to Pullman, providing a teaching reduction and financial support for some early research projects. This proved to be extremely helpful, and I'm forever indebted to Denton for his sage advice.

With this background I found it natural to hang out with Denton at RSS, SSSP, and ASA meetings, and he became an influential if informal mentor and close colleague. Denton was especially helpful in making me feel comfortable in the RSS, and he provided an important bridge between the Natural Resources Research Group and our new Section and SSSP's Environmental Division—one that I and a bit later folks like Fred Buttel and Bill Freudenburg greatly valued.

All of this made me, along with many others, sad to see Denton retire at the early age of 58, which I suspect was stimulated by a 1980 car accident that almost cost him his life. While Denton was eventually able to resume his faculty duties, and returned to ASA meetings after a year or two's absence, he was less productive. When Denton retired, he really "retired,"

first running an antique shop in East Lansing for a decade and then moving to Florida where he and Bonnie (who passed away last March) spent a long and highly enjoyable retirement.

Fortunately, despite his truncated career, Denton received several awards in recognition of his research and scholarship:<sup>1</sup> "Distinguished Rural Sociologist" award from RSS; "Award of Merit" from the Natural Resources Research Group of RSS; and "Distinguished Contribution Award" from our ASA Section. He was awarded a 1978-79 Fellowship at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington D.C., and was elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He also served on a subcommittee of the National Research Council Committee on Nuclear and Alternative Energy Systems, and on a National Research Council Panel on the Social and Economic Aspects of Radioactive Waste Management.

Denton took pride in the development of our field, and on a number of occasions proudly proclaimed himself to be "one of the founders of the field of Environmental Sociology." As I hope I have demonstrated, he definitely was.

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<sup>1</sup> Thanks to Craig Harris and Tom Dietz for sharing this information.

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## CALLS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Section Awards Nomination:

#### **Allan Schnaiberg Outstanding Publication Award**

Nominations are invited for the Allan Schnaiberg Outstanding Publication Award. The Allan Schnaiberg Outstanding Publication Award is given for publications of special noteworthiness in the field of environmental sociology. It is given in alternate years for either (a) a book in even years or (b) a single article in odd years. This year the committee will consider books published within the period, January 1, 2016, through December 31, 2019. All members of the ASA and the Section on Environmental Sociology are encouraged to submit nominations; self-nominations are welcome. To nominate a book, please send three copies of the book along with a nomination letter by **March 1, 2020** to Jack Zinda at [jaz65@cornell.edu](mailto:jaz65@cornell.edu).

#### Award Committee:

- Randolph Haluza-Delay, Kings University
- Steven Andrew Mejia, University of California, Irvine
- Mike Mendez, University of California, Irvine
- Angela Mertig, Middle Tennessee State University
- Yao Li, Harvard University

#### **The Fred Buttel Distinguished Contribution Award**

Nominations are invited for the Fred Buttel Distinguished Contribution Award. The Chair of the Committee for this award writes that "Our awards are an opportunity to let our colleagues know how much we value the work they do."

The Fred Buttel Distinguished Contribution Award is to recognize individuals for outstanding service, innovation, or publication in environmental sociology or sociology of technology. It is intended to be an expression of appreciation, to be awarded when an individual is deemed extraordinarily meritorious by the Section. All members of the Section are invited to submit nominations for the award, together with supporting documentation. Nominations for this award must be received by **March 1, 2020**. To nominate an individual for this award, please send a letter of nomination describing the nominee's contribution to environmental sociology and/or the sociology of

technology, accompanied by a copy of the nominee's CV, to the chair of the award committee, Kari Norgaard at [norgaard@uoregon.edu](mailto:norgaard@uoregon.edu).

### **Marvin E. Olsen Student Paper Award**

Nominations are invited for the Marvin E. Olsen Student Paper Award. The Marvin E. Olsen Student Paper Award recognizes outstanding papers presented by graduate students at the annual American Sociological Association meetings. In addition to recognition, recipients will receive a modest monetary award to help defray expenses associated with attending the ASA meetings. Nominees are limited to graduate student-authored papers accepted for presentation at the 2020 annual meeting in San Francisco. The paper can be presented at any session or roundtable at ASA. Papers with one or multiple graduate student authors are eligible. All members of the ASA and the Section are invited to submit nominations. To nominate a paper, please send a PDF copy of the paper along with a nomination letter and confirmation that it has been accepted for annual meeting presentation by **March 15, 2020** to Jack Zinda at [jaz65@cornell.edu](mailto:jaz65@cornell.edu).

Award Committee:

- Peyman Hekmatpour, University of Oklahoma
- Norah Mackendrick, Rutgers University
- Shawn Olson Hazboun, The Evergreen State College
- Katrina Running, Idaho State University
- Kevin Smiley, University at Buffalo

### **The Environmental Sociology Teaching and Mentorship Award**

Nominations are invited for the Environmental Sociology Teaching and Mentorship Award. The Teaching and Mentorship Award honors faculty members who advance especially innovative pedagogical approaches in the teaching of environmental sociology, dedicated service to the teaching of environmental sociology, and/or exceptional mentorship of students at the undergraduate and/or graduate level who are involved in environmental sociology studies. Section members are encouraged to nominate colleagues, and all members are encouraged to self-nominate.

To simplify the process, basic nomination packets should be scanned into a single PDF and submitted by email to Erica Morrell at [erica.c.morrell@gmail.com](mailto:erica.c.morrell@gmail.com) by

**March 1, 2020.** Nomination packets should include: (1) Letter of Nomination, not to exceed 2 pages, (2) personal statement on teaching and mentorship philosophy, not to exceed 3 pages, (3) CV with the relevant components highlighted, such as teaching/mentoring awards and activities, publications or presentations co-authored with students (underline the names of student co-authors and indicate whether undergraduate, master's, or doctoral student). Nominations will be vetted by March 15, 2020, and a selection of candidates will be asked to submit additional materials by April 15, 2020, including: (1) a maximum of 5 letters of student support (any mix of present or past students), (2) a maximum of 2 additional letters of support from colleagues who are not former students, (3) a maximum of 3 syllabi or other relevant material from the past 5 years, and (4) excerpts or summaries of teaching evaluations as desired.

### **CONVERGE Disaster Mental Health Training**

The Natural Hazards Center at the University of Colorado Boulder is so pleased to share the newly released CONVERGE *Disaster Mental Health Training Module*. You can access the free online module here: <https://converge-training.colorado.edu/courses/disaster-mental-health-training/>.

This is part of a larger series of online modules designed to accelerate the training of a diverse hazards and disaster workforce. These interactive, 30- to 60-minute courses cover a variety of topics that researchers and practitioners can use to quickly acquaint themselves to research relevant to the study of extreme events. Upon successful completion of a 10 question quiz, users receive a certificate (so these can be useful for classroom assignments as well as other activities). For more information on the CONVERGE modules, see <https://converge.colorado.edu/training-modules>.

For more information on the module, please see the following news announcement: <https://hazards.colorado.edu/news/center-news/second-converge-training-module-now-live-disaster-mental-health>. To receive updates and information on new training modules and other resources, please subscribe here: <https://converge.colorado.edu/signup>.



Acknowledgements: The CONVERGE Training Modules are based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF Award #1841338) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the NSF or CDC.

### **NXTerra Digital Platform**

UC-Barbara announces the launch of the UC-CSU NXTerra, a resource for college teachers from across all disciplines and anyone seeking to enhance their teaching and learning about the climate crisis, critical sustainability, and climate justice studies, both inside and outside the classroom.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Books**

#### **From the Inside Out: The Fight for Environmental Justice within Government Agencies**

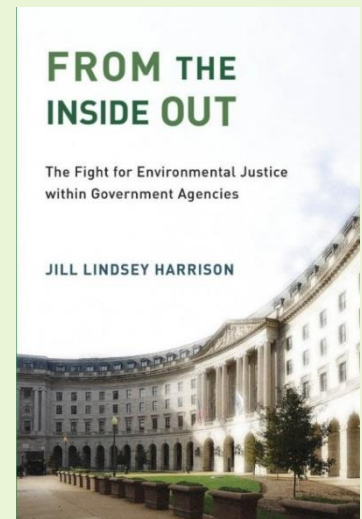
Jill Lindsey Harrison  
(MIT Press, 2019)

<https://mitpress.mit.edu/books/inside-out>

Many state and federal environmental agencies have put in place programs, policies, and practices to redress environmental injustices, and yet these efforts fall short of meeting the principles that environmental justice activists have fought for. In *From the Inside Out*, Jill Lindsey Harrison offers an account of the bureaucratic culture that hinders regulatory agencies' attempts to reduce environmental injustices.

It is now widely accepted that America's poorest communities, communities of color, and Native American communities suffer disproportionate harm from environmental hazards, with higher exposure to pollution and higher incidence of lead poisoning, cancer, asthma, and other diseases linked to environmental ills. And yet, Harrison reports, some regulatory staff view these problems as beyond their agencies' area of concern, requiring too many resources, or see neutrality as demanding "color-blind" administration. Drawing on more than 160 interviews

(with interviewees including 89 current or former agency staff members and more than 50 environmental justice activists and others who interact with regulatory agencies) and more than 50 hours of participant observation of agency meetings (both open- and closed-door), Harrison offers a unique account of how bureaucrats resist, undermine, and disparage environmental justice reform—and how environmental justice reformers within the agencies fight back by trying to change regulatory practice and culture from the inside out. Harrison argues that equity, not just aggregated overall improvement, should be a metric for evaluating environmental regulation.



**Jill Lindsey Harrison** is Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Colorado Boulder and the author of *Pesticide Drift and the Pursuit of Environmental Justice* (MIT Press).

#### **American Resistance: from the Women's March to the Blue Wave.**

Dana R. Fisher  
(Columbia University Press, 2019)  
<http://cup.columbia.edu/book/american-resistance/9780231187640>

Since Donald Trump's first day in office, a large and energetic grassroots "Resistance" has taken to the streets to protest his administration's plans for the United States. Millions marched in pussy hats on the day after the inauguration; outraged citizens flocked to airports to declare that America must be open to immigrants; masses of demonstrators circled the White House to demand action on climate change; and that was only the beginning. Who are the millions of people marching against the Trump administration, how are they connected to the Blue Wave that washed over the

U.S. Congress in 2018—and what does it all mean for the future of American democracy?

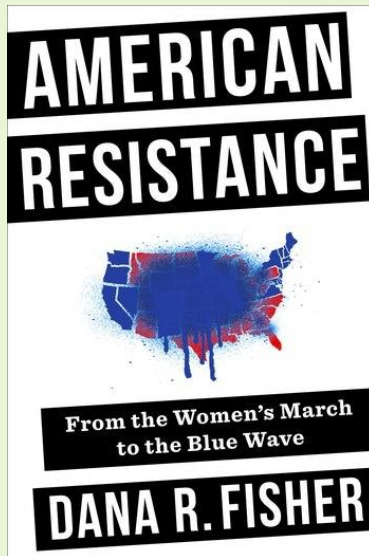
*American Resistance* traces activists from the streets back to the communities and congressional districts around the country where they live, work, and vote. Using innovative survey data and interviews with key players, Dana R. Fisher analyzes how Resistance groups have channeled outrage into activism, using distributed organizing to make activism possible by anyone from anywhere, whenever and wherever it is needed most. Beginning with the first Women's March and following the movement through the 2018 midterms, Fisher demonstrates how the energy and enthusiasm of the Resistance paid off in a wave of Democratic victories.

She reveals how the Left rebounded from the devastating 2016 election, the lessons for turning grassroots passion into electoral gains, and what comes next. *American Resistance* explains the organizing that is revitalizing democracy to counter Trump's presidency.

**Dana R. Fisher** is Professor of Sociology at the University of Maryland, College Park. Her books include *Activism, Inc.: How the Outsourcing of Grassroots Campaigns Is Strangling Progressive Politics in America* (2006).

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## TRANSITION

### Career:

**John M. Shandra** has been promoted to the rank of Full Professor in the Department of Sociology at the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

### Eternity:

**Denton "Spud" Morrison**, Emeritus Professor of Sociology at Michigan State University passed away early this year. The late Dr. Morrison was Professor of Sociology at Michigan State University from 1964-1990, and also served at the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station. A feature article remembering Dr. Morrison, including his contributions and role in establishing our section, is featured in this newsletter (page 4). It is authored by Dr. Riley Dunlap, a longstanding member of the section.