

THE DISABILITY NEWSLETTER

Vol. 1, No. 1.

The disability subsection of the Medical Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association is beginning a newsletter for those interested in disability. The purpose of the newsletter is to create a network for people in this field and to provide information which will further both research and communication. In order to insure the success of this newsletter we are encouraging everyone to send information about on-going research, meetings, funding opportunities, recent publications of interest, and other topics to the chair of the newsletter committee: Dr. Margaret A. Zahn, Dept. of Sociology, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA 19122. We hope the following information will be helpful and we will look forward to receiving your contributions for future editions of the newsletter.

Following is a list of ongoing research and activities in various areas of physical disability which have been sent to us by some of our colleagues.

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RESEARCH AND ACTIVITIES IN PROGRESS

Natalie Allon is doing research on people's attitudes, feelings and behaviors in living with multiple sclerosis on a day-to-day basis. Her data consist of in-depth interviews of people with MS and participant observation of MS rap session groups. She is interested in information about managing MS or other disabilities on a long-term basis. Contact her at: Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science, Philadelphia, PA 19144.

Emily B. Bonwich is conducting research as part of a model regional spinal cord injury center. She is looking at the impact of community environments on the patients' perceptions of rehabilitation success, and at preventable rehospitalizations among spinal cord injured patients. She looks forward to learning about other sociologists in rehabilitation. Contact her at: University of Missouri Medical Center, "Show-Me" Regional Model Spinal Cord Injury System, Howard A. Rusk Rehabilitation Center, University of Missouri-Columbia, Columbia, Missouri 65212.

A.J. Gebert is analyzing decision-making of different disability evaluation boards. Denied and accepted applicants are being compared and attention is being given to the rehabilitation setting and to special "problem-groups." He would like information about any studies related to disability/rehabilitation during the last two years. Contact: Dr. A.J. Gebert - PUPK/SPK, Inselspital al. CH-3010 Berne, Switzerland.

Corinne Kirchner reports that a bi-monthly series of Research Practice Seminars, open to the public, is held at the American Foundation for the Blind during the academic year. Each seminar features a recently-completed research project, with discussants to draw out implications for policy makers and practitioners in the fields of rehabilitation, social services, and research. Interested persons will be added to the mailing list on request.

A "Statistical Indexing System" on Visual Impairment and Blindness has been initiated with topical keywords leading to statistics on sociodemographic aspects of visual impairment in the U.S.

"Statistical Briefs" as a bi-monthly series has been initiated in the Journal of Visual Impairment and Blindness, covering topics as prevalence, employment, and education.

Ongoing research projects include: careers in science among visually impaired and blind persons; delivery of low vision services; education, employment and social service needs; and evaluation of demonstration projects and in-service training workshops. Contact: Corinne Kirchner, Director, Social and Behavioral Analysis. American Foundation for the Blind, Inc. 15 West 16th Street, New York, New York 10011.

Joseph Schneider and Peter Conrad are doing research on people's experiences with epilepsy, how people deal with epilepsy in their daily lives and in interactions with families, friends, professionals and various social institutions. The data consist of in-depth interviews with over 80 people with epilepsy. These researchers are interested in learning about other work on epilepsy or similar kinds of studies of other disabilities. Contact: Joseph W. Schneider, Dept. Sociology, Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa 50311, or Peter Conrad, Dept. Sociology, Brandeis University, Waltham, Massachusetts 02154.

A special journal is being planned. The Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare invites contributions for a special issue on "The Physically Disabled Woman." Submission deadline is September, 1980. Articles of special interest would include such topics as employment, rehabilitation, sexuality, social interaction, cross-cultural perspectives, dependency, attitudes of self and others, and the feminist or advocacy movements. Articles must be of interest to sociologists and have policy implications for services or social action. Send manuscripts to either co-editor: Nancy Brooks, Department of Sociology, Wichita State University, Wichita, Kansas 67208 or Mary Jo Deegan, Department of Sociology, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE 68688.

On August 7-9, 1980, there is an International Disabled Expo; Chicago, IL. Paralyzed Veterans of America. Contact: Dennis M. Quirk, IDE, 330 South Wells Street, Chicago, IL 60606.

FUNDING, GRANTS, AWARDS

1. Handicapped Funding Directory 1978-79 Edition, by Burton Eckstein. Publisher: Research Grant Guides, P.O. Box 357, Oceanside, New York 11572.
2. Division of Problem-Focused Research Applications of the National Science Foundation initiated a multidisciplinary research program for Science and Technology to Aid the Physically Handicapped. Contact: Science and Technology to Aid the Physically Handicapped Program, Division of Problem Focused Research Applications, National Science Foundation, Washington, D.C. 20550. Telephone number: (202) 632-5726 or (202) 632-7397.
3. National Institute of Handicapped Research, Washington, D.C. 20201.
4. National Institute of Education, 1200 19th Street NW, Washington, D.C.
5. The American Foundation for the Blind sponsors an annual "Thesis Incentive Award" for doctoral research in the area of social aspects of visual impairment and blindness. Contact Corinne Kirchner, Director of Social Research, American Foundation for the Blind, Inc., 15 West 16th Street, New York, NY 10011. Telephone number: (212) 620-2000.

SOME RECENT BOOKS, JOURNALS, REPORTS AND BIBLIOGRAPHIES ON THE SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY OF DISABILITY

1. Albrecht, Gary L., ed. The Sociology of Physical Disability and Rehabilitation Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 1976.
2. Bowe, Frank. Handicapping America: Barriers to Disabled People. New York: Harper & Row Publishers, 1978.
3. Bowe, Frank. Rehabilitating America: Toward Independence for Disabled and Elderly People. New York: Harper & Row Publishers, 1980.
4. Bruck, Lilly. Access: The Guide to a Better Life for Disabled Americans. New York: Random House, David Obst Books, 1978.

5. Fox, Renee C. and Judith P. Swazey. *The Courage to Fail: A Social View of Organ Transplants and Dialysis*. Second Edition, Revised. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1978.
6. Gliedman, John and Willian Roth. *The Unexpected Minority: Handicapped Children in America*. New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1980.
7. Goldenson, Robert, ed. *Disability and Rehabilitation Handbook*. New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1978.
8. Hale, Gloria, ed. *The Sourcebook for the Disabled*. New York: Paddington Press, 1979.
9. Marinelli, Robert P. and Arthur E. Dell Orto, eds. *The Psychological and Social Impact of Physical Disability*. New York: Springer Publishing Company, 1977.
10. Moos, Rudolf H., ed. *Coping with Physical Illness*. New York: Plenum Medical Book Company, 1977.
11. Phillips, William R.F. and Janet Rosenberg, eds.:
 - a) *Social Scientists and the Physically Handicapped*, Arno Press, New York, 1980.
 - b) *Changing Patterns of Law: The Courts and the Handicapped*, Arno Press, New York, 1980.
 - c) *The Origins of Modern Treatment and Education of Physically Handicapped Children*, Arno Press, New York, 1980.
12. Robinault, Isabel P. *Sex, Society, and the Disabled: A Developmental Inquiry into Roles, Reactions, and Responsibilities*. Hagerstown, Maryland: Harper & Row, Publishers, 1978.
13. Roessler, Richard and Brian Bolton. *Psychosocial Adjustment to Disability*. Baltimore: University Park Press, 1978.
14. Shontz, Franklin C. *The Psychological Aspects of Physical Illness and Disability*. New York: Macmillan Publishing Co., Inc., 1975.
15. Strauss, Anselm L. and Barney G. Glaser. *Chronic Illness and the Quality of Life*. Saint Louis: The C.V. Mosby Company, 1975.
16. Stubbins, Joseph, ed. *Social and Psychological Aspects of Disability*. Baltimore: University Park Press, 1977.
17. *Sexuality and Disability: A journal devoted to the study of sex in physical and mental illness*. Human Sciences Press. 72 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York, 10011. (212) 243-6000.
18. *Informer*, especially Vol. 9, No. 1, April 1980 edition. Published by the National Institute of Handicapped Research. Washington, D.C. 20201.
19. *Handicapped Americans Reports*. Newsletter published bi-weekly. 2626 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037; (202) 333-5444.
20. *A Guide to Organizations, Agencies and Federal Programs for Handicapped Americans*. (With a one-year subscription to *Handicapped Americans Reports*). Editor: Janet M. Walker. Plus Publications, Inc. 2626 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037. (202) 333-5444.

21. "Sheltered Workshop Study Volume II," Sheltered Workshop Study, Department of Labor, Room C 3309, 200 Constitution Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210.
22. Schroedel, John G., ed. Attitudes Toward Persons with Disabilities: A Compendium of Related Literature. Project PREP. Albertson, Long Island, New York: Human Resources Center, 1978.
23. Litman, Theodor. "The Sociology of Medicine and Health Care: A Research Bibliography." U. of Minnesota, 1260 Mayo Memorial Building. Minneapolis, Minn. 55455.
24. For various publications, contact: Regional Rehabilitation Research Institute on Attitudinal, Legal, and Leisure Barriers. George Washington University, 1828 L. Street N.W., Suite 704, Washington, D.C. 20036. Phone: (202) 676-6377.
25. For various publications and research reports, contact: Virginia W. Stern, Senior Program Associate Project on the Handicapped in Science. American Association for the Advancement of Science, 1776 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. Phone: (202) 467-4400.

INFORMATION SOURCES

Bulletins on Science and Technology for the Handicapped, Vol. 1, No. 1, May 1980 (pp. 6-7) offers many information sources. For more information, write to: Project on the Handicapped in Science, American Association for the Advancement of Science, 1776 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. (Telephone: (202) 467-4497).

SOME RECENTLY COMPLETED DISSERTATIONS IN THE AREAS OF DISABILITY AND REHABILITATION:

1. Behar, Joseph. 1976. "Ideology and Protest in Cancer Therapy." SUNY-Stony Brook.
2. Darling, Rosalyn Benjamin. 1978. "Parents, Pediatricians, and Societal Reactions to Congenitally Handicapped Children: A Career Study of Conflicting Definitions of the Situation," University of Connecticut.
3. Davis, Maradee A. 1978. "The Effects of Sex, Illness Behavior and Disease (Osteoarthritis) on Interview Reports of Chronic Joint Symptoms," U. Texas - Houston.
4. Hindi-Alexander, Michele. 1976. "Coping and Chronic Disease: An Exploratory Study of Asthma." SUNY-Buffalo.
5. Padnou, Georgia Brown. 1976. "The Relationship of Sociocultural Mobility and Incongruity Factors to Cerebrovascular Disease in White Males." Johns Hopkins University.
6. Weinberger, Morris. 1978. "Labeling the Physically Disabled: The Hearing Impaired," Purdue University.
7. Weiss, Davis M. 1977. "Chronic Illness and Health Service Use: A Before-After Study of Canadian National Health Insurance." University of Pittsburgh.

The following is a list of section or division chairs of national societies whom you may want to contact concerning the organization of sessions or the presentation of papers at professional meetings:

MEDICAL SOCIOLOGY, Section of the American Sociological Association. Chair, 1980-1981: Ronald Anderson, Dept. of Sociology, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL 60637.

HEALTH, HEALTH POLICY AND HEALTH SERVICES, Provisional section, Society for the Study of Social Problems. Chair, 1980-1981: Janet Hankin, Center of Metropolitan Planning and Research, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD 21218.

REHABILITATION, Div. American Psychological Association. Chair: Herbert H. Zaretsky, 17 Farragut Road, Old Beth Page, NY 11804. Newsletter Editor: Laurence P. Ince, 295 Winthrop Road, Teaneck, NJ 07666.

For information concerning programs of the Association for Humanist Sociology, contact: Dr. Natalie Allon, Department of Humanities & Social Sciences, Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science, Philadelphia, PA 19144. Telephone: (215) 843-9700.

The Eastern Sociological Society has a call for papers for their meeting in New York March 20-22, 1981. The deadline for receipt of papers is November 9, 1980. Send manuscripts to the following: Professor Eleanor Westney OR Professor Paul DiMaggio, Dept. of Sociology, Yale University, New Haven, CT 06520.

For roundtable requests, contact Professor Rhoda Blumberg, Sociology Department, Douglass College, New Brunswick, NJ 08903.

REGIONAL ASSOCIATION CONTACTS

District of Columbia Sociological Association: Laura Sharp, Bureau of Social Science Research, 1990 M Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036.

Eastern Sociological Society: Barbara Ehrenreich, 16 Walters Avenue, Syosset, New York 11791 AND Susan Fainstein, Urban Planning and Policy Development, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ 08904.

Mid-South Sociological Association: Samuel E. Wallace, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37916.

Midwest Sociological Society: Ethel Shanas, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN 46556.

Pacific Sociological Association: Lyn Lofland, University of California-Davis, Davis, CA 95616.

Southern Sociological Society: Ida Harper Simpson, Duke University, Durham, NC 27706.

Southwestern Sociological Association: Janet F. Chafetz, University of Houston, Houston, TX 77004.

STATE ASSOCIATION CONTACTS

Alabama-Mississippi Sociological Association: John E. Dunkelberger, Auburn University, Auburn, AL 36830.

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Chair: Dr. Margaret A. Zahn, Department of Sociology, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA 19122.

Members: Dr. Natalie Allon, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science, Philadelphia, PA 19144.
Dr. William R.F. Phillips, Social Science Group, Widener University, Chester, PA 19013.
Dr. Janet Rosenberg, Social Science Group, Widener University, Chester, PA 19013.