



Criminal Justice Research Center News



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***Featured Article: Audrey Begun and Christine Sielski's
Research on Family Violence***

From the Director's Desk



WELCOME to spring quarter everyone!!! I hope that you have had a good relaxing break, and that you are off to a good start with the new term.

Things are moving along steadily at CJRC. Winter quarter was a bit quieter than usual as we did not have our

usual array of speakers. But we will be in full swing during the spring. First up is the 22nd Annual [Walter C. Reckless-Simon Dinitz Memorial Lecture](#) featuring [Dr. Robert E. Fullilove](#) (Columbia University) on April 21st at 6:30pm at OSU's Barrister Club. (See below for a more detailed description.) One week following the Reckless-Dinitz Lecture on Friday April 29th, [Dr. Beth Huebner](#) (University of Missouri, St. Louis) will join us for a talk that we are co-sponsoring with the Department of Sociology. The talk will be held at 12:15pm in 248 Townshend Hall. (See below for additional information.) About a month later, [Dr. Merry Morash](#) (Michigan State University) will visit us for the re-initiation of the Excellence in Justice series on May 20th. (Stay tuned for the specifics on Merry's talk in the May edition of the newsletter.) Finally, related to our speaker series, I suspect you are still wondering what happened to our promise to reschedule [Professor Michelle Alexander's](#) talk. There is good news and bad news on this front. The bad news is that we were unable to find a mutually available time for Michelle to visit CJRC during this academic year. The good news is that Michelle will be able to join us as our kick off speaker in the early fall, specifically Friday, October 14th at our 9:00am time. Additional good news is that this timing is somewhat fortuitous for us as the updated paperback version of her book will be released in August. Thus, in her talk Michelle will be able to explore the revisions to her book and how it reflects the feedback that she received from the original edition. So, it has taken a little longer than expected,

but Michelle's talk promises to help us get our next academic year off to a very interesting and intellectually stimulating start.

On other fronts, last quarter was a productive time for CJRC on the personal side. Notably, our long time undergraduate assistant, [Breanna Williams](#) gave birth to a beautiful and healthy baby girl (Myana) in late February. and in early March, [Debbie Flower-Smith](#), CJRC's administrative associate, became a grandmother for the first time when her daughter Rachel gave birth to Fiona (also beautiful and healthy). CONGRATULATIONS!! Deb and Breanna.

In closing, I encourage you to read on. Please enjoy the featured articles by [Dylan Adams](#) who reports on [Mat Coleman's](#) (Geography) [talk](#) at CJRC, and Amanda

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Kennedy who authors her second report on family violence research being undertaken by CJRC affiliates. This time her report features the work of [Audrey Begun](#) and Christine Sielski (both from the College of Social Work). My thanks to Dylan and Amanda for keeping us all well-informed.

---- Ruth



Upcoming Events:

***The 22nd Annual Reckless-Dinitz Memorial
Lecture:
The Public Health Consequences of the
'New Jim Crow'
A talk by Dr. Robert Fullilove III***

Thursday, April 21st, 2011, 6:30 p.m. at the Barrister Club, 25 W. 11th Avenue, Columbus OH 43201



Dr. Robert Fullilove, III

Abstract: The U.S. penal system is increasingly being cast as an engine for reinstating Jim Crow, that 19th century condition of near slavery for southern Blacks. In this view, the large numbers of men of color who are behind bars or on parole in this country involve more than just "folks who've been sent away." Men and women returning from a period of incarceration are creating a large and growing American underclass. Their marginal status in their communities has public health consequences that are particularly problematic for our national HIV/AIDS pandemic. This lecture will explore these consequences and will propose a set of interventions that would improve the health status of men caught up in this nation's system of mass incarceration.

The Lecturer: Robert E. Fullilove is the associate dean for Community and Minority Affairs and professor of clinical sociomedical sciences at the Mailman School of Public Health of Columbia University. He currently co-directs the Community Research Group at the New York State Psychiatric Institute and Columbia University. He is also the co-director of the Master's in Public Health program, Urbanism and the Built Environment, in the Department of Sociomedical Sciences at the Mailman School. Dr. Fullilove's research has spanned a broad range of topics, including issues related to community life and violent behaviors, incarceration and concentration effects, youth violence prevention, minority health with a particular focus on HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases, and mathematics and science education. In 2003, Dr. Fullilove was designated a National Associate of the National Academies of Science, an honor bestowed by the Academies for those who have made "significant contributions" to its work. He currently serves on the Board of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention at the Institute of Medicine at the National Academy of Sciences. Dr. Fullilove also has chaired the Advisory Committee on HIV and STD Prevention at the Centers for Disease Control, and served on the National Advisory Council for the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine at the National Institutes of Health.

Coming Home and Moving Away: Intra-individual Patterns of Residence, Cohabitation and Recidivism
A talk by Dr. Beth Huebner

Friday, April 29th, 2011, 12:15 p.m. in Room 248, Townshend Hall
Co-sponsored with the OSU Department of Sociology



Dr. Beth Huebner

(talk description follows on next page)

Abstract: The social and economic structure of a neighborhood provides important context to prisoner reentry. Disadvantaged neighborhoods have been associated with a decreased presence and quality of labor market opportunities and limited prospects for the development of strong social relationships which are critical for reentry success. In fact, there is initial evidence to suggest that individuals who are returned to disadvantaged neighborhoods are more likely to fail on community supervision. We extend previous work by considering the effect of neighborhood context on variation in recidivism timing among a sample of men and women released from prison in one state. In specific, we merge traditional static indicators of failure (e.g., age, gender) with a series of time-variant covariates to understand how moving or changes in social relationships (e.g., marriage) or housing arrangements (e.g., halfway house) affect recidivism. The goal of the research is to provide important insight into the process of prisoner reentry and augment the existing theoretical work on recidivism.

The Lecturer: Dr. Huebner is an Associate Professor and the Graduate Program Director in the Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. Her current research interests include prisoner reentry, criminal justice decision making, and quantitative research methods. As evidenced in the abstract for her upcoming talk, her current research explores the effect of incarceration on employment and marriage and how incarceration affects family relationships.

Mathew Coleman's Talk at the CJRC

By Dylan Adams, CJRC Undergraduate Intern

The topic of immigration gains significance and publicity with each passing day. Never before has our country faced immigration issues and pressures to this magnitude. That said, it just seemed fitting for the CJRC to host a lecture by one of the true innovators in the study of modern immigration, our own Dr. Mathew Coleman (Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, The Ohio State University). Dr. Coleman educated us, with stark, eye-opening data, through a presentation titled "[Detention and Deportation in Context: State Power and Social Control in the U.S. South.](#)"



From left to right: Dylan Adams, Dr. Ruth Peterson, Dr. Mathew Coleman, and geography graduate student Austin Kocher.

Drawing upon information from his ongoing research project in rural North Carolina with graduate student Austin Kocher, Dr. Coleman argues that there has been a transformation from immigration policing at the border to localized policing within states and communities. This transformation is largely due to the efforts of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the proliferation of 287(g) laws. To clarify the meaning of 287(g), I retrieved the following clause from ICE's official government website: "The 287(g) program, one of ICE's top partnership initiatives, allows a state and local law enforcement entity to enter into a partnership with ICE, under a joint Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). The state or local entity receives delegated authority for immigration enforcement within their jurisdictions." (<http://www.ice.gov/287g>)

The 287(g) program is especially important, because it allows local police departments to take matters into their own hands when dealing with undocumented immigrants. Dr. Coleman argues that this is highly detrimental, as it contributes to what he calls "detention and deportation regimes." He contends that these regimes are achieving far more than territorial expulsion, as they focus on a new form of deportation in which people are being removed from so-called "sites of social reproduction" (restaurants, shopping malls, movie theaters, etc.). Undocumented immigrants living in 287(g) communities are now too afraid to go out into public, for fear of being deported. Additionally, if these immigrants are in constant fear of being deported, they are not likely to report other crimes to the police. This lack of police reporting not only leads to increased neighborhood violence, but it also further exacerbates the problem of violence and discrimination against minorities. It should be noted that while being aggressively deported from local communities and across the border, undocumented immigrants are continually being allowed to work for wages in the U.S. In fact, Dr. Coleman argues that our economy consumes them.

To squash the commonly held belief that undocumented immigrants steal American jobs, he rebuked: "They are not really stealing our jobs, per se. They tend to work the jobs we don't want; most of us cannot afford to work for the wages they receive." This contradiction has created quite a stir for citizens and policymakers alike. "We are basically sending the message," Dr. Coleman asserts, "that it's okay to come here and work, but it's not okay to hang out in the same places as everyone else."

Several days following his presentation, I met with Dr. Coleman to discuss the implications of these immigration policies. To emphasize the effects of these laws, he warned: "It happens everywhere. The shift in immigration enforcement from border states to local communities is a serious problem." Moves have already been made here in Ohio, and at the current rate, we could potentially see the adoption of new 287(g)-related policies sometime in the near future. Dr. Coleman plans to study other cities in the U.S. south to see if this phenomenon holds constant. He is currently working on a National Science Foundation grant proposal with Dr. Angela Stuesse (University of South Florida) to further investigate the repercussions of modern immigration policy. With any hope, their results will shine light on an important issue and serve as an educational tool for policymakers.

What Center Participants are Doing

Our colleagues at the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity (OSU) are currently planning their "Transforming Race 2012" conference. Kirwan's previous conference, "Transforming Race 2010: Crisis and Opportunity in the Age of Obama" featured 50 sessions, 500 participants, and a special performance by Tony Award-winning playwright and performer Sarah Jones. The conference was a tremendous success and the Kirwan staff expect to build on it with "Transforming Race 2012," to be held March 15-17, 2012 at the Hyatt Hotel on Capitol Square in downtown Columbus. Please save the dates, and check the [Kirwan website](#) for registration and other details as they develop in the coming months.



Michelle Alexander (Associate Professor, Moritz College of Law – OSU) won the NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Literary - Non-Fiction on March 4 for her book, *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*, written during her

affiliation with the Kirwan Institute. For forty-two years, the NAACP Image Awards have acknowledged outstanding achievements and performances by people of color in the arts, and the work of groups/individuals who creatively promote social justice.



Reginald Byron (Assistant Professor, Sociology and Anthropology – Southwestern University) was selected to give the

Eighth Annual W.E.B. Du Bois Lecture at Huston-Tillotson University on February 24, 2011. His talk entitled "From Du Bois to Obama: Progress and Challenges on the Problem of the

Colorline" focused on racial inequality in education, employment, and the criminal justice system. Dr. Byron also received three small competitive internal grants to collaborate with other faculty and students on projects that touch upon each of these three areas.

Walter DeKeseredy (Professor, Criminology, Justice and Policy Studies – University of Ontario Institute of Technology) presented a paper with Molly Dragiewicz (also of the University of Ontario Institute of Technology) titled "Claims about Women's use of Non-Fatal Force in Intimate Relationships: A Contextual Review of the Canadian Research" at the annual meetings of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS) on March 2 in Toronto. Dr. DeKeseredy also participated in a panel discussion on the premier of



Judge H. Lee Sarokin's (Ret.) play "Who is The Enemy?" at the ACJS meeting. Judge Sarokin became famous for granting Rubin "Hurricane" Carter habeas corpus, the instrument that set Carter free after spending 20 years in prison for a crime he didn't commit.

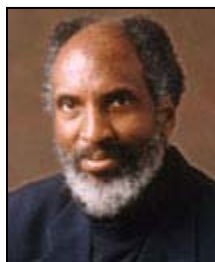
Andrew Grant-Thomas (Deputy Director, the Kirwan Institute – OSU) presented at the National Academy of Social Insurance Conference, held January 27 – 28, 2011 in Washington, DC. Dr. Thomas's paper was entitled "(Why) Are African Americans and Latinos Underrepresented among Unemployment Insurance Beneficiaries? An Exploratory Look."



James L. Moore III (Professor, College of Education and Human Ecology; Director, the Todd Anthony Bell National Resource Center on the African American Male – OSU) presented at the Center for Law and Social Policy seminar held by the Pew Charitable Trusts. The talk was given on January 12 in Washington DC, and was entitled "Re-Imagining the Landscape for Black Men and Boys."



John Powell (Executive Director, the Kirwan Institute; Gregory H. Williams Chair in Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, Moritz College of Law – OSU) presented a paper on February 3 entitled "Race-ing to Equity: A Toolkit and Tale of Two Cities" at the New Partners for Smart Growth Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina.



Heather Washington (Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Sociology – OSU) received news in March that she was awarded the American Sociological Association's (ASA) Minority Fellowship Program pre-doctoral fellowship for the 2011-2012 academic year.



Opportunities, Calls for Papers, and Conferences

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDCP) offer a free online course about violence prevention entitled "Principles of Prevention." The course - which offers continuing education credits - teaches key concepts of primary prevention, the public health approach, and the social-ecological model regarding violence. Participants complete interactive exercises to learn to help prevent five types of violence: child abuse and neglect, intimate partner violence, sexual violence, suicide, and youth violence. Please click [here](#) to go to the course website.

The Lorain County Collaborative on Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention is holding their sixth annual Conference on Child Abuse and Prevention on Wednesday, **April 13, 2011**. Topics covered will include human trafficking, sexual assault examinations, interpersonal violence, and cultural competencies. Continuing education credits will be offered to practitioners. The event will take place at the Spitzer Conference Center at Lorain County Community College. Please contact Michele Michener at mmichene@lorainccc.edu regarding questions and registration information.

The 41st Annual Crime Club seminar will be held on Monday, **April 18, 2011** from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.. The event is sponsored by the Society for the Scientific Detection of Crime, and it will take place at the Ohio Department of Transportation Central Office Auditorium, 1980 W. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio. This year's theme is "Sex Crimes – Seduction, Methods and Consent." Guest speakers will include Franklin County Coroner Jan Gorniak, OSU History Professor Donna Guy, and Franklin County Prosecutor Ron O'Brien, among others. The cost for advanced registration is 50 dollars for professionals and 15 dollars for students (with valid school ID). The registration fee includes lunch and refreshments. For more information, please go to the [Society for the Scientific Detection of Crime website](#).

The Journal of Ethnicity in Criminal Justice invites authors to submit their manuscripts for a special issue entitled *Crime and Criminal Justice: An International Perspective*. Manuscripts should be approximately 20-25 pages double-spaced with a one-inch margin on all four sides and should include an abstract of 100 words; longer manuscripts will be accepted at the discretion of the Editor. References, citations, and general style of manuscripts should follow the APA style. Authors are responsible for obtaining permission to reproduce copyrighted material from other sources and are required to sign an agreement for the transfer of copyright to the publisher.

This call modifies the original call that required the papers to have been presented at the ACJS 2010 annual meeting and extends the previous deadline of December 31, 2010 to a **deadline of April 15, 2011**. Please send all requests and manuscripts to Guest Editor: Dr. Obi Ebbe, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Geography, 615 McCallie Avenue, Chattanooga, TN 37403-2598 or obi-ebbe@utc.edu.

The National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) working group on the Economics of Crime is organizing a two-day meeting on Thursday and Friday, **July 28 and 29, 2011** in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The purpose of this working group is to provide a regular forum for bringing together economists and non-economists, from the U.S. and elsewhere, to discuss empirical research related to the underlying causes of criminal behavior and the most cost-effective strategies for addressing this major social problem. The forum is open to psychologists, sociologists, criminologists, demographers, legal scholars and other researchers in order to promote inter-disciplinary discussions relevant to the study of crime, including questions that have long concerned economists working in this area. *Of particular interest for this year's workshop are papers that examine the potential of social policy as a tool for crime prevention.* If you have a paper that you would like to present this meeting, **please upload a copy [here](#) by April 15, 2011**. The NBER will fund travel expenses for paper presenters and discussants, as well as for a limited number of additional workshop participants. Priority will be given to funding travel for non-U.S. academics, non-economists, graduate students and junior faculty. If you have any logistical questions please contact Rob in the NBER's Conference Department at (617) 868-3900 or rshannon@nber.org. Any other questions can be directed to: Philip Cook (pcook@duke.edu), Jens Ludwig (jludwig@uchicago.edu), or Justin McCrary (jmccrary@law.berkeley.edu).

Contemporary Justice Review invites submissions for a special issue about the teaching of restorative justice, guest edited by Jo-Ann Della Giustina. Restorative justice is taught within various disciplines, including but not limited to peace studies, justice studies, religious studies, philosophy, criminal justice, and education. The breadth of academic disciplines along with the diversity of restorative justice itself highlights the gamut of potential inclusions. *Contemporary Justice Review* prefers articles which avoid academic jargon and offer insights on how to foster justice throughout daily life. Examples of submissions topics include: pedagogical ideologies, teaching restorative justice in interdisciplinary programs, teaching restorative justice to criminal justice students, and classroom

methodologies that encourage restorative justice. *Contemporary Justice Review* is an interdisciplinary journal for scholars, activists, and practitioners of social and restorative justice around the globe. Interested authors should send an abstract to Jo-Ann Della Giustina (jdellagiustina@bridgew.edu) **by May 1, 2011**. Authors whose work has been selected will be notified by July 1, 2011. Completed articles will be due by February 1, 2012 for inclusion in the special issue of the journal. Queries about the appropriateness of specific topics should be directed to the guest editor, Jo-Ann Della Giustina or Dan Okada (dokada@csus.edu), Editor-in-Chief of *Contemporary Justice Review*.

Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society invites submissions for a special issue, "Women, Gender, and Prison: National and Global Perspectives." For this special issue, they invite submissions that address complex questions concerning women's imprisonment and detention, including gendered carceral regimes, challenges to bodily integrity, reproductive freedom, and mothering in prison; the effects of imprisonment on families and communities; the relationship between the welfare state and the penal state; the social, economic, and political mechanisms that generate punishment of women; and the effects of race, ethnicity, class, nationality, sexual orientation, and transgender on experiences of imprisonment and practices of punishment. The journal editors particularly seek innovative analyses that explore gendered incarceration in and across diverse geographic, cultural, and historical sites, as well as comparative approaches that consider colonial, postcolonial, state-socialist, democratic socialist, and neoliberal prison policies and practices and identify feminist alternatives to imprisonment. They welcome interrogation of the criminalization of poverty and migration, the politicization of group membership, processes of racialization, gendered dimensions of the "war on drugs," and other factors contributing to growing rates of incarceration among women. Submissions on all places, time, and contexts are welcome. **Please send submissions between May 1 and June 30, 2011**. The issue is scheduled to appear in Winter 2013. Guidelines for submission are available at: <http://www.journals.uchicago.edu/Signs/instruct.html>.

Criminal Justice Policy Review invites submissions for a special issue on offender reentry and reintegration. Manuscripts considered for publication in this special issue could focus on a variety of topics, including (but not limited to): (a) recent trends in prison populations and community-based supervision; (b) federal, state, and local policies on offender reentry and reintegration; (c) survey research on the use of reentry and reintegration policies and programs; (d) barriers to effective reentry and reintegration; (e) process evaluations and impact assessments of reentry and reintegration programs; and (f) collaborative and strategic partnerships for enhancing

reentry and reintegration. All submitted manuscripts should contain discussion of relevant implications for criminal justice policy and practice. An online submission and review system for *Criminal Justice Policy Review* is available at

<http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/cjpr>. For more general information about *Criminal Justice Policy Review*, please go to <http://cjp.sagepub.com>. **The deadline for submissions is June 1, 2011.**

Manuscripts should be submitted in current APA format. For additional information, please contact Jeremy Olson, Assistant Managing Editor, *Criminal Justice Policy Review*, at j.a.olson2@iup.edu or call (724) 357-1247.

The Asian Journal of Criminology invites submissions for a special issue, "Crime Control in Asian Countries," guest edited by Drs. Shanhe Jiang and Eric Lambert. This volume will focus on crime control in Asia, including formal (or legal) control and informal (extra-legal) control. The journal particularly welcomes empirical research that utilizes survey, interview, fieldwork data, and existing published official data. Both quantitative and qualitative approaches are appropriate. Inquiries about the appropriateness of topics should be directed to: Shanhe Jiang, University of Toledo, Ohio, who can be reached via email (at shanhe.jiang@utoledo.edu) or Eric Lambert, Wayne State University, Michigan, who can be reached via email (at dz9258@wayne.edu). All manuscripts will be peer reviewed. Manuscripts should be no more than 30 typed, double-spaced pages, including tables, figures, and references. **Manuscripts must be received no later than June 30, 2011.** Please send a copy of the manuscript via email attachment to either one of the guest editors. Please feel free to send abstract/outline to the editors before the deadline. Style and formatting guidelines for authors and additional information are available [here](#).

~Featured Article~

Audrey Begun and Christine Sielski's Research on Family Violence

By Amanda Kennedy

As social workers, it is crucial to Dr. Audrey Begun and Christine (Chris) Sielski, MSW, that their academic research has a direct impact on bettering outcomes for people in need. Survivors of violence in intimate relationships need help to escape dangerous situations and evaluate their risk of harm, while those who batter need a therapeutic approach which is responsive to their individual readiness to change. Audrey and Chris are working to help effectively treat perpetrators of intimate partner violence through their "Safe at Home Norms" project. Both affiliated with the OSU College of Social Work, Audrey is an Associate Professor and Chris is a Ph.D. student. The research was suggested by a Californian clinical therapist, John Hamel, LCSW. John runs a batterer treatment program called "Talking Points." He approached Audrey in 2009, asking her to help him determine an accurate set of statistical norms for the assessment instrument he was using with clients.

While prompted by John Hamel, the "Safe At Home Norms" project originated from a larger, seven year-long project funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDCP). The CDCP project was originally aimed at preventing violence against girls and women in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. At the outset of the project, workers in the domestic violence field created a public awareness campaign which warned that intimate partner violence was a crime. However, the media project seemed to have little impact on local abuse rates. Separate focus groups with victims and perpetrators of intimate partner violence were then formed, and the participants helped create a more effective series of public service ads. These ads emphasized the fact that victims and perpetrators of intimate partner violence already knew it was criminal, and what was most important to think about was the disturbing impact this violence had on the health and well-being of the women who were victims and children who were witnesses. The experience with these focus groups taught researchers that those who were directly impacted by domestic violence – both victims and batterers – were key players in coming up with solutions to the problem.

It became a goal for the Milwaukee project to take this first-hand feedback and therapeutic theory to evaluate the true effectiveness of batterer treatment programs. The research team, of which Audrey was a part, sought input from treatment providers and batterers, creating a 36-item measurement instrument called the Safe at Home Readiness to Change instrument. Individuals who take the instrument rate their level of agreement with statements such as, "It feels good to finally face how I've



Chris Sielski

been messing up my life,” or “It’s no big deal if I lose my temper from time to time.” These statements were collected from participants in diversionary treatment programs, 98 percent of whom were mandated to treatment.

Based on the Transtheoretical Model of Behavior Change (TMBC), the approach behind the instrument had previously been used in safe sex practice programs, smoking cessation, and other addiction treatment programs. In the TMBC model there are various stages individuals move through when changing problematic behaviors. At the beginning, a person is in pre-contemplation, wherein s/he denies having a problem and has no intention of fixing his/her behaviors. Or, if a person acknowledges that a problem exists, they believe that s/he cannot change. To become ready for change, the individual has to contemplate and understand the nature of his/her problematic behaviors, believe that s/he has the ability to change, prepare to change those behaviors, take action by carrying out a change strategy, and has a plan to maintain the healthier new behavior while avoiding relapse to the old behaviors. Social work researchers have found that matching an intervention style to how prepared the individual is to make a change is crucial for facilitating positive behavioral changes.

In working on the “Safe at Home Norms” project, Audrey and Chris have taken the Safe at Home instrument and are increasing its power as an assessment tool. For one, the instrument had previously included statistical benchmarks of men’s perspectives before treatment. Audrey and Chris are now considering such benchmarks for female batterers, as well as for individuals who are further along in their treatment programs. Through connections to the California intimate partner violence treatment community (provided by John), Audrey and Chris engage agencies to use the Safe at Home instrument. They are currently in the process of sending packets to numerous agencies in California and Ohio, requesting that interested agencies send regularly collected feedback from clients to see what stages they are in regarding their capacity for change. These programs tend to last one year, and batterers can begin participating at any point during the year. Audrey and Chris will hopefully be able to present treatment providers with a set of comprehensive benchmarks which they can share with their clients.

These statistical norms will help clients understand how their readiness to change compares with others in the treatment process. Also, treatment providers can use these benchmarks to determine how effective their therapeutic interventions are with their clients.



Audrey Begun

Audrey, Chris and John contend that a “cookie cutter” approach to ending intimate partner violence will not work. Treatment programs must be highly adept at assessing a batterer’s readiness to change abusive behavior at the point of entry, as well as throughout their participation in the program. “We need to try to get out of thinking that abuse is a cycle, where you are doomed to repeat it. It is more circular – a batterer can move forward, relapse, then recognize abuse triggers and how to handle them, and employ safer alternatives,” Audrey said. The hope is that, by closely monitoring the thoughts and behaviors of these men and women during their recovery process, repeating violent behavior will be less likely.

Thanks to Mathew Coleman, Audrey Begun and Chris Sielski for their valuable time and insights, and to all of you who sent your suggestions and announcements. We encourage you to keep us informed about any events that might be of interest to CJRC participants as well as any suggestions that you have for activities or programs. To contact the newsletter editor, please email Amanda Kennedy at kennedy.312@sociology.osu.edu. If you would like to be added to our mailing list, please send Amanda your e-mail address.