



Criminal Justice Research Center News



Available online at <http://cjrc.osu.edu/newsletter.html>

Volume 12, Issue 3

May 2011

Featured Article: Amy Bonomi's Domestic Violence Research

From the Director's Desk



HELLO EVERYONE. We promised you a busy spring quarter and indeed we have had one. [Dr. Merry Morash](#) (see below) will be our third speaker within a month. Joining Merry on this coming Friday (May 20th) will be [Denise Robinson](#) and [Paula Smith](#) with some commentary. Importantly too, with this event we begin what we

hope is a revived "Excellence in Justice" series. I do hope to see you there; please remember that we will be meeting at the Hale Center rather than in our usual setting. This event also marks CJRC's final talk for the 2010-2011 academic year. As the articles by Dylan Adams (one co-authored with Amanda Kennedy) remind us, it was preceded by our excellent [Walter C. Reckless-Sy Dinitz Memorial Lecture](#) on April 21st and a great regular seminar presentation by [Beth Huebner](#) on April 29th. For those of you who were not able to join us for these events, Dylan's and Amanda's reports will give you a strong sense of the coverage of the presentations. Please note also that the Reckless-Dinitz Lecture by [Robert Fullilove](#) will be published in an upcoming issue of the *Ohio State Journal of Criminal Law* during the year. We will let you know when it comes out so that you can read the whole thing.

The next set of major events for CJRC will come in July, when we welcome the 2011 Summer Research Institute (SRI) faculty from around the country. This will be our sixth cohort of young faculty who will spend time in Columbus working on their respective criminology/criminal justice projects. The SRI will culminate with the eighth annual workshop of the Racial Democracy, Crime and Justice Network, which will feature research presentations, didactic seminars, and the like by faculty and graduate students from Ohio State and around the country. We will provide more information regarding these events in our next newsletter. In the meantime, we will be arranging the activities and working out the details of the programs for both the institute and the workshop.

As always, I encourage you to read on. Please enjoy the featured articles our recent speakers, and Amanda's third report on domestic violence research being undertaken by CJRC affiliates. This report features the work of [Amy Bonomi](#) (Human Development and Family Science; Sexuality Studies), whose scholarship we also had the pleasure of hearing about directly from Amy during the 2008-2009 seminar series. My thanks to Dylan and Amanda for keeping us all well-informed. And it goes without saying that I greatly appreciate the scholarship and the cooperation of all four scholars who shared their work with us. Congratulations [Audrey Begun](#), Amy Bonomi, Christine Sielski, and [Kenneth Steinman](#) for the success of your important work, and thank you for your good citizenship as CJRC affiliates.

Thanks,
Ruth

In This Issue:

Upcoming Events:
 Dr. Merry Morash.....2

Article: The Reckless-Dinitz Memorial Lecture.....2

Article: Beth Huebner's Talk.....3

What Center Participants Are Doing.....4

Opportunities, Calls for Papers, and Conferences.....5

Featured Article: Amy Bonomi's Domestic Violence Research.....7

Upcoming Events

Institute for Excellence in Justice Series: Women on Probation and Parole: A Feminist Critique of Community Programs and Services

*A talk by Dr. Merry Morash, Professor of
Criminal Justice, Michigan State University*

*Expert panelists: Denise Robinson, President
and CEO of Alvis House, and Dr. Paula Smith,
Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice and
Director of the Corrections Institute,
University of Cincinnati*

Friday, May 20th, 2011, 9 a.m. at the MLK Lounge,
Frank J. Hale Jr. Black Cultural Center,
153 W. 12th Avenue



Dr. Merry Morash

Abstract: This presentation lends a data-driven picture of the context and the supervising officers' interactions and actions that promote women offenders' success on probation and parole. It also uses the experiences of women in Gender Responsive County and in Traditional County to show how national and state policies effect women, and how women under supervision vary from each other in profound ways. Just as failure can be constructed through over supervision, success can be a false construction due to lack of attention and oversight. The talk is informed by detailed data from multiple interviews with women, from probation and parole records, and from official records of drug test results, rules violations, and crimes.

The Lecturer: Dr. Morash received her M.S.W. and her Ph.D. in Criminal Justice and Criminology from the University of Maryland. She served as director of the School of Criminal Justice at Michigan State for ten years. Her work has included identifying predictors of delinquency in youth, studying police workplace stress,

program evaluation of the Michigan Stop Prison Rape Project, cross-national research in South Korea, and her most current research regarding women on probation and parole. Dr. Morash's lecture, "Women on Probation and Parole: A Feminist Critique of Community Programs and Services," is based upon her 2010 book of the same title.

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

By Dylan Adams, CJRC Undergraduate Intern
and Amanda Kennedy

On Thursday, April 21, 2011, we were honored to host our 22nd annual Walter Reckless and Simon Dinitz Memorial Lecture, featuring Dr. Robert Fullilove (Associate Dean for Community and Minority Affairs and Professor of Clinical Sociomedical Sciences, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University). Previous Reckless-Dinitz Lecture topics have ranged from organizational deviance to white-collar crime, but this year's topic stood out in terms of its relevance to multiple fields including public health, epidemiology, sociology, and criminology. Dr. Fullilove's lecture, "The Public Health Consequences of the 'New Jim Crow,'" provided the audience with eye-opening and thought-provoking implications about the connections between incarceration, residential segregation, and the spread of disease.

In his talk, Dr. Fullilove drew a stark connection between the large African American prison population and the HIV/AIDS pandemic as it reproduces itself in communities of color and disadvantage. This connection is based upon the idea that in heavily segregated, lower socioeconomic status African American communities, it is difficult to obtain access to basic needs such as health insurance and prescription medication. A great deal of irony lies behind the fact that in prison, inmates are screened on a regular basis by health care professionals. Those who previously could not afford medical treatment are given it during their stay in prison, but usually lose access to quality care when they return to the streets. Dr. Fullilove argues that this vicious cycle poses a threat to the health of these individuals and their communities, especially in terms of HIV/AIDS. To further explain this process, Dr. Fullilove described the following scenario:

(continued on next page)



Dr. Fullilove during his presentation

An African American male from a disadvantaged community goes to prison for the first time. He already has HIV/AIDS but is unaware of it, as the typical disease carrier often remains dormant, or free from noticeable symptoms, for up to ten years. In prison, he may engage in various at-risk behaviors, such as having unprotected sex (with other inmates, corrections employees, case workers, etc.), unsterile tattooing, or using unsterile needles to inject illicit drugs. In the meantime, the man's sexual partner on the streets may be having concurrent relationships with other partners, unbeknownst to him. Now, when the man is finally released from prison, he and his partner decide to have sexual relations again, both unaware of the others' sexual relations that have transpired. The man struggles to obtain affordable health care, so he is not regularly screened for the disease and thus does not receive treatment. Meanwhile, the highly powerful retrovirus rapidly mutates and becomes harder to treat. Here, Dr. Fullilove highlights the idea of recidivism, which many of us know is a common problem for ex-offenders. So, the man is rearrested for a parole violation, and is sent back to prison. The aforementioned sexual relations continue, this time with a new set of partners, and the cycle continues. The nature in which these "constellations of partners" (as phrased by Dr. Fullilove) engage creates a ripple effect of serious public health consequences.

Dr. Fullilove cited a few hard-hitting statistics to legitimize his point. For example, in U.S. prisons, HIV/AIDS cases are roughly three to five times what they are in the general population. Additionally, 40% of the American prison population admits to having sexual relations with others while in prison. Therefore, much evidence points to prison as being fertile ground for perpetuating disease beyond its walls once inmates re-enter general society.



From left to right: Patricia Williams of the OSU Medical Center, Drs. Fullilove and Peterson after the presentation

In sum, Dr. Fullilove's talk seamlessly connected sociomedical facts to create a larger picture of how the spread of disease is inextricably linked to legacies of institutionalized racism, including segregation and differential access to health care. To learn more about Dr. Fullilove and his work, please go to his [faculty webpage](#).

Dr. Beth Huebner's Talk on "Coming Home and Moving Away: Intra-individual Patterns of Residence, Cohabitation and Recidivism"

By Dylan Adams,
CJRC Undergraduate Intern

Though we are rapidly approaching the end of the 2010-2011 academic year, we are by no means slowing down here at the CJRC. Just eight days following our 22nd annual Walter Reckless and Simon Dinitz Memorial Lecture, featuring Dr. Robert Fullilove, we dove head first into yet another intriguing lecture seminar. On Friday, April 29, 2011, we co-hosted Dr. Beth Huebner (Associate Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of Missouri-St. Louis) for a lecture titled: "Coming Home and Moving Away: Intra-Individual Patterns of Residence, Cohabitation, and Recidivism." The talk was co-sponsored by the OSU Department of Sociology.

With a sample of men and women recently released from Missouri prisons, Dr. Huebner aims to "extend previous work by considering the effect of neighborhood context on variation in recidivism timing." This variation, she finds, is influenced not only by race, gender, and class, but also by factors such as neighborhood disadvantage, type of environment (urban versus rural), and other geographic factors. "Where do they live? Where do they go home to?" she asks.

Taking a life course perspective on reentry, Dr. Huebner focused this research on: 1) individual characteristics, 2) family components, 3) community dynamics, and 4) state policy as they affect post-release residential choices. The first six months following release from prison, she noted, are often a time of shock and significant readjustment for an individual. She cited a particular parolee who mentioned during an interview feeling completely overwhelmed in the hours following his release. Activities often taken for granted, such as walking into a bank or buying cigarettes at a gas station, can seem frighteningly foreign to someone who has spent the last five years in a medium-to-maximum security prison.



Dr. Huebner at her presentation

Having family presence and support were protective factors for most of the individuals Dr. Huebner studied, but she found that rural-based offenders tended to seek more assistance from family and friends than urban-based offenders. Rural offenders also faced greater levels of unemployment and underemployment, as many of them were accustomed to living in “persistently impoverished” environments. Perhaps this explains why an overrepresented 72% of those released from prison initially move to urban or metropolitan environments. This statistic serves as a smooth transition into Dr. Huebner’s next set of findings, which revolve around post-release moving patterns.

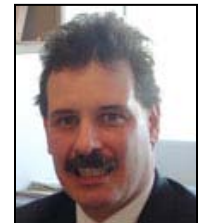
Only about half of those released move back into their former houses. Parolees in St. Louis tended to move once or twice, usually around the major metropolitan area but sometimes across the state. Some individuals reported moving several times, and after closer analysis, Dr. Huebner found that these individuals were more likely to remain out of prison longer; thus, less movement is associated with quicker recidivism. “Moving can be positive,” she emphasized. In a city like St. Louis, where we find “deep pockets of poverty” and high concentrations of neighborhood disadvantage, it is not always best for these parolees to go back from whence they came.

Those who return to disadvantaged neighborhoods are hindered due to poverty, racial inequality, social isolation, and limited access to services, and the likely result for many of them is quicker recidivism.

Dr. Huebner was a pleasure to have here at OSU. She was an appropriate addition to our series, and I’ve never seen so many questions asked following one of our lectures. Her research strikes me as both socially significant and intellectually stimulating, and many of my own research interests were well represented in her material. If you have any questions about Dr. Huebner’s research, you may contact her at: huebnerb@umsj.edu.

What Center Participants are Doing

Walter DeKeseredy (Professor, Criminology, Justice and Policy Studies – University of Ontario Institute of Technology) is co-editor (with Molly Dragiewicz, Assistant Professor of Criminology, also of the University of Ontario Institute of Technology) of *The Routledge Handbook of Critical Criminology*, which is coming out in October 2011. [Click here](#) for more information on this anthology. Dr. DeKeseredy also has two journal articles in press: “Claims about Women’s Use of Non-fatal Force in Intimate Relationships: A Contextual Review of the Canadian Research,” in the journal *Violence Against Women* (co-authored with Molly Dragiewicz), and “Feminist Contributions to Understanding Woman Abuse: Myths, Controversies, and Realities,” in the journal *Aggression and Violent Behavior*.



Andrew Grant-Thomas (Deputy Director of the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity, OSU) presented “Black Boxes and White Noise: Media Silences and Media Images of Prisons and Prisoners” at the Women of Color Policy Network Roundtable, “Distorted Images, Uneven Policies: How the Media Shape Public Policy Outcomes,” held at New York University on April 26.

Donald Hutcherson (Assistant Professor of Sociology – Ohio University-Lancaster) co-

authored a recent book chapter with Michael Tapia (Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice – University of Texas-San Antonio) and Ana Campos-Holland (Ph.D.

Candidate in Sociology, University of Iowa), entitled "Latino Ethnicity as a Risk Factor for Arrest: U.S. Minority and Regional Effects." The chapter appears in *Latinos in the Midwest* (Michigan State University Press, 2011, edited by Ruben Martinez).



between *Celerity, Capital Punishment, and Murder* (LFB Scholarly Publishing Llc, 2011). It is currently available on [Amazon](#). Dr. Wright also co-authored a report (with Nicole Porter) for the Sentencing Project entitled *Cracked Justice*, which discusses state-level, racially charged disparities in the criminal penalties for crack and powder cocaine. Click [here](#) to view the report.

Opportunities, Calls for Papers, and Conferences



Aubrey Jackson (left) and Heather Washington (right) (Ph.D. Candidates, Department of Sociology – OSU)



both learned this month that they were selected as 2011 American Society of Criminology Minority Fellowship recipients.

A new web magazine entitled *The Public Intellectual* is now available online. The publication is edited by journalist Heather Tirado Gilligan, literary scholar Jane Elliot, and sociologist Nikki Jones (of University of California-Santa Barbara and CJRC's Racial Democracy and Criminal Justice-Network). The editors state that the purpose of the magazine is "to create a publication where academics can offer their expert analysis of pressing social problems in an accessible journalistic style." The theme of the current issue is policing and surveillance, featuring an article by Nikki Jones which takes a critical look at President Obama's crime-related policies. To check out the magazine, including submission guidelines, go to: <http://thepublicintellectual.org/>.



Ruth Peterson (Director of CJRC, Professor of Sociology – OSU) won the 2011 Edwin H. Sutherland Award, the American Society of Criminology's most prestigious accolade. The award is given to scholars who make outstanding contributions to theory or research in criminology on the etiology of criminal and deviant behavior, the criminal justice system, corrections, law, or justice.

OSU's Youth Violence Prevention Advisory Board announces its third annual conference, "Promoting Community Safety and Preventing Violence: Integrating Lessons from Research and Practice," to be held on **June 17, 2011** at the Riffe Conference Center, Columbus, OH 43215. While the conference is free of charge to participants, seating is limited. To reserve your place at the conference, please click [here](#). For further information, contact Tamara Fournier at (614) 247-1661, or email her at tfournier@ehe.osu.edu.

Ed Rhine (Lecturer for the OSU Sociology Department, Deputy Director, Office of Offender Reentry, Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction)

co-authored an article with Anthony C. Thompson (Professor of Clinical Law, New York University Law School) titled "The Reentry Movement in Corrections: Resiliency, Fragility and Prospects." It was just published in the March-April 2011 edition of the *Criminal Law Bulletin* (Volume 47, Number 2, pgs. 177 – 209).



The Sexual Violence Prevention Conference, sponsored by the Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence and supported by ODVN and the Ohio Department of Health, will be held on **June 28 and 29**. This year's conference includes a focus on youth engagement. Contact the Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence for more information: <http://www.oaesv.org/>



Valerie Wright (Research Analyst, the Sentencing Project, Washington D.C., OSU alumna, Ph.D. 2009) just published her book, *Could Quicker Executions Deter Homicides? The Relationship*

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 [here](#).

***Criminal Justice Studies: A Critical Journal of Crime, Law and Society* invites submissions for a special Spring 2012 issue, "Homeland Security: Ten Years After 9/11,"** to be guest edited by Everette B. Penn. Empirical, theoretical and policy manuscripts should address research driven answers to homeland security questions such as; rule of law, practices of success within the criminal justice system; perceptions of Americans; and threats for the future. All manuscripts will be peer reviewed and should include a 100 word abstract and brief biographical sketch. Manuscripts must be sent on disk with four hardcopies (three blind copies). **Manuscripts are due by June 30, 2011** for publication in the spring 2012 edition. Please submit manuscripts to: Everette B. Penn, Guest Editor (Homeland Security: Ten Years after 9/11)

Criminal Justice Studies: A Critical Journal of Crime, Law and Society
University of Houston- Clear Lake
2700 Bay Area Blvd #275
Houston Texas 77058
(281) 283-3383
pennev@uhcl.edu

The Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation is funding social science research grants for 2012. Questions that interest the foundation concern violence and aggression in relation to social change, intergroup conflict, war, terrorism, crime, and family relationships, among other subjects. Research with no relevance to understanding human problems will not be supported, nor will proposals to investigate urgent social problems where the foundation cannot be assured that useful, sound research can be done.

Priority will also be given to areas and methodologies not receiving adequate attention and support from other funding sources. Most awards fall within the range of \$15,000 to \$40,000 per year for periods of one or two years. New applications **must be received (not post-marked) by August 1, 2011**, for a decision in December. Applications are reviewed once a year and final decisions are made by the Board of Directors at its meeting in December. Applicants will be informed promptly by email as well as letter of the Board's decision. Grants ordinarily commence on January 1 but later starting dates may be requested if the nature of the research makes this appropriate. For further information on how to apply, go to: <http://www.hfg.org/rg/guidelines.htm>.

***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 [here](#). 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](#).

The Women in Criminal Justice book series seeks proposals and/or manuscripts. Through this new Prentice Hall series, editor Dr. Roslyn Muraskin and contributing authors will explore issues that impact women and justice, studying the effects of the criminal justice system on female criminals, CJ practitioners, and victims. Women's Issues in Criminal Justice is currently seeking proposals and/or manuscripts on topics including, but not limited to:

- Women Serial Killers
- Women Victims of Violence
- Women Who Abuse Drugs/Alcohol
- Disparate Treatment of Women
- Women and Issues of Privacy
- Women and the Use of Self-Defense as a Defense Alternatives to Incarceration for Women
- Women and Employment (e.g., employment as Law Enforcement, Correctional Officers, Members of the Judiciary, as well as issues such as Sexual Harassment, Title Nine, etc.)
- Women, Crime and the Use of Technology

Please send all proposals and inquires to:
Dr. Roslyn Muraskin
Department of Criminal Justice
Long Island University
Brookville, NY 11548
Muraskin@liu.edu

~Featured Article~

Amy Bonomi's Domestic Violence Research

By Amanda Kennedy

As an associate professor of Human Development & Family Science and Sexuality Studies, Dr. Amy Bonomi examines the complex interplay of romantic relationships, domestic and dating violence, and consequent health outcomes for adults and adolescents in her academic research. Amy is drawn to her work



Dr. Amy Bonomi

because of her fascination with human behavior, particularly how interaction plays out in intimate relationships. "I want to find out what drives couples to stay in abusive situations, and have found that much of it is born out of basic intimacy needs," she states.

Currently, Amy is focusing on two significant research projects. The first project originated in 2002 when Amy was working as a graduate student on a research team at the University of Washington and the Group Health Research Institute. The study was funded by the Agency for Health Research and Quality and subsequently by the Group Health Foundation through 2010, and collected and analyzed data from Group Health Cooperative members on their medical histories and experiences with domestic violence (Group Health Cooperative is a health care delivery system serving approximately 600,000 Seattle-area residents). Data included timeline follow-back interviews and automated medical records. Since 2004 the research team has used their comprehensive data to assess the long term health effects of domestic violence for women, children and men. To date, twenty-two papers have been published from the large-scale project, and it is frequently cited as the leading study on the connections between domestic violence and health care costs.

With data originating from the Seattle study, Amy is now assessing how teens experience dating violence, and the far-reaching repercussions of living in violent relationships. "Right now, we know teen dating violence is associated with poor health. But health care providers don't screen at all for dating violence. We want to know how dating violence manifests in health care visits and medical diagnoses for teens," Amy says. She noted that up to 25 percent of teens have reported dating violence victimization in the past year with resulting deleterious effects on mental and physical health. However, a recent pilot study from the Seattle data indicates a much higher incidence of dating victimization. Findings showed that 54 percent of girls and 47 percent of boys had experienced some kind of dating violence between 13 and 19.

“I want to find out what drives couples to stay in abusive situations, and have found that much of it is born out of basic intimacy needs.”

The estimates were higher than the 25 percent figure because the pilot study accounted for escalating, harassing behaviors such as texting, verbal intimidation and stalking experienced across the teen years. Amy is seeking

additional grant funding to build upon the pilot study and further “understand the etiologies for reducing the incidence of teen dating violence.” Amy and her Seattle-based domestic violence team have a grant under review at the National Institutes of Health to examine the relationship between dating violence and health outcomes measured in diagnoses and health care visits. She was already awarded a seed grant from the College of Education and Human Ecology in February of this year to assess the dating violence trajectories of OSU students. In this web-based survey project, Amy is looking at the relationship between dating violence exposure, health and academic outcomes, and has collected data from 341 OSU students to date. “I want to know how the outcomes of students who are exposed to violence compare with someone who hasn’t had that exposure – particularly how sexual violence has comparatively adverse health outcomes for students,” she explains.

The second significant research project Amy is involved in has been sponsored through a seed grant from the Criminal Justice Research Center, as well as supplemental funding from the Group Health Foundation. Amy did an assessment of how victim recantation plays out in domestic abuse cases. She wanted to know which processes occur that bring about the common phenomenon of domestic violence survivors taking back accusations of violence towards their batterers. Since 2008, along with post-doctoral researcher Rashmi Gangamma, Amy assessed telephone conversations audio-taped at a Seattle detention facility between detained perpetrators of domestic violence and their victims. Amy says that this research project is “significant in determining intervention points for victims and perpetrators” and that the findings will help inform training for workers in the field. From their work, Amy and Rashmi have two manuscripts undergoing peer review which propose new theoretical interpretations of how and why victims arrive at their decision to recant their stories in court and/or refuse prosecution based on their telephone interactions with the batterer. Their team has given a total of 13 presentations across the United States on the topic.

The recantation project was also the inspiration for teaching OSU students about relationship violence. Amy was the keynote speaker at the Women’s Summit on Relationship Abuse on February 12 of this year. At the event, several OSU students with Sexuality Studies minors reenacted verbal abuse scenes to reveal the dynamics of abuse within relationships and the motivators for individuals who stay in abusive relationships. The vignettes contained dialogue directly from the taped conversations in Amy and Rashmi’s research study. Amy also asked participants to examine real police reports. Doing so spawned significant discussion on who had power and control in the given situations, and illustrated the types of violence, harassment, and intimidation factors that exist in abusive relationships. Currently, students in Amy’s graduate seminar are also using the audiotapes to develop their own theoretical interpretations of what keeps violent relationships intact.

Notably, Amy’s commitment to furthering our understanding of the links between relationships and health is paying off in recognition from the academic community. In April, her department nominated her for the College of Education and Human Ecology’s Dean’s Distinguished Scholar award. To find out more about Amy and her work, please go to her faculty webpage [here](#).

Thanks to Amy Bonomi and Beth Huebner 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.