

ASA Section on Aging & The Life Course

Hot Picks in Aging and the Life Course ... What Your Colleagues are Reading

This issue is devoted largely to recent books and articles relevant to aging and the life course that have been recommended by section members. Announcements of books recently published by section members also have been included. If you would like to recommend a "hot pick" for a future issue, please forward to lrhatch@uky.edu, or mail to Laurie Hatch, Department of Sociology, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506-0027. Thanks to all who provided recommendations.

winter/spring
2003

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Bengtson, Vern L., Timothy J. Biblarz, and Robert E.L. Roberts. 2002. How Families Still Matter: A Longitudinal Study of Youth in Two Generations.

How Families Still Matter casts doubt on much conventional wisdom about family decline during the last decades of the twentieth century. The authors draw from one of the longest-running longitudinal studies of families in the world -- the Longitudinal Study of Generations, conducted at the University of Southern California -- to discover whether parents are really less critical in shaping the life orientations and achievements of youth than they were a generation ago. Using survey data collected from as early as 1971, they compare the influence of parents (on self-confidence, values, and levels of achievement) on the Baby Boomer generation with that of Baby Boomer parents on their own Generation X children. The findings will be surprising to many readers.

Berardo, Felix M. and Donna H. Berardo. 2003. "Widowhood." Pp. 1708-1712 in International Encyclopedia of Marriage and the Family, edited by James J. Ponzetti, Jr.

This contribution continues a long record of writing on this important topic. F. Berardo published his first research article on widowhood in 1967! This updated piece thirty-three years later covers a range of significant social and social psychological dimensions associated with the status of and adjustment to being widowed. -- *Felix Berardo, University of Florida.*

Christakis, Nicholas A. 1999 (paperback edition 2001). Death Foretold: Prophecy and Prognosis in Medical Care. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

From the first page, where the author shares the personal impact that a poor prognosis had on his life, to the extensive methodological appendices and references at the end, this is a book that will inspire. Dr. Christakis' degrees represent a rare combination of medicine and sociology; the book combines survey research, intensive interviewing, clinical observation, and wide reading in ethics and the humanities to show us why prognoses are so difficult to make, and at the same time so necessary. It is an excellent resource for my current research on the quality of the last year of life. -- *Ellen L. Idler, Rutgers University.*

Connidis, Ingrid. 2001. Family Ties and Aging. Sage.

My current research interest is relationships in remarried older families, and I have found Connidis' recent book very useful. -- *Sarah Matthews, Cleveland State University.*

Ellis, Neenah. 2002. If I Live to be 100: Lessons from the Centenarians. New York: Crown Publishers.

In addition to being pleasurable to read, Neenah Ellis's *If I Live to be 100* would be useful in an undergraduate aging course. It provides unique insight into the aging experience that is expressed in the words of 19 centenarians living in the United States. -- *Janet Wilmoth, Syracuse University.*

Continued on next page...

Esping-Andersen, G. with D. Gallie, A. Hemerijck, and J. Myles. 2002. Why We Need a New Welfare State. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

This excellent new book contains 6 insightful essays on the future of European welfare states. These essays will be of special interest to members of our section because they take up challenges related to children, the elderly, gender, and work. -- *Richard A. Settersten, Jr., Case Western Reserve University.*

Estes, Carroll L. 2000. From gender to the political economy of aging. European Journal of Social Quality 2(1): 2846.

This article has been especially useful in demonstrating to undergraduates how a scholar working from both the political economy perspective and feminist theory would explain the persistent gap in income and sources of income among the elderly in this country. Estes looks at how and why women are more dependent on government support than men throughout their lives, but especially in old age, and how our current social policies and programs perpetuate a structure of male (especially white) privilege that is exacerbated at older ages, leaving elderly women (especially older women of color) economically vulnerable. -- *Deborah A. Abowitz, Bucknell University.*

Freedman, Vicki A., Linda G. Martin, and Robert F. Schoeni. 2002. Recent trends in disability and functioning among older adults in the United States. Journal of the American Medical Association 288 (4): 3137-46.

This is the most comprehensive review to date on this topic. Not only does it give an excellent review of the literature, but it reviews the most common surveys used in the field. If you're interested in disability and health among older adults in the U.S., this article should be taped to the side of your computer! -- *Miles Taylor, Duke University.*

Freidenberg, Judith Naomi. 2000. Growing Old in El Barrio. NY: New York University Press.

Growing Old in El Barrio is a richly textured ethnographic study of the lives of Puerto Rican elders living in an East Harlem community, including their health, work trajectories, social networks, and economic difficulties. I found it particularly insightful because of the links that are drawn throughout the book to broader social issues, such as discrimination and income inequality. I think this book would provide a great frame for discussing immigration, poverty, and aging in undergraduate or graduate courses. -- *Anne Barrett, Florida State University.*

Gierveld, Jenny de Jong. 2001. Unity and diversity in the living arrangements of older adults in different regions of Europe. EuroAmerica 31(3): 461-517.

I am currently at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland on a Fulbright teaching the Sociology of Aging. Because I teach the course from a comparative perspective, I find this article extremely valuable as it integrates sociostructural and cultural differences not only between countries but also regions of Europe in its explanation of living arrangements among the elderly. Further, it offers a nice comparison to living arrangements within the United States. -- *Duane A. Matcha, Siena College.*

Handel, Gerald. 2003. Making a Life in Yorkville: Experience and Meaning in the Life-Course Narrative of an Urban Working-Class Man, with a foreword by Vern Bengtson and Victor Marshall. New York: Aldine de Gruyter.

By innovations in method and theory, this volume demonstrates how life histories can illuminate "the experienced life course," as contrasted with the prevailing focus on what John Clausen called "the expectable life course." It thus opens a new window on the life course.

Hatch, Laurie Russell. 2000. Beyond Gender Differences: Adaptation to Aging in Life Course Perspective. Amityville, NY: Baywood Publishing Company, Inc.

Beyond Gender Differences provides an in-depth answer to the questions: "how do men and women manage the challenges of later life?" and "how are older men's and women's experiences molded by social and historical context?" Important theoretical and methodological issues are given equal weight; the discussion of methodological limitations in stress/adaptation research is a particularly good teaching tool. Another terrific feature: a very extensive list of references, spanning the classics to the most recent journal articles. -- *Deborah Carr, Rutgers University.*

Hummert, Mary Lee and Jon F. Nussbaum (Eds.). 2001. Aging, Communication, and Health: Linking Research and Practice for Successful Aging. New Jersey: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.

Aging, Communication, and Health offers interdisciplinary perspectives in research on the intersections of aging, communication, and health. My own research interests drew my focus to the section on

“patient-provider communication and successful aging.” Yet, I also found a number of selections in the volume to be of benefit in understanding how aging-related health affects communication about health and social circumstance, especially regarding caregiving relationships and health related decision-making. All contributors offer directions for communication-related research possibilities and applications in aging and health. -- *Debora Paterniti, University of California, Davis.*

Kuh, Diana and Rebecca Hardy (Eds.). 2002. A Life Course Approach to Women’s Health. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

This book consists of 18 chapters and brief commentaries examining links between early life circumstance and reproductive events, adult health behaviors, and lifetime SES influences to health at middle and advanced ages. Especially valuable for sociologists are the chapters examining social and psychosocial pathways from environment to health. This book is part of an exciting new subfield of life course epidemiology, and is the second installment in a series of research on life course approaches to the study of adult health being published by Oxford University Press. -- *John Taylor, Florida State University.*

Lewis, Michael. 2001. NEXT: The Future Just Happened. NY: Norton.

Mostly we gerontologists operate with a Weberian conception of status and life style; they have certainly served us well to date. But the future may hold a different metric, a different determination of how success is defined and the importance of tracking those changes cannot be overestimated. *NEXT* will add a new tool to the way gerontologists go about predicting key turning points in the life course. -- *Joe Hendricks, Oregon State University.*

Markson, Elizabeth W. 2003. Social Gerontology Today: An Introduction, with an afterword by Stephen J. Cutler. Los Angeles: Roxbury Publishing Co.

Coverage includes the major social, psychological, and biological perspectives on aging and old age. At the end of each chapter, readers will find a list of readily available films and videos, relevant, reliable websites, research articles, and recommended supplemental readings. An instructor's manual/testing program, free student study guide, and dedicated website accompany the text.

Matthews, Sarah H. 2002. Sisters and Brothers/Daughters and Sons: Meeting the Needs of Old Parents. Cleveland State University Bloomington, IN: Unlimited Publisher.

Using the words of the siblings, this book provides a rich picture of older family life, one that questions the wisdom of associating burden with having old parents. It also makes the case that in order to understand families it is necessary to focus on relationships among members, in this case, on ties among parents, brother and sisters, and their spouses. The book is intended not only for use in college classrooms to bring issues facing older families to life but also for adult children and older parents who want to understand better their family relationships.

Moen, Phyllis (Ed.). 2003. It’s about Time: Couples and Careers. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.

This is a multidisciplinary volume based on the Couples and Careers Survey, designed and analyzed by faculty and fellows in the Cornell Careers Institute (funded by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation since 1997). *It’s about Time* examines the mismatch between the real life experiences of dual-earner couples and the “rules of the game” -- the outdated work-hour and career assumptions and policies based on an economy and a workforce characteristic of the U.S. in the 1950s, not the 2000s. It captures the various occupational and family career strategies couples use in light of the disconnect between their circumstances and the breadwinner/homemaker template, showing how this increasingly rare arrangement continues to shape not only work, but also gender and family expectations, as well as work-hour and career-path roles, rules, and regulations. The evidence from this book suggests that it is about time for the United States to confront the realities and needs of contemporary working couples and indeed, all members of the new workforce. Each chapter builds the case for the need to re-imagine and reconfigure work hours, workweeks, and occupational career paths in ways that address the widening gaps between the time needs and goals of workers and their families, at all ages and stages of the life course.

Mortimer, Jeylan T. 2003. Working and Growing Up in America. Harvard University Press.

Based on more than a decade of longitudinal study, this book examines teenagers’ motivations to work, their changing work experiences as they move through adolescence, and the consequences of these experiences for their preparation for adulthood.

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Mortimer, Jeylan T. and Reed W. Larson (Eds.). 2002. *The Changing Adolescent Experience: Societal Trends and the Transition to Adulthood*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.

How will the experience of adolescence be affected by key societal phenomena--demographic trends, information technology, environmental degradation, and advances in medicine and genetics? This volume identifies such ominous changes as unstable job markets and widening income gaps, while at the same time observing opportunities created by information technology and innovations in health service delivery. This volume examines these and other macrostructural changes that are likely to impact adolescents' lives and their futures as adults.

National Institute on Aging Books on Aging and Health by the U.S. National Academies CDROM, Spring 2003 Update.

This CD is my pick for reading on a desert island (remember to pack a CD reader and batteries). It contains the complete contents of fourteen books published by The National Academies Press: *The Aging Mind: Opportunities in Cognitive Research*; *Assessing Knowledge of Retirement Behavior*; *Assessing Policies for Retirement Income: Needs for Data, Research, and Models*; *Between Zeus and the Salmon: The Biodemography of Longevity*; *Cells and Surveys: Should Biological Measures be Included in Social Science Research?*; *Demography of Aging*; *Elder Mistreatment: Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation in an Aging America*; *Forecasting Survival, Health, and Disability (Summary of a Workshop)*; *Improving Access to and Confidentiality of Research Data (Report of a Workshop)*; *Improving Data on America's Aging Population (Summary of a Workshop)*; *New Horizons in Health: An Integrative Approach*; *Preparing for an Aging World: The Case for Cross-National Research*; *Racial and Ethnic Differences in the Health of Older Americans*; *Trends in Disability at Older Ages (Summary of a Workshop)*. The CD is available free of charge and can be obtained by calling 800-222-2225. In addition, the BSR CD (which contains all of the NAS volumes plus additional BSR information, including grant abstracts, program announcements, reports of workshops, Census statistical publications on aging, etc) is being updated and can be obtained later on by calling the same number. -- *Richard Suzman, National Institute on Aging, NIH*.

Olshansky, S. Jay, Leonard Hayflick, & Bruce A. Carnes. 2002. Position statement on human aging. *Journal of Gerontology: Biological Sciences* 57A: B292-B297.

Confused about the claims of antiaging medicine? About the scientific potential for life span extension? This consensus statement from 52 biogerontologists is designed to inform the public about the distinction between pseudoscience and genuine progress in the science of aging. With antiaging now a big business, this is a great reading to assign to students. -- *David J. Ekerdt, University of Kansas*.

Phillipson, Chris, Miriam Bernard, Judith Phillips, and Jim Ogg. 2001. *The Family and Community Life of Older People -- Social Networks and Social Support in Three Urban Areas*. London: Routledge.

This is an insightful, engaging study of English pensioners (women 60 and older, and men 65 and older) in three communities located in metropolitan areas. The authors trace changes in family structure and "support convoys" since World War Two into the present. The older two generation family (the middle-aged and the elderly) has largely given way to one-generation elderly couples, many of whom have younger relatives living nearby. However, multi-generational patterns are still strong among the many Asian immigrant elderly to be found in England. Although political economy is not a major focus in this book, American gerontologists who delve into it will find ample reminder that the English welfare state, in both its national and local workings, offers a more sustaining public cushion for the hardships of aging than anything so far devised in the United States. -- *Eugene Gallagher, University of Kentucky*.

Randall, William L. and Gary M. Kenyon. 2001. *Ordinary Wisdom: Biographical Aging and the Journey of Life*. Praeger: Westport, CT.

It is important for social scientists to think scientifically. It is equally important to learn to think narratively. The two are not the same, but each helps prevent blind spots that come from having only one perspective on any gerontological subject. -- *Chuck Longino, Wake Forest University*.

Richardson, Virginia E. and Shantha Balaswamy. 2001. Coping with bereavement among elderly widowers. *Omega: An International Journal for the Study of Dying, Death, Bereavement, Suicide, and Other Lethal Behaviors* 43(2): 129-145.

This article has made a great contribution to the study of older people because it is the first published study on grief that focuses on older men. Moreover, the sample size is larger than any previous study on widowers (n=200). Comparing men bereaved 500 days or less with those bereaved over 500 days, well-being, negative affect, positive affect, and reinvestment activities (i.e. dating, receiving support from neighbors) were found to differ significantly between the two groups of bereaved men. This article is a long-overdue resource for researchers interested in grief among older people, making it no longer necessary to make inferences about grieving men from studies on bereaved women. -- *Wendy Grove, The University of Akron*.

Robine, J.M., C. Jagger, C.D. Mathers, E.M. Crimmins, and R.M. Suzman (Eds.). 2003. Determining Health Expectancies. West Sussex, England: John Wiley and Sons.

This book, organized by the REVES network (a French acronym for Réseau Espérance de Vie en Santé which stands for International Network on Healthy Life Expectancy) provides a detailed look at how health expectancy research and methods evolved in the scientific community in response to international trends in population aging. -- *Mark Hayward, The Pennsylvania State University.*

Ross, C. E., & J. Mirowsky. 2002. Age and the gender gap in the sense of control. Social Psychology Quarterly 65:125145.

Typical of their work, Mirowsky and Ross have once again integrated insightful theoretical hypotheses with sophisticated modeling. Their work supports the hypothesis that the gender gap in the sense of control is greatest in older persons, and that if narrows in future generations, it will be the result of the leveling effects of educational attainment. -- *Fred Wolinsky, Saint Louis University.*

Roszak, Theodore. 2001. Longevity Revolution. Berkeley, CA: Berkeley Hills Books.

This is a refreshing and thoughtful book written by social historian Theodore Roszak, which paints an optimistic view for society with increasing numbers of aged citizens. Roszak refers to the survival of the "gentlest" as our avenue to imbue our society with solid, if at times utopian values, of justice, helping others, and alleviation of suffering. Roszak challenges grim pictures of an America replete with elders and illustrates how a society can gain by empowering its seniors. There is material of interest to sociologists, policy makers, and those of us happy to be part of the longevity revolution. -- *Eva Kahana, Case Western Reserve University.*

Sen, Amartya. 1992. Unequality Reexamined. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

See especially Chapter 7, Poverty and Affluence. Poverty is a well-known difficult concept, and also difficult to measure. This work of Sen (a Nobel prize winner) is in my opinion of much importance in tackling the problem, especially with regard to the aged. -- *Geert P.A. Braam, University of Twente.*

Settersten, Richard A., Jr. (Ed.). 2003. Invitation to the Life-Course: Toward New Understandings of Later Life. Amityville, NY: Baywood Publishing Co.

I recommend this book to anyone interested in acquiring an understanding of life course theory and research. Across a wide spectrum of areas (e.g., work and retirement, health, leisure, families, policy), the contributions point not only to the richness of a life course perspective, but also to what's required for the perspective to realize even more fully its potential. -- *Stephen J. Cutler, University of Vermont.*

This book contains an excellent collection of essays by scholars associated with the life course perspective. It is a great introduction to the uses and controversies concerning the use of this perspective and the promise of life course analysis for advancing our understanding of later life. I will be using it for my graduate life course seminar in the fall. -- *Christine L. Himes, Syracuse University.*

Silverstein, Merrill, Stephen J. Conroy, Haitao Wang, Roseann Giarrusso, and Vern L. Bengtson. 2002. Reciprocity in parent-child relations over the adult life course. Journals of Gerontology: Social Sciences 57B: S3-S13.

Silverstein et al's analysis is a superb combination of theory, data, and methods. Their use of growth curve models provides a highly convincing case for the existence of intergenerational reciprocity over very long periods of time as well as new evidence about the timing of support given from parents to children. -- *Mick Cunningham, Western Washington University.*

Symposium on Ambivalence in Intergenerational Relationships, published in the Journal of Marriage and Family in August, 2002 (volume 64, number 3, pp. 558-601).

The series features a lead article, "Sociological ambivalence and family ties: A critical perspective," by Ingrid Connidis and Julie McMullin with responses by Vern Bengtson, Roseann Giarrusso, J. Beth Mabry, and Merrill Silverstein; Sara Curran; and Kurt Lüscher. The symposium concludes with a rejoinder by Connidis and McMullin. As JMF editor, I'm probably biased, but I could anticipate the excitement about this work in reading draft versions of the lead paper and the responses. The merging of critical, feminist, and symbolic interaction perspectives in Connidis and McMullin's essay is helping me to think about family relations in adulthood in new and creative ways. -- *Alexis Walker, Oregon State University.*

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Hot Picks

Hot Picks

Waldron, Hilary. 2002. Mortality Differentials by Race [ORES, Working Paper Series, No. 99]. Washington, D.C., Division of Economic Research, Office of Research, Evaluation, and Statistics, Social Security Administration Office of Policy, December.

This study examines for the first time with adequate samples the question as to whether the often reported fact that blacks "on average have both lower incomes and shorter life expectancies than other Americans" is explained by differences between their average socioeconomic status and that of other Americans. Waldron notes in beginning that there are serious questions about the calculation of average life expectancies for blacks because "conventionally constructed African-American death rates may be seriously flawed as early as age 50" and that death reporting is less accurate for blacks overall. Further, as calculation of average life expectancies is extremely sensitive to the base age at which one calculates from (i.e., at birth, age 40 or age 65), discussion of differences between the black and other populations have to take this into account. The findings are of immense value for discussions about the equity and adequacy of social security benefits for the African-American population as a whole and particularly for women. One important finding is that mortality rate differentials between black men and others are widest at age 25 and narrow quite a bit by age 45 and are largely "explained by differences in average educational achievement." -- *Harold L. Orbach, Kansas State University.*

White, Joseph. 2001. False Alarm: Why the Greatest Threat to Social Security and Medicare is the Campaign to "Save" Them. Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press.

This book contains a great deal of data and a number of compelling arguments that I have found useful in my writing about Social Security reform and the proposed partial privatization of Social Security. Of particular value is his very clear treatment of many of the economic arguments. He shows how to present many of these arguments in a way that a general audience (as opposed to an audience of economists) will find easy to understand. -- *John B. Williamson, Boston College.*

Willis, Sherry L. and James D. Reid. 1999. Life in the Middle: Psychological and Social Development in Middle Age. New York: Academic Press.

This edited volume is the only collection I know of that focuses exclusively on the relatively understudied period of the life course, middle age. The various chapters cover topics such as health and disease, psychological well-being, gender roles, and midlife crisis. This volume was extremely useful for me while writing my dissertation last year, as most research relevant to my topic only examined adults over the age of 65 or all adults together. -- *Michelle L. Rogers, Brown University.*

Call for Nominations

Award for Distinguished Scholarship

This award honors a scholar in the field of aging who has shown exceptional achievement in research, theory, policy analysis or who has otherwise advanced knowledge of aging and the life course. Nominations should take the form of a letter outlining qualifications and contributions that are the basis for your suggestion. Additional letters supporting the nomination are not required but are encouraged. Nominations should be sent by April 1, 2003 to: Eileen Crimmins, Andrus Gerontology Center, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA 90089-0191, crimmin@usc.edu.

Graduate Student Paper Award

The section invites original student papers on any topic related to sociology of aging and the life course. Papers co-authored with faculty members are ineligible. Papers already published are eligible if they appeared in print after January 1, 2000. Self-nominations are encouraged. An award of \$250 is presented to the winner at the Business Meeting of the section, held during the ASA Annual Meeting in August of each year. Send three (3) copies of the nominated paper in the ASA format by June 1, 2003 to: Merril Silverstein, Andrus Gerontology Center, University of Southern California, 3715 McClintock St., Los Angeles, CA 90089-0191, merrills@usc.edu.

Call for Applications

MIDUS (Midlife in the United States) Pilot Grant Program

Application deadline: July 1, 2003
Award notification: August 1, 2003

Two pilot project grants will be awarded for innovative interdisciplinary research on adult health and well-being, with an emphasis on integrative approaches to understanding life course and subgroup variations in physical, socio-emotional, and cognitive functioning. All research must be based on the National Survey of Midlife Development in the United States (MIDUS) data set, as well as its satellite studies including the National Study of Daily Experiences (NSDE) and sibling/twin subsample studies. Grants of up to \$15,000 will be awarded to investigators from a variety of disciplines. Complete information on the pilot grant program and the MIDUS data are available at the following website: http://www.rci.rutgers.edu/~carrds/midus/midus_home.htm.

For additional information, contact:

Dr. Deborah Carr, Department of Sociology and Institute for Health, Health Care Policy & Aging Research, Rutgers University, 30 College Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901, carrds@rci.rutgers.edu, 732-932-4068.

Call for Proposals

Aldine de Gruyter is launching a new series entitled "The Life Course and Aging," for which proposals are invited. The purpose of the series is to publish exemplars of research in the rapidly evolving field of life course research, building on both empirical and theoretical developments.

Authors are invited to submit original research monographs and some edited and overview volumes. Only original material will be considered for the edited volumes. We invite participation of international scholars in the series and intend to publish both established and emerging scholars. Reflecting the interdisciplinary nature of the life course perspective, contributions from sociology, social psychology, social anthropology, history, and policy studies will be considered.

The first three volumes in the series, to be published this year, are: *Global Aging and Its Challenge to Families*, edited by Vern L. Bengtson and Ariela Lowenstein; *Making a Life in Yorkville: Experience and Meaning in the Life-Course Narrative of an Urban Working-Class Man*, by Gerald Handel; and *The Life Course: Sequences, Institutions, and Interrelations*, edited by Walter R. Heinz and Victor W. Marshall. A fourth has been signed up, and others are in the works.

Queries and prospectuses should be sent to Dr. Richard Koffler, Executive Editor, Aldine de Gruyter, 200 Saw Mill River Rd., Hawthorne, NY 10532.

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Call for Papers

International Perspectives on Families and Social Change

Major social processes involving economic and cultural globalization; democratization; and fundamentalist, modernist, and postmodernist clashes are changing family life everywhere in unprecedented and often unanticipated ways. In 2004, the *Journal of Marriage and Family* will publish a special 5th issue on "International Perspectives on Families and Social Change." *JMF* invites submissions from scholars around the world whose work addresses the interface of families and society. We seek manuscripts focused on the relations between family changes and broad changes or upheavals in social, cultural, economic, and political institutions. We encourage submissions that examine families and social change in a single nation, region, or subregion, or cross-nationally, cross-culturally, or globally. Topics may include shifts in family structure; changes in marriage, cohabitation, and divorce; renegotiations of gender relationships, work/family systems, and intergenerational caretaking; and changes in fertility, longevity, and mortality. Topics also may include how changes in these arenas affect societies in multiple ways, including consequences for social welfare provisioning, economic and social planning, and creating and transmitting culture through religious, civic, and other social institutions. Submissions may include micro-, macro- and meta-level analyses. Preference will be given to manuscripts that foreground race/ethnicity, class and/or caste, or gender stratification. Papers must be postmarked by August 1, 2003. Send manuscripts or inquiries to:

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Position Announcement

Visiting Assistant Professor Department of Sociology & Gerontology Miami University

The Department of Sociology and Gerontology, in cooperation with the Scripps Gerontology Center, seeks a visiting assistant professor to teach in our graduate and undergraduate programs in social gerontology. This is a one year position beginning in August 2003. We seek applicants with a Ph.D. in Sociology, Gerontology or a related discipline with an emphasis in gerontology. A degree in Sociology is preferred; The PhD must be conferred by August 2003. The successful candidate will teach both introductory and specialty courses in social gerontology. Women and minorities are strongly encouraged to apply. Miami University offers equal opportunity in employment and education. Send letter of application, including statement of teaching philosophy and research interests, curriculum vita, evidence of teaching effectiveness and research quality, and the names of three references to:

Jennifer Kinney, Chair, Gerontology Search Committee
Sociology & Gerontology Department
Miami University
375 Upham Hall
Oxford, OH 45056
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Application review begins January 2003.