



Division of Victimology

Newsletter

American Society of Criminology

Summer 2024

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Greetings DOV members!

Summer is here! For many of us it means getting our scholarship under control and trying to recover from the fall and spring semesters. Thank you to Jordana for always spearheading the newsletter and keeping everyone on track. The newsletter team has been working to create an impactful edition that brings to our membership important research, spotlights and community discussions. Enjoy!

We are excited to share a book review of *Hardship Duty: Women's Experiences with Sexual Harassment, Sexual Assault, and Discrimination in the U.S. Military* by Dr. Stephanie Bonnes. Dr. Bonnes has expertly amplified the voices of our servicewomen, and their experiences of sexual harassment, assault and discrimination experienced with our armed forces.

Meet Dr. Suzanne St. George Coble, who engages in much-needed work on rape myth acceptance across actors of the criminal-legal system, and more recently among members of the LGBTQ+ community. Dr. St. George Coble is also an inspiring mentor not only to her students but also to members across division of the ASC.

Shout-out to the astounding DOV members who spent the month of April spreading awareness about sexual assault within their institutions and communities. We are so appreciative of the opportunity to highlight Dr. Behounek's students' Clothesline Project, Dr. Qi's founding and leadership of the Center for Empowering Victims of Gender-based Violence at Fort Hays State University, Dr. Colby Valentine's collaborative work that USF's Center for Victim Advocacy and Violence Prevention and Dr. Shelly Clevenger's Painting with a Purpose event and Dr. Katie Ratajczak's Take Back the Night event. Thank you so very much.

The DOV is looking for mentoring tips, tricks, experiences or even ideas for the newsletter! Please reach out to Dr. Nicole Rader. Mentoring is a critical part of the division and particularly important for those looking to work within victimology!

The DOV will be holding an election for chair! Please consider self-nominating or nominating someone you know is interested!

Enjoy the summer,

With appreciation,
Joan

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www.twitter.com/ascdov

New research? Interesting pedagogical approach to teaching about victimization? Other cool and relevant topics? Don't forget to tag us with @ASCDOV or #ASCDOV!

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Book Review & Meet the Authors

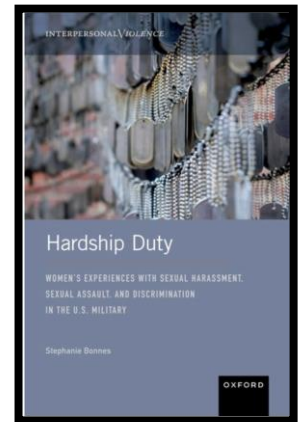


Hardship Duty: Women's Experiences with Sexual Harassment, Sexual Assault, and Discrimination in the U.S. Military, December 2023, Oxford University Press

By: Stephanie Bonnes

Who is your target audience for this book? My target audience is anyone who is interested in understanding sexual harassment and assault in organizations as well as gender in organizations. I believe my book also speaks to servicewomen's experiences and hope that current and former members of the military read the book.

In what ways does your book add to the conversation surrounding victimology? To decrease sexual assault in organizations, it is often suggested to create more policies that punish perpetrators or that encourage victims to report. In 2024, the military has comprehensive and victim-friendly policies and services designed to reduce sexual assault as well as to assist victims. Yet, despite prevention efforts, estimated sexual assaults are increasing, reporting is decreasing, and the problem persists across all branches of the military. My book starts with this puzzle of how sexual abuse remains highly prevalent in an organization that has dynamic policies, prevention strategies, and evolving education programs designed to combat sexual violence. I use in-depth interviews with 50 servicewomen to uncover how masculinity and misogyny are entangled in the organization's structure, policies, values, physical spaces, and culture in ways that create sexual abuse vulnerability. I also developed the term "bureaucratic harassment" which explains how organizational abuse can occur through bureaucratic and administrative channels. I show how victimization is made possible at the structural, interactional, and interpersonal levels.



Which aspect/part of the book are you particularly proud of? I am proud that the book represents the voices and experiences of the 50 U.S. servicewomen who shared their stories with me. I am proud that they are the center of the book. While my analysis helps piece their stories together to understand how sexual harassment and assault unfold in the military and how it impacts victims, it is the voices of the women I spoke with that allow for this story to be told. In terms of analysis, I am particularly proud of Chapter 3 which explores how spatial arrangements and geography contribute to sexual violence vulnerability as this is often an overlooked component of vulnerability.

After someone is done reading the book, what do you hope they walk away with? I hope people realize that sexual violence, while an interpersonal event, is an organizational and structural issue. That is, organizations can encourage or discourage sexual violence through institutional values, rules, and culture. I have tried to outline precisely how this occurs in the military context, but this is true of many organizations.

What advice would you give to first-time authors? You must be the biggest champion of your work and framing really matters when pitching to editors. That said, it can be so helpful to find a series editor who is excited by and supportive of your book project. Series editors are usually academics who edit a series with a specific press, and they can endorse your work to editors working at the press. Being in a series can also be helpful for marketing your book once it is out. My book is in the interpersonal violence series at *Oxford University Press*, and I am so thankful to Claire Renzetti who is the editor for this series.

What did you learn while putting this book together? Is there anything you would have done differently if given the chance? I learned that writing a book is so different from writing an academic article! My first draft of my book read much more like a series of academic articles rather than a cohesive book. I think this is a part of the process when turning a dissertation into a book, but if I were to do something differently, I would not use my dissertation as scaffolding for the first draft of the book and instead start fresh. I ended up with something completely different from my dissertation in terms of tone, framing, analysis, and overall arguments but this could have been done more quickly if I had not used the dissertation as a starting point.



SUBMIT TO THE 'MEET THE AUTHORS!' Please consider submitting on any topic relevant to DOV! If interested, please contact [Danielle Slakoff](#).

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Dr. Suzanne St. George Coble is an Assistant Professor in the School of Criminal Justice and Criminology at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UALR). Suzanne is interested, broadly, in the ways culture and social structure form challenges for victims, exacerbate vulnerability, and contribute to secondary victimization in the criminal-legal system. After receiving her Ph.D. in Criminology and Criminal Justice from Arizona State University, Dr. Coble's research has predominantly focused on the intersection of race, gender, and sexual orientation with sexual violence, as well as police, attorney, and jury decision-making in sexual assault cases. She has worked on projects funded by the National Institute of Health and the Department of Justice. Dr. Coble's recent work has appeared in the *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, *Police Quarterly*, *Victims and Offenders*, *Violence Against Women*, *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, and the *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*. Additionally, she co-authored a chapter on police response to sexual assault in *Transforming the Police: Thirteen Key Reforms*.

While balancing her teaching and research load, Dr. Coble expressed that she is most proud of the mentoring she has done across the ASC divisions over the last two years. As a versatile researcher, she prioritizes mentorship with students at her current institution and externally from various majors. Dr. Coble's mentorship has ranged from guiding students with conference poster and paper presentations, serving on honors thesis committees, aiding doctoral students with their job market applications, and preparing them for interviews and job talks.

Currently, Dr. Coble is working on several projects, including research that looks at rape myth acceptance among LGBTQ+ individuals. Separately, she is collecting data through a randomized vignette survey to examine how attorney questioning during child sexual abuse trials impacts mock juror perceptions of children's credibility. She credits her mentees for assistance with these projects. Additionally, Suzanne is collaborating with UALR's Bowen School of Law and the Center for Racial Justice and Criminal Justice Reform to research equity and fairness in Arkansas' district courts.

The Division of Victimology is proud of Dr. Coble's contribution to our field and looks forward to reading her ongoing research!

Read more about Dr. Coble:

Denne, E., **George, S. S.**, & Stolzenberg, S. N. (2023). Developmental considerations in how defense attorneys employ child sexual abuse and rape myths when questioning alleged victims of child sexual abuse. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 38(23-24), 11914-11934.

St. George, S., Denne, E., & Stolzenberg, S. (2022). "This incident happened when there were 10 people in the house?" Exploring a framework to categorize defense attorneys' plausibility questioning in CSA trials. *Psychology, Crime, & Law*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1068316X.2022.2104277>

Denne, E., **St. George, S.**, & Stolzenberg, S. (2022). Myths and misunderstandings about child sexual abuse in criminal investigations. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*. (Advanced online publication) <https://doi.org/10.1177/08862605221093679>



SUBMIT TO THE MEMBER SPOTLIGHT! Please consider nominating a member for the member spotlight! If interested, please contact Alessa Juarez (via JNavarr1@citadel.edu).

Coffee, Crime, and Real Talk

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and our members were very busy this year on their campuses and in their communities spreading awareness and support. Translating our research out of journals and into communities where it is needed is not always an easy task. Highlighted below is some of the amazing work our members accomplished this April.

Elaina Behounek, Ph.D. – Middle Georgia State University

Dr. Behounek's students hosted a Clothesline Project event on their campus. Students on campus had the opportunity to design shirts and then the following day they were displayed, as pictured above. They partnered with their local Crisis Line and Safe House of Central Georgia and student created pamphlets with information on sexual assault and IPV were also distributed at the event.



Ziwei Qi, Ph.D. – Fort Hays State University

Dr. Qi is not only a faculty member, but also the co-founder and director of the Center for Empowering Victims of Gender-based Violence on her campus. For the past three years, they have hosted an information fair called "Love and Healthy Relationships Expo." The Expo aims to provide vital information and essential training for students and the community interested in learning about 1) relationship health, 2) resources available to the students and community, and 3) critical issues in healthy relationships.

Colby Valentine, Ph.D. – University of South Florida

Dr. Valentine shared the collaborative work that USF's Center for Victim Advocacy and Violence Prevention did for the month of April, which included three large events in collaboration with campus and community partners. Their Sexual Assault Awareness Month launch event, Empower April, focused on engaging students in community action during April and beyond. At this passport-style event, students visited community partner tables to explore ways to get involved in the movement to end violence—by learning about resources, building positive relationship skills, mobilizing peers, and supporting survivors. After visiting tables, students created a customized SAAM action plan. They also planned and hosted both Denim Day and Take Back the Night. During their Denim Day event participants contributed denim squares with affirming messages for survivors, which we used to create a denim quilt of support in real time (inspired by St. Mary's College in Maryland).



Shelly Clevenger, Ph.D. – Sam Houston State University

Dr. Clevenger held her annual Painting with a Purpose event again this year on SHSU's campus. During this event, students and community members are invited to use art as a method of reflection and healing. Each year participants may choose to either keep their art or donate it to that year's local organization, who raffles them off for fundraising.



Katie Ratajczak, Ph.D. – Sam Houston State University

I also planned quite a few events for April this year, but my favorite will always be Take Back the Night. This year my Family Violence took on the planning and hosting of TBTN for a community-engaged class. The students organized community partners to provide resources and support throughout the rally, march, and speak out, including the local rape crisis center and campus counseling center. They used the knowledge that they gained from the course to design an impactful march with many stops along the route where they would read quotes from survivors and share vital statistics and recourses. During the speak out survivors and supporters had space to share their truth.



This is just a small sample of the myriad of events and community partnerships our members engaged with this April. What events did you host? Maybe these events will help you develop something new on your own campus or in your communities.



SUBMIT TO THE COFFEE, CRIME AND REAL TALK! Please consider submitting on any topic relevant to DOV! If interested, please contact [Katie Ratajczak](#).

Mentoring



The mentoring committee is currently seeking submissions for the newsletter! If you have ideas for submissions or would like to take part, please contact the section lead below!



SUBMIT TO THE MENTORING SECTION! Please contact [Nicole Rader](#) if you are interested in contributing or participating in the Mentoring section.

Member Announcements

Books

Bonnes, S. *Hardship Duty: Women's Experiences with Sexual Harassment, Sexual Assault, and Discrimination in the U.S. Military*. Oxford University Press. [Request a copy](#). Read about this book in our "[Meet the Authors](#)" section of this newsletter!

Clevenger, S., Navarro, J.N., Marcum, C.D., & Higgins, G.E. (2024). [Understanding Victimology: An Active Learning Approach \(2nd edition\)](#). Routledge. [Request a copy](#).



Gjika, A. (2023). *When Rape Goes Viral: Youth and Sexual Assault in the Digital Age*. University of California Press. [Request a Copy](#). Recipient of the ASA's Sociology of Sex and Gender Distinguished Book Award for 2024.

Yager, J. (2024). *Essentials of Victimology: Crime Victims, Theories, Controversies, and Victims' Rights*. Aspen Publishing. [Request a review copy to JYager@aol.com](#).

Journal Articles

Bonnes, S., Tosto, S., & McCarthy, K. (2024). ['My coping doesn't really matter:' How Military Lawyers Navigate Vicarious Trauma through Emotional Labor and Emotion Work](#). *Feminist Criminology*.

Burden, M. & Roddy, A. (In-Press). The Effects of Polyvictimization on Indigenous Youth's Mental Health and Negative Coping Mechanisms. *Victims & Offenders*.

Kaufman, Joanne M. (2024). [Women's Life Strains, Race/Ethnicity, and Intimate Partner Violence Perpetration](#). *Crime & Delinquency*. Online First: <https://doi.org/10.1177/00111287241231740>

Long, J.S., & McNeeley, S. (2024). [Testing the Assumption that People Incarcerated for Sex Crimes against Children are at an Increased Risk of Victimization in Prison](#). *Victims & Offenders*, 1-16.

Palmer, J. E., Lee, J., & Michels, E. (2024). [Civil Legal Services and Survivor-Defined Justice: A Qualitative Study with US Civil Legal Attorneys for Sexual Assault Survivors](#). *Social & Legal Studies*. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/09646639241253094>

Position Announcements

Assistant Professor. Department of Victim Studies at Sam Houston State University. Desired research expertise in applied research, and desired teaching expertise in victimology, victimization, and victim services. For more information, please reference the job posting [here](#) or contact Drs. [Clevenger](#) or [Mulvey](#).

Assistant Professor (Two Positions). Department of Justice, Law & Criminology at American University. Advertisement is forthcoming!

Assistant Teaching Professor. Department of Sociology at Mississippi State University. Desired teaching expertise is criminology and is broadly defined. For more information, please reference the job posting [here](#) or contact [Dr. Raymond Barranco](#).

Lecturer of Criminal Justice. Department of Criminal Justice at Indiana University at South Bend. Desired teaching expertise in research methods, criminal justice statistics, corrections and criminal justice, race and crime, comparative criminal justice systems, terrorism, and/or courts and criminal justice. For more information, please reference the job posting [here](#) or contact [Dr. Stacie Merken](#).

**AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
CRIMINOLOGY
DIVISION OF VICTIMOLOGY**

Onward and Upward!

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