AN EXAMINATION OF THE NEW YORK STATE WORKERS’ COMPENSATION REFORM ACT OF 2007
Julia Ostrov

Workers’ compensation, a critical safety net for injured and ill workers in the form of medical care and wage replacement benefits, emerged on the heels of the Industrial Revolution as the first extensive social insurance program in the United States. Over the past two decades, workers’ compensation policy in New York State has followed a national trend of severe retrenchment in benefits to workers. This paper takes as its focus an examination of the most recent workers’ compensation reform legislation in New York, and provides a discussion of the important role social workers can play in promoting social justice within the workers’ compensation system.

REFRAMING NEW FRONTIERS FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES
Hilary Weaver

This paper examines colonial and Indigenous perspectives on frontiers. The United States context is used to further focus on the historic impact of the frontier on Native Americans. This is followed by a discussion of how boundaries and frontiers might be reframed in more balanced ways that respect the sovereignty of Indigenous nations. Examples are presented from child welfare and casino gaming to illustrate contemporary interactions across boundaries.

SOCIAL WORK ADVOCACY: PROFESSIONAL SELF-INTEREST AND SOCIAL JUSTICE
Mary Ellen Brown, Michelle Livermore, and Annahita Ball

This study employed an analysis of the advocacy-related resources and materials available through the 50 NASW state chapter websites. Results revealed that a large number of states had no information about advocacy on their websites (42%). One third of the mission statements reviewed contained language indicating that advocacy was part of the chapter mission, while nearly as many included no content related to advocacy or social justice on their homepages. Nearly two thirds of the websites contained no resources, tools or links to help with advocacy practice, promotion or education. Thirteen advocacy themes emerged, which represented policy issues within the state advocacy agendas. Professional Self-Interest was the issue with the highest frequency (17%) across the 2010 state chapter agendas, but the 12 other social justice issues combined dominated the legislative agendas (83%). Professional self-interest issues accounted for the highest rate of prevalence on state agendas, as it appeared on 86% of the chapter agendas analyzed.

WHO’S LEFT OUT: CHARACTERISTICS OF HOUSEHOLDS IN ECONOMIC NEED NOT RECEIVING PUBLIC SUPPORT
Vincent A. Fusaro

The American welfare state is often referred to as a social safety net, yet many in economic need do not receive public benefits. This article examines the characteristics of low-income households in the United States that do not participate in any of several public cash or near-cash support programs. Using the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) 2008 panel—a representative sample of U.S. households—households below the federal poverty threshold but not participating in any of eleven different income support programs were identified. Over a third (38.02%) of households in poverty did not receive any assistance from the examined programs. Non-participating households differ from program participating households in such areas as racial and ethnic demographics, educational attainment, number and age of children, household employment status, and financial resources.

APPLYING SEN’S CAPABILITY APPROACH TO UNDERSTAND WORK AND INCOME AMONG POOR PEOPLE IN INDIA
Mahasweta M. Banerjee

Applying Sen’s capability approach, this paper explores income poor individuals’ capabilities—abilities, skills, resources, and opportunities at personal, inter-personal, and structural levels—for work and income. It reports on data collected from 92 individuals identified through purposive sampling and interviewed face-to-face. The study found that 11% of respondents had varied work capabilities and earned a relatively high
income; 49% of respondents had some work capabilities and were in the medium income bracket; 40% of respondents had few work capabilities and remained below the poverty line; and 8% of respondents with even fewer work capabilities were not working. Implications include expansion of certain work abilities, skills, resources, and opportunities to enhance poor people's capability for work.

RELATIONSHIP-BASED JUSTICE FOR GENDER RESPONSIVE SPECIALTY COURTS
Margaret H. Lloyd

Family drug courts (FDCs) have existed in the U.S. since 1994. Since that time, dozens of studies have found evidence that FDCs improve child welfare outcomes compared to traditional dependency courts. The level of sophistication of this research has stalled, however, arguably because the theoretical foundations of the approach are underdeveloped. The social psychological theory of procedural justice can predict and explain outcomes in treatment courts better than therapeutic jurisprudence. However, in light of evidence suggesting that gender impacts treatment court outcomes, procedural justice alone falls short as the mechanism of change in family drug courts, because women constitute the majority of FDC participants. To reconcile the empirical with the conceptual, concepts from Lind and Tyler's relational model of procedural justice are examined through the lens of the feminist relational cultural theory. Suggestions for continuing social work research into family drug courts are offered.

RACE-GENDER DIFFERENCES IN THE IMPACT OF HISTORY OF HEAVY DRINKING ON CURRENT ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION DURING THE TRANSITION TO ADULTHOOD
C. André Christie-Mizell, Whitney N. Laster Pirtle, Benjamin D. Tyndall, and David M. Merolla

American youth transitioning to adulthood consume more alcohol than in any other period of the life course. This high level of consumption can result in serious consequences, including lost productivity, death and disability, sexual assault, and addiction. Nevertheless, relatively little is known, especially by race and gender, about how prior history of heavy drinking (e.g., in late adolescence) impacts drinking in young adulthood. Utilizing data from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (1994-2004) for African Americans, Latinos, and Whites (N = 2,300), we found that Whites and Latinos drink more than African Americans, and men report drinking more than women. However, accounting for a history of heavy drinking introduces considerable variation in current drinking patterns by race–gender status. A history of heavy drinking more than doubles the number of drinks consumed by African American women, putting their drinking levels on par with African American men and White women and raising their level of drinking above Latinas. Further, African American women's probability of heavy drinking becomes indistinguishable from that of African American men and White women, once accounting for a prior history of binge drinking. For Latinas with a history of heavy drinking, the probability of being a current binge drinker is equal to Latinos and White men and higher than African Americans and White women.

BOOK REVIEWS

Reconciling Work and Poverty Reduction: How Successful are European Welfare States?
Bea Cantillon and Franz Vandenbroucke (Eds.), Activation or Workfare? Governance and the Neo-liberal Convergence.
Ivar L.demel and Amilcar Moreira (Eds.).
Reviewed by James Midgley.

All I Want is a Job: Unemployed Women Navigating the Public Workforce System.
Mary Gatta.
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Edward D. Berkowitz and Larry DeWitt.
Reviewed by Benjamin W. Veghte.

The Power of the Past: Understanding Cross-Class Marriages.
Jessi Streib.
Reviewed by Mary Ann Kanieski.

Failure to Flourish: How Law Undermines Family Relationships.
Clare Huntington.
Reviewed by Mark E. Courtney.
Human Rights and Adolescence.
Jacqueline Bhabha, Ed.
Reviewed by David Tobis.

Can’t Catch a Break: Gender, Jail, Drugs, and the Limits of Personal Responsibility.
Susan Starr Sered and Maureen Norton-Hawk.
Reviewed by Brandy Henry.

Ghettoside: A True Story of Murder in America.
Jill Leovy.
Reviewed by John DeCarlo.

Café Culture in Pune: Being Young and Middle Class in Urban India.
Teresa Platz Robinson.
Reviewed by Michael Gilbert.