

Abstracts for some of the conference speakers' recent research were available at the conference as handouts. The following list is a copy of these abstracts.

Baker, Wayne E. and Robert R. Faulkner (2004). Social networks and loss of capital. *Social Networks*, 26, 91-111.

Economic sociologists and white-collar criminologists offer competing predictions about the outcomes of socially embedded transactions. Economic sociologists stress the protective and beneficial role of social networks. Their evidence shows that social ties improve transaction outcomes. White-collar criminologists focus on the harmful and exploitative role of social networks. Their evidence shows that social ties facilitate successful economic crimes. Our case permits a critical test of the protective versus harmful effects of social ties: a business that operated as a legitimate enterprise and also engaged in ongoing financial fraud. This case is strategic because the role of social networks *ex post* is theoretically ambiguous for a legitimate-fraudulent business. Do social networks lower, raise, or have no effect on the probability of loss of capital, given that an investment has been made? The probability of loss of capital depends on due diligence and type of social tie. Investors who fail to conduct due diligence and do not use social ties have a 79% probability of loss of capital, controlling for other factors. Investors who conduct due diligence (and do not use social ties) have a 49% probability. Investors with preexisting social ties to the principals, sales representatives, or employees of the company (and do not conduct due diligence) have a 39% probability of loss, while those with this type of social tie who also conduct due diligence have a 14% probability. Investors with preexisting social ties to prior investors are not significantly more or less likely to lose their capital. Even in a business that was partly fraudulent, preexisting social ties to the company played a protective and beneficial role. Ironically, fraudulent behavior lowered the probability of loss for investors with this type of social tie: Illegal practices allowed the company to favor friends and acquaintances in the *ex post* allocation of proceeds.

Baker, Wayne E., Robert R. Faulkner; Gene A. Fisher. (1998). Hazards of the Market: The Continuity and Dissolution of Interorganizational Market Relationships. *American Sociological Review*, 63. 147-177.

We propose a theory of the market as an "intertemporal" process that integrates multiple theoretical perspectives. Using event-history methods, we analyze the dissolution of interorganizational market ties between advertising agencies and their clients as a function of three forces—competition, power, and institutional forces. The informal "rules of exchange" institutionalized in the "emergence" phase of the advertising services market include exclusivity (sole-source) and loyalty (infrequent switching). We find that most exchange relationships between advertising agencies and their clients are indeed exclusive, and most last for several years; but competition, power, and institutional forces support or undermine these rules. Most institutional forces reduce the risk of dissolution of agency-client ties. Powerful advertising agencies mobilize resources to increase tie stability, but powerful clients mobilize resources to increase or decrease stability. Competition is the weakest market force, but it has a consistent and substantial effect on tie dissolution: Competition always increases the risk of dissolution. We conclude that the market is institutionalized as imperfectly repeated patterns of exchange, because competition and changing norms about the duration of market ties destabilize market relationships.

Brehm, John and Wendy Rahn. (1997). Individual-Level Evidence for the Causes and Consequences of Social Capital. *American Journal of Political Science*, 41, 999-1023.

Social capital is the web of cooperative relationships between citizens that facilitates resolution of collective action problems (Coleman 1990; Putnam 1993). Although normally conceived as a property of communities, the reciprocal relationship between community involvement and trust in others is a demonstration of social capital in individual behavior and attitudes. Variation in social capital can be explained by citizens' psychological involvement with their communities, cognitive abilities, economic resources, and general life satisfaction. This variation affects citizens' confidence in national institutions, beyond specific controls for measures of actual performance. We analyze the pooled General Social Surveys from 1972 to 1994 in a latent variables framework incorporating aggregate contextual data. Civic engagement and interpersonal trust are in a tight reciprocal relationship, where the connection is stronger from participation to interpersonal trust, rather than the reverse.

Browning, Christopher R. and Kathleen A. Cagney. (2003). Moving Beyond Poverty: Neighborhood Structure, Social Processes and Health. *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, 44, 552-71.

We investigate the impact of neighborhood structural characteristics, social organization, and culture on self-rated health in a large, cross-sectional sample of urban adults. Findings indicate that neighborhood affluence is a more powerful predictor of health status than poverty, above and beyond individual demographic background, socioeconomic status, health behaviors, and insurance coverage. Moreover, neighborhood affluence and residential stability interact in their association with health. When the prevalence of affluence is low, residential stability is negatively associated with health. Neighborhood affluence also accounts for a substantial proportion of the racial gap in health status. Finally, collective efficacy is a significant positive predictor of health but does not mediate the effects of structural factors.

Browning, Christopher R., Seth L. Feinberg, and Robert D. Dietz. (2004). The Paradox of Social Organization: Networks, Collective Efficacy, and Violent Crime in Urban Neighborhoods. *Social Forces*, 84, 503-534.

Theories of neighborhood social organization and crime have not effectively explained the existence of socially organized, high-crime neighborhoods. We describe and test an alternative theory of urban violence that highlights the tension between two dimensions of social organization -- social networks (ties and exchange between neighborhood residents) and collective efficacy (mutual trust and solidarity combined with expectations for prosocial action) -- in the regulation of neighborhood crime. We argue that while social networks may contribute to neighborhood collective efficacy, they also provide a source of social capital for offenders, potentially diminishing the regulatory effectiveness of collective efficacy. This negotiated coexistence model is considered alongside two competing theories of neighborhood crime drawn from the systemic and cultural transmission perspectives. We test these theories using 1990 census data, the 1994-95 Project on Human Development in Chicago Neighborhoods Community Survey, and 1995-97 Chicago Homicide Data. Consistent with the negotiated coexistence approach, spatial lag models of violent victimization and the 1995-97 log homicide rate indicate that the regulatory effects of collective efficacy on violence are substantially reduced in neighborhoods characterized by high levels of network interaction and reciprocated exchange.

Buchan, Nancy R. and Rachel T.A. Croson. (2004). The Boundaries of Trust: Own and Other's Actions in the US and China. *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 55, 485-504.

This paper examines the boundaries of trust and trustworthiness in the United States and China. In each country we measure how reported trust and trustworthiness change as the social distance to one's partner increases. We also compare the influence of social distance on one's own behavior versus its influence on one's expectations of another's behavior. We find participants in the US to be well-calibrated in this respect; actions and expectations move in similar ways in response to social distance. In China however, individuals report themselves to be more responsive to social distance than they expect others to be.

Buchan, Nancy R, Rachel T.A. Croson, and Robyn M. Dawes. (2002). "Swift Neighbors and Persistent Strangers: A Cross-Cultural Investigation of Trust and Reciprocity in Social Exchange." *American Journal of Sociology*, 108, 168-206.

In four countries, levels of trust and reciprocity in direct-reciprocal exchange are compared with those in network-generalized exchanges among experimentally manipulated groups' members (neighbors) or random experimental participants (strangers). Results show that cooperation decreases as social distance increases; and, that identical network-generalized exchanges generate different amounts of trusting behavior due solely to manipulated social identity between the actors. This study demonstrates the interaction of culture and social identity on the propensity to trust and reciprocate and also reveals differing relationships between trust and reciprocation in each of the four countries, bringing into question the theoretical relationship between these cooperative behaviors.

Buchan, Nancy R., Rachel T.A. Croson, and Eric J. Johnson.
(forthcoming). Trust and Reciprocity: An International Experiment.
Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization.

This paper identifies when other-regarding preferences (ORPs) such as trust, reciprocity and altruism will likely arise. We experimentally examine the influence of social distance and communication on ORPs in four countries; China, Japan, Korea and the United States. We demonstrate that country of origin significantly influences ORPs, but also find mixed support for the relationship between ORPs and social distance; increasing social distance has the expected negative effect in the individually-oriented US, but its effects internationally are different. This interaction is explained by an individual's cultural orientation. Finally, we show strong evidence that personal but irrelevant communication significantly increases ORPs.

Chanley, Virginia J., Thomas J. Rudolph and Wendy M. Rahn. (2000). The Origins and Consequences of Public Trust in Government: A Time Series Analysis. *Public Opinion Quarterly*, 64, 239-256.

The study of citizens' trust in the national government has been primarily individual-level, cross-sectional analysis. In the current research, we develop a quarterly time series measure of trust in the U.S. national government from 1980 to 1997 and conduct the first multivariate time series examination of public trust in government. We find that negative perceptions of the economy, scandals associated with Congress, and increasing public concern about crime each lead to declining public trust in government. Declining trust in government in turn leads to less positive evaluations of Congress and reduced support for government action to address a range of domestic policy concerns. These results provide new evidence of the influence of public concern about crime and the centrality of Congress in understanding public evaluations of the national government and new evidence of how declining levels of trust in government may influence elections and domestic policy making.

Chaves, Mark, Laura Stephens, and Joseph Galaskiewicz. (2004). Does Government Funding Suppress Nonprofits' Political Activity? *American Sociological Review*, 69, 292-316.

Autonomy from the state has been considered a core feature of American civil society, and understanding the consequences of perceived threats to that autonomy has been a central theme in social and political theory. We engage this theme by examining a specific question: What is the effect of government funding on nonprofit organizations' political activity? Extant theory and research identify some mechanisms by which government funding might reduce nonprofit political activity and other mechanisms by which government funding might enhance such activity. We investigate this relationship with two data sets: a national sample of religious congregations and a longitudinal sample of nonprofit organizations in Minneapolis–St. Paul. Results across these data sets are consistent and compelling: The relationship between government funding and nonprofit political activity is either positive or null; government funding does not suppress nonprofit political activity.

Cheshire, Coye and Karen S. Cook. (2004). The Emergence of Trust Networks under Uncertainty-Implications for Internet Interactions. *Analyse & Kritik*. 26, 220-240.

Computer-mediated interaction on the Internet provides new opportunities to examine the links between reputation, risk, and the development of trust between individuals who engage in various types of exchange. In this article, we comment on the application of experimental sociological research to different types of computer-mediated social interactions, with particular attention to the emergence of what we call 'trust networks' (networks of those one views as trustworthy). Drawing on the existing categorization systems that have been used in experimental social psychology, we relate the various forms of computer-mediated exchange to selected findings from experimental research. We develop a simple typology based on the intersection of random versus fixed-partner social dilemma games, and repeated versus one-shot interaction situations. By crossing these two types of social dilemma games and two types of interaction situations, we show that many forms of Internet exchange can be categorized effectively into four mutually exclusive categories. The resulting classification system helps to integrate the existing research on trust in experimental social psychology with the emerging field of computer-mediated exchange.

Erickson, Bonnie H., Patricia Albanese, and Slobodan Drakulic. (2000). Gender on a Jagged Edge: The Security Industry, Its Clients, and the Reproduction and Revision of Gender. *Work and Occupations*, 27, 294-318.

The security industry has seen an influx of women in recent decades. Although some have been reseggregated into relatively poorly rewarded jobs seen as suitable for women, some have found better jobs or jobs usually seen as “men’s work.” We trace these variable outcomes to the flexibility of ideas about jobs and gender, the greater power of ideas about gender relationships, the tension between gender homophily and gender status expectations, relationships to clients and targets (people dealt with for the client), and client and target gender. Gender ideas, inequality, and segregation are both reproduced and revised in the security industry.

Frank, Kenneth A. and Jeffrey Y. Yasumoto. (1998). Linking Action to Social Structure within a System: Social Capital within and between Subgroups. *American Journal of Sociology*, 104, 642-686.

Differences in transactions within and outside of cohesive subgroups are hypothesized to be a function of actors' pursuit of different forms of social capital. In an example of the French financial elite, subgroups are identified based on the pattern of friendships, and graphical representations establish the descriptive link between social structure and action. Estimates from multilevel models quantify the extent to which actors abstain from hostile action against subgroup members but tend to support others not in their subgroup. These complementary findings establish the subgroup as a critical mesolevel entity, defined by the social structure while affecting action.

Frank, Kenneth A., Yong Zhao, and Katheryn Borman. (2004). Social Capital and the Diffusion of Innovations within Organizations: Application to the Implementation of Computer Technology in Schools. *Sociology of Education*, 77, 148-171.

Although the educational community has learned much about better educational practices, less is known about processes for implementing new practices. The standard model of diffusion suggests that people change perceptions about the value of an innovation through communication, and these perceptions then drive implementation. But implementation can be affected by more instrumental forces. In particular, members of a school share the common fate of the organization and affiliate with the common social system of the organization. Thus, they are more able to gain access to each others' expertise informally and are more likely to respond to social pressure to implement an innovation, regardless of their own perceptions of the value of the innovation. This article characterizes informal access to expertise and responses to social pressure as manifestations of social capital. Using longitudinal and network data in a study of the implementation of computer technology in six schools, the authors found that the effects of perceived social pressure and access to expertise through help and talk were at least as important as the effects of traditional constructs. By implication, change agents should attend to local social capital processes that are related to the implementation of educational innovations or reforms.

Galaskiewicz, Joseph and Akbar Zaheer. (1999). Networks of Competitive Advantage. *Research in the Sociology of Organizations*, 16, 237-261.

Argues that social network analysis has utility for students of strategic management. Strategy is conceived as a control agenda whereby organizations strive to control the behavior of competitors, suppliers, customers, and other stakeholders in the organizational field. Interorganizational and interpersonal networks enable firms to gain competitive advantage. Focus here is on efforts by firms to utilize their networks to impose their terms on suppliers and customers and to convince competitors to further the firms' interests, eg, by exercising restraint. In short, competitive advantage accrues by collaborating with those who have direct ties to the firms (eg, suppliers and customers) and with competitors, explicitly or implicitly, on price, manufacturing, research and development, etc, to achieve interorganizational ends through tacit collusion, long-term contracts, strategic alliances, and interlocking directorates. Alternatively, firms may use the social networks of their organizational agents who have interpersonal ties to individuals in other firms. Social capital - which is unique for each firm - explains why some firms can gain a competitive advantage over others using collaborative strategies. Considered are problems that can arise if firms choose to utilize the social capital of agents and when agents' social capital is more or less effective in advancing firms' strategic agendas.

Glanville, Jennifer L. (1999). Political Socialization or Selection? Adolescent Extracurricular Participation and Political Activity in Early Adulthood. *Social Science Quarterly*, 80, 279-290.

Objective. Previous research on the effects of extracurricular participation on subsequent political activity largely ignores the possibility that the relationship could be spurious. I examine the role of extracurricular activities in predicting adult political behavior, controlling for personality characteristics and political attitudes that potentially select people into both extracurricular and political participation. **Methods.** I use data from the senior cohort of High School and Beyond for the analysis. Logistic regression models are employed to predict voting, working for a political campaign, donating money to a campaign, and attending a political gathering. I also explore the issue of measurement error in the indicators for personality characteristics and political attitudes. **Results.** Instrumental extracurricular activities, such as student government, positively predict political involvement in early adulthood, net of self-efficacy, sociability, political interest, political awareness, and community leadership attitudes. **Conclusions.** Personality traits and political attitudes only partially account for the association between extracurricular activities and some forms of political participation in adulthood, indicating that extracurricular participation does play a role in developing political engagement.

Glanville, Jennifer L. (2004). Voluntary Associations and Social Network Structure: Why Organization Location and Type are Important. *Sociological Forum*, 19, 465-491.

Are voluntary associations integrative forces in our society because they promote diverse social ties, or do they primarily promote ties between socially similar people? The answer depends on the location and type of the organization. Neighborhood organizations reinforce network density and homogeneity, whereas more distant organizations enhance network diversity. In contrast to instrumental organizations, expressive organizations increase network density and homogeneity. When organizational location and type are taken into account, the influence of membership on network diversity does not vary by gender. Neighborhood racial composition does not moderate the relationship between membership in neighborhood organizations and network racial diversity.

Helliwell, John F., and Robert D. Putnam. (2004). The Social Context of Well-Being. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society (London) Series B*, 359, 1435-1446.

Large samples of data from the World Values Survey, the US Benchmark Survey and a comparable Canadian survey are used to estimate equations designed to explore the social context of subjective evaluations of well-being, of happiness, and of health. Social capital, as measured by the strength of family, neighbourhood, religious and community ties, is found to support both physical health and subjective well-being.

Our new evidence confirms that social capital is strongly linked to subjective well-being through many independent channels and in several different forms. Marriage and family, ties to friends and neighbours, workplace ties, civic engagement (both individually and collectively), trustworthiness and trust: all appear independently and robustly related to happiness and life satisfaction, both directly and through their impact on health.

Keister, Lisa A. (2001). Exchange Structures in Transition: A Longitudinal Study of Lending and Trade Relations in Chinese Business Groups. *American Sociological Review*, 66, 336-360.

Widespread access to public records of campaign contributions by corporate political action committees (PACs) have made these the preferred data for analyzing political partisanship within the capitalist class. By comparison, data on political contributions by individual capitalists were, until recently, difficult to obtain and rarely subjected to systematic study. Important differences are demonstrated between these two forms of capitalist political action by directly comparing the campaign contributions of 592 individual capitalists with the contributions of the 394 major corporations with which those capitalists were associated. Campaign contributions by individual capitalists follow a logic different from that of corporate PACs. Corporations are generally more interested in buying influence with incumbents, while individual capitalists are more concerned with bolstering the election prospects of favored candidates. By providing a more direct measure of capitalists' political preferences, the analysis of campaign contributions by individual capitalists clarifies theoretical questions that remain unresolved in the research based on corporate PACs. Variables that elude measurement when corporations are the units of analysis (e.g., ethnicity) are shown to have important consequences for capitalist political partisanship.

Keister, Lisa A. and Jin Lu. (2004). Financial Resources and Product Market Development: Strategic Choice and Institutional Processes During China's Transition. *Sociological Forum*, 19, 229-254.

During an economic transition from socialism, market exchange replaces redistribution. We study firm decisions to enter product markets to understand the factors that influence this process. Managers in Chinese State Owned Enterprises operated within institutional constraints to make strategic decisions, and state intervention shaped which factors were salient. Firms financed through central government and bond issues relied less on markets. Firms funded through local government moved into markets faster; firms funded by banks were initially faster to markets but slower to markets after bank reform shifted lending policies. Thus, the accessibility, flexibility, and stability of financing shaped decisions about market entrance.

McPherson, Miller, Lynn SmithLovin and James M. Cook. (2001). Birds of a Feather: Homophily in Social Networks. *Annual Review of Sociology*, 27, 415-444.

Similarity breeds connection. This principle—the homophily principle—structures network ties of every type, including marriage, friendship, work, advice, support, information transfer, exchange, comembership, and other types of relationship. The result is that people’s personal networks are homogeneous with regard to many sociodemographic, behavioral, and intrapersonal characteristics. Homophily limits people’s social worlds in a way that has powerful implications for the information they receive, the attitudes they form, and the interactions they experience. Homophily in race and ethnicity creates the strongest divides in our personal environments, with age, religion, education, occupation, and gender following in roughly that order. Geographic propinquity, families, organizations, and isomorphic positions in social systems all create contexts in which homophilous relations form. Ties between nonsimilar individuals also dissolve at a higher rate, which sets the stage for the formation of niches (localized positions) within social space. We argue for more research on: (a) the basic ecological processes that link organizations, associations, cultural communities, social movements, and many other social forms; (b) the impact of multiplex ties on the patterns of homophily; and (c) the dynamics of network change over time through which networks and other social entities co-evolve.

Moody, James. (2004). The Structure of a Social Science Collaboration Network: Disciplinary Cohesion from 1963 to 1999. *American Sociological Review*, 69, 213-238.

Has sociology become more socially integrated over the last 30 years? Recent work in the sociology of knowledge demonstrates a direct linkage between social interaction patterns and the structure of ideas, suggesting that scientific collaboration networks affect scientific practice. I test three competing models for sociological collaboration networks and find that a structurally cohesive core that has been growing steadily since the early 1960s characterizes the discipline's coauthorship network. The results show that participation in the sociology collaboration network depends on research specialty and that quantitative work is more likely to be coauthored than non-quantitative work. However, structural embeddedness within the network core given collaboration is largely unrelated to specialty area. This pattern is consistent with a loosely overlapping specialty structure that has potentially integrative implications for theoretical development in sociology.

Moody, James and Douglas R. White. (2003). Structural Cohesion and Embeddedness: A Hierarchical Concept of Social Groups. *American Sociological Review*, 68, 103-127.

Although questions about social cohesion lie at the core of our discipline, definitions are often vague and difficult to operationalize. Here, research on social cohesion and social embeddedness is linked by developing a concept of structural cohesion based on network node connectivity. Structural cohesion is defined as the minimum number of actors who, if removed from a group, would disconnect the group. A structural dimension of embeddedness can then be defined through the hierarchical nesting of these cohesive structures. The empirical applicability of nestedness is demonstrated in two dramatically different substantive settings, and additional theoretical implications with reference to a wide array of substantive fields are discussed.

Paxton, Pamela. (1999). Is Social Capital Declining in the United States? A Multiple Indicator Assessment. *American Journal of Sociology*, 105, 88-127.

Despite a great deal of interest in a possible decline of social capital in the United States, scholars have not reached a consensus on the trend. This article improves upon previous research by providing a model of social capital that has explicit links to theories of social capital and that analyzes multiple indicators of social capital over a 20-year period. The results do not consistently support Putnam's claim of a decline in social capital, showing instead some decline in a general measure of social capital, a decline in trust in individuals, no general decline in trust in institutions, and no decline in associations.

Paxton, Pamela. (2002). Social Capital and Democracy: An Interdependent Relationship. *American Sociological Review*, 67, 254-277.

Current democratic theory and recent international policy initiatives reveal an intense interest in the relationship between social capital and democracy. This interest is the most recent variant of a long theoretical tradition positing that a vigorous associational life is beneficial for the creation and maintenance of democracy. Despite the popularity of this view, little quantitative empirical evidence exists to support the relationship. Here, the relationship between social capital and democracy is tested using data from a large, quantitative, cross-national study. Two additional tests are introduced. First, the plausible reciprocal effect-from democracy to social capital-is included in models. Second, the potentially negative impact of some associations on democracy is considered. Using data from the World Values Survey and the Union of International Associations in a cross-lagged panel design, results show that social capital affects democracy and that democracy affects social capital. Additional tests demonstrate that associations that are connected to the larger community have a positive effect on democracy, while isolated associations have a negative effect. Theory relating social capital to democracy is drawn from the literature on civil society, political culture, and social movements.

Paxton, Pamela and James Moody. (2003). Structure and Sentiment: Explaining Emotional Attachment to Group. *Social Psychology Quarterly* 66, 34-47.

Previous research suggests that network structure affects emotional attachment to groups, though few have identified this link in naturally occurring groups. Taking a conception of emotional attachment from the social identity tradition and a measure of attachment from Bollen and Hoyle, we test for the relationship between network structure and emotional attachment in a southern sorority. We find that centrality in the friendship network increases emotional attachment to the group. Members of sub-groups that are internally connected and also have cross-cutting ties throughout the sorority show higher emotional attachment to the group as a whole. This suggests that relational reinforcement is important for emotional attachment, but that overall attachment declines when subgroup relationships override connections to the remainder of the network. We also find that three dimensions of positive social participation increase attachment but that stressful and adversarial participation decreases attachment.

Putnam, Robert D. (2001). Civic Disengagement in Contemporary America. *Government and Opposition*, 36 (2), 135-156.

The social networks that allow individuals to work cooperatively toward a common effort are rapidly declining in the US. The result is that Americans have far less trust in their government, social institutions, & fellow citizens than they did just two generations ago. This deterioration in social capital has affected the well-being of American communities. When communities begin to decline, crime rates increase, educational systems weaken, & physical health suffers. It is essential, therefore, that new institutions be established to complement the present-day lifestyle. Social scientists need to spend less time in their Ivory Tower & more time thinking about strategies that can be applied to real-life situations.

Rahn, Wendy M., and John E. Transue. (1998). Social Trust and Value Change: The Decline of Social Capital in American Youth, 1976-1995. *Political Psychology*, 19, 545-565.

Given the importance that generalized social trust plays in various theories of American society, recent evidence of its low levels among younger people portends ominous changes in American civic life. Using survey data collected from high school seniors over the last 20 years, this paper examines the origins of social trust among young people and the causes of change in beliefs about trust over time. Such changes could not be accounted for by the explanations for declining trust offered in other accounts of social capital. An alternative explanation, based on the theoretical accounts of Alexis de Tocqueville and Emile Durkheim, is that materialistic values may be undermining young people's views about the trustworthiness of others. Both aggregate time series correlations and an individual-level model show that the rapid rise of materialistic value orientations that occurred among American youth in the 1970s and 1980s severely eroded levels of social trust. The paper concludes with some observations about the likely trajectory of American democracy, given the kinds of trends observed in the youth data.

Rotolo, Thomas and Miller McPherson. (2001). The System of Occupations: Modeling Occupations in Sociodemographic Space. *Social Forces*, 79. 1095-1130.

What accounts for changes in the social composition of occupations over time? We address this question by adapting an ecological theory of competition from McPherson (1983). This theory suggests that occupations compete for members in a niche space defined by the social composition of an occupation's members. As one occupation successfully acquires and retains new people with different sociodemographic characteristics, other occupations experience shifts in their sociodemographic composition. Using the Current Population Survey Annual Demographic Files (1972-82), we test dynamic hypotheses about changes in the age and education composition of occupations. The data strongly support the theory. We then ask whether the same dynamics apply to the professions and occupations. The data suggest that professional closure limits the movement of professions in the education dimension.

Sampson, Robert J., Jeffrey D. Morenoff and Thomas Gannon-Rowley. (2002). Assessing Neighborhood Effects: Social Processes and New Directions in Research. *Annual Review of Sociology* 28:443-478.

This paper assesses and synthesizes the cumulative results of a new “neighborhood-effects” literature that examines social processes related to problem behaviors and health-related outcomes. Our review identified over 40 relevant studies published in peer-reviewed journals from the mid-1990s to 2001, the take-off point for an increasing level of interest in neighborhood effects. Moving beyond traditional characteristics such as concentrated poverty, we evaluate the salience of social-interactional and institutional mechanisms hypothesized to account for neighborhood-level variations in a variety of phenomena (e.g., delinquency, violence, depression, high-risk behavior), especially among adolescents. We highlight neighborhood ties, social control, mutual trust, institutional resources, disorder, and routine activity patterns. We also discuss a set of thorny methodological problems that plague the study of neighborhood effects, with special attention to selection bias. We conclude with promising strategies and directions for future research, including experimental designs, taking spatial and temporal dynamics seriously, systematic observational approaches, and benchmark data on neighborhood social processes.

Sampson, Robert J. and Stephen W. Raudenbush. (2004). Seeing Disorder: Neighborhood Stigma and the Social Construction of "Broken Windows". *Social Psychology Quarterly*, 67, 319-342.

This article reveals the grounds on which individuals form perceptions of disorder. Integrating ideas about implicit bias and statistical discrimination with a theoretical framework on neighborhood racial stigma, our empirical test brings together personal interviews, census data, police records, and systematic social observations situated within some 500 block groups in Chicago. Observed disorder predicts perceived disorder, but racial and economic context matter more. As the concentration of minority groups and poverty increases, residents of all races perceive heightened disorder even after we account for an extensive array of personal characteristics and independently observed neighborhood conditions. Seeing disorder appears to be imbued with social meanings that go well beyond what essentialist theories imply, generating self-reinforcing processes that may help account for the perpetuation of urban racial inequality.

Todeva, Emanuela and David Knoke. (2005). Strategic alliances and models of collaboration. *Management Decision*, 43, 123-139.

The purpose of this paper is to engage in a comprehensive review of the research on strategic alliances in the last decade. Design/methodology/ approach - After presenting a typology of diverse alliance governance forms, reviews recent analyses of alliance formation, implementation management, and performance outcomes of collaborative activities. Findings - Strategic alliances developed and propagated as formalized interorganizational relationships. These cooperative arrangements represent new organizational formation that seeks to achieve organizational objectives better through collaboration than through competition. Practical implications - The paper provides future research directions on partner selection, networks patterns and processes, understanding the integration in alliances through fusion, fission, and how to manage developmental dynamics. Originality/value - Concludes with some future directions for theory construction and empirical research.

Yamagishi, Toshio, Karen S. Cook, and Motoki Watabe. (1998).
Uncertainty, Trust, and Commitment Formation in the United States and
Japan. *American Journal of Sociology*, 104, 165-195.

A theory of trust proposed by Yamagishi and Yamagishi provides the basis for the prediction that (1) social uncertainty promotes commitment formation between particular partners and (2) high trusters tend to form committed relations less frequently than would low trusters when facing social uncertainty. These predictions receive support in two experiments conducted in the United States and Japan. The findings provide empirical support for the theory of trust that emphasizes the role of general trust (trust in others in general) in emancipating people from the confines of safe, but closed relationships. The results also offer a theoretical explanation for what have been viewed in the past as cultural differences.

Yang, Song, and David Knoke. (2001). Optimal Connections: Strengths and Distance in Valued Graphs. *Social Networks*, 23, 285-295.

We identify some issues in measuring the strongest path connecting pairs of actors that arise in attempts to generalize binary graph concepts to valued graphs. Neither Peay's path value nor Flament's path length indicators take into account the costs of interacting via long chains of intermediaries. We proposed two alternative measures of optimal connections between dyads, respectively, dividing each measure by the distance between a pair (number of lines in a path). We illustrate these average path value (APV) and average path length (APL) measures with a hypothetical five-actor valued graph, observing instances where an indirect path may yield a stronger connection than a direct path. Computer programs to calculate these measures out to three steps for small graphs are available on request.