



Sociology on the Rock

Editor: Stephen Harold Riggins

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"The truth is not a hidden treasure, already there, that one can bring out by simply reproducing it as it is. Confession of the past realizes itself as a work in the present: it effects a true creation of self by the self."

French philosopher Georges Gusdorf (1980).

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Memorial's Queen Elizabeth II Library in late afternoon. Photo by Quinn Burt

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Stumbling up the Academic Ladder to Oxford

By **Bernie Hogan**

EDITOR'S NOTE: Bernie Hogan grew up in Gander. He completed a BA degree at Memorial University in 2002 and MA and PhD degrees at the University of Toronto. He is presently a Senior Research Fellow at the Oxford Internet Institute at the University of Oxford where he has worked for almost a decade.

At Memorial University I studied both sociology and computer science. I imagine it's still an uncommon combination (though I wish I could change that). With these skills I became an early entrant in the emerging field of computational social science.

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Work for Play and Play for Work: Professional Musicians in St. John's, Newfoundland

By **David Chafe**

When I was 19, I was a university flunk-out working four part-time jobs: stocking shelves at a liquor store, serving customers at a shoe store, building a house, and playing piano at a restaurant. It was the music gig that appealed to me the most. I had studied piano intensively since I was eight. But not yet brave enough to pursue a music career, I eventually finished my commerce degree, worked several years in one dissatisfying accounting job after another, while longing for making music and what might have been.

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The media's Representation of Social Activism by Iranian Women

By **Elahe Nezhadhossein**

The Situation of Women in Iran

Political and religious events in Iran, especially since 1925, have had an impact on Iranian women's social and economic activities. This includes Reza Khan and Pahlavi's dynasty and their anti-hijab policies; and after the 1979 Islamic Revolution the compulsory hijab and oppressive laws against women. But what is poorly understood by most people in the West is that the major problems related to gender inequality come from an undemocratic political system rather than the Shi'a interpretation of Islam. Political systems can support patriarchy through the legal system, for example by supporting men through family laws (see, for example, Sylvia Walby).

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An Anthropologist Builds a Tree House in Maddox Cove

Jean Briggs interviewed by Stephen Harold Riggins

EDITOR'S NOTE: From the time the first sociologist began teaching at Memorial, in 1956, anthropology and sociology have been closely associated. Personally, I hope we once again form a joint department. Our first sociologist created Memorial's earliest anthropology course; our first anthropologist was appointed to teach primarily sociology. Some anthropologists and sociologists have been close friends. Anthropologist Jean Briggs (1929-2016) counted sociologists among her friends. She specialized in psychological anthropology and linguistics. Her best-known publication, Never in Anger: Portrait of an Eskimo Family was based on her Harvard PhD thesis. By academic standards, it was a best-seller.

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The Clipboard

By **Stephen Harold Riggins**

The Democracy Cookbook: Recipes to Renew Governance in Newfoundland and Labrador (St. John's: ISER Books) contains essays by several contributors associated with the MUN Department of Sociology. The contributing sociologists are Karen Stanbridge "Renewing Democracy through Practice," Paula Graham "What if Kids ran the Government?," Ailsa Craig "Following up and following through' with Community Consultations," Rose Ricciardelli "A Democracy Process for Informing Public Safety and Justice," and Mark Stoddart "Democratizing Environmental Governance." The *Democracy Cookbook*, available electronically and soon in paperback, was edited by Alex Marland and Lisa Moore.

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PHOTO GALLERY

The photographs in this issue are by Quinn Burt, a second-year MA student in sociology at Memorial University. He has been an active amateur photographer for four years, focusing mostly on urban and natural landscapes. Born in Nova Scotia, Quinn began his education at Dalhousie, transferring to Memorial to finish his BA and start his MA. Throughout his MA, Quinn has been involved as a research assistant in the project Oil-Tourism Interface in the North Atlantic and has pursued publishing opportunities for his own work. His thesis project compares mainstream, independent, and indigenous media framing of Indigenous environmental activism between the Harper and Trudeau regimes. To see more of his photographs, visit <http://qbphotographs.tumblr.com/>

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