



Second Annual

PSYCHOLOGY DAY at the UNITED NATIONS

Psychology and Social Justice Related to the UN Global Agenda

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm



<http://sites.google.com/site/unpsychologyday/>

PROGRAM OUTLINE

SECOND ANNUAL PSYCHOLOGY DAY at the UNITED NATIONS

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 19, 2008

**DAG HAMMARSKJOLD AUDITORIUM
UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS, NEW YORK**

1:00pm – 1:15pm

OPENING REMARKS and INTRODUCTIONS

Florence Denmark, Ph.D. (Main Representative of the American Psychological Association and the International Council of Psychologists; Coordinator of the U.N. Psychology Day Planning Committee)

Norman Anderson, Ph.D. (CEO, American Psychological Association) **To be confirmed**

1:15pm – 1:30pm

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Speaker: Herbert Kelman, Ph.D. (*Emeritus* Richard Clarke Cabot Professor of Social Ethics, Harvard University)

TOPIC: *A One-country/Two-state Solution to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*

1:30pm – 2:15pm

PANEL #1

Human Behavior and Climate Change: A Social Justice Issue

Chairperson: **Peter Walker, Ph.D.** (UN/NGO Representative, Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, Co-Coordinator of the U.N. Psychology Day Planning Committee)

Speakers:

- **David Uzzell, Ph.D.** (Professor of Environmental Psychology, Department of Psychology, School of Human Science, University of Surrey)
- **Inka Weissbecker, Ph.D.** (NGO Representative of the International Union of Psychological Science to the United Nations; Executive Committee Member of the U.N. Family Committee; MPH candidate, Harvard University, School of Public Health)

Discussant: **Dr. Ani Kalayjian** (Professor of Psychology, Fordham University; President, Association for Trauma Outreach and Prevention; AUWA U.N. Representative)

2:15pm – 3:00pm

PANEL #2
Poverty Reduction and Social Justice: The Role of Psychology

Chairperson: **Mary O’Neill Berry, Ph.D. and Walter Reichman, Ed.D.** (UN/NGO Representatives, International Association of Applied Psychology)

Speakers:

- **Anthony Lemieux, Ph.D.** (Assistant Professor of Psychology, Purchase College, State University of New York)
- **Anthony Marsella, Ph.D.** (*Emeritus* Professor of Psychology, University of Hawaii, Honolulu)

3:00pm – 3:45pm

PANEL #3
Psychological Perspectives on the Abuse of Power

Chairperson: **Deanna Chitayat, Ph.D.** (UN/NGO Representative, American Psychological Association)

Speakers:

- **Susan Opotow, Ph.D.** (Professor, Department of Sociology, John Jay College, City University of New York, and President, Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues)
- **Stacey Sinclair, Ph.D.** (Associate Professor of Psychology & African American Studies, Princeton University)
- **Rita Chi-Ying Chung, Ph.D.** (Professor, Graduate School of Education and the Department of Psychology, George Mason University)

3:45pm – 4:00pm

CLOSING REMARKS

Florence Denmark, Ph.D. (Main Representative of the American Psychological Association and the International Council of Psychologists; Chair of Planning Committee)

4:30pm – 6:30pm

Reception for those preregistered.
Alcala Restaurant, 342 East 46th Street
Phone: 212-370-1866
CASH at the door, (\$10 for students, \$25 for non-students)

**SECOND ANNUAL PSYCHOLOGY DAY AT THE UNITED NATIONS
NOVEMBER 19, 2008**

**FLORENCE DENMARK, Ph.D.*
Planning Committee Chair**



It is my pleasure, on behalf of the Planning Committee, and of the psychologists associated with the United Nations, to welcome you to the Second Psychology Day at the UN.

The goals of our presentation today is to highlight the efforts of psychologists working with NGOs at the UN, to increase awareness of the ability of psychology to contribute to UN activities, and to emphasize the importance of considering both mental and physical health issues worldwide. Understanding psychological activities such as social justice issues related to the impact of climate change on human behavior, poverty reduction, and abuse of power, all may contribute to the United Nations' efforts to bring important social changes and create healthy environments for the peoples of the world.

Our keynote address will be delivered by Dr. Herbert Kelman of Harvard University. He will present a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The topic of the first panel will be on social justice issues pertaining to how climate change influences human behavior.

The topic of the second panel is on the role of psychologists in helping reduce poverty and promote social justice.

The topic of the third panel focuses on the psychological perspectives associated with the abuse of power.

We hope that you will benefit from this conference. We will be happy to hear your comments about this meeting and suggestions of topics for future psychology conferences at the United Nations.

Thank you for attending.

**Florence L. Denmark, has represented both the American Psychological Association and the International Council of Psychologists at the United Nations since January 2000. Dr. Denmark received her Ph.D. in Social Psychology from the University of Pennsylvania. She was the Robert Scott Pace Distinguished Professor and Chair of the psychology department at Pace University for 13 years. Prior to that time, Dr. Denmark was the Thomas Hunter Professor of Psychology at Hunter College and the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. She is currently the Robert Scott Pace Distinguished Research Professor at Pace University. Dr. Denmark has served as President of the American Psychological Association (APA), the International Council of Psychologists, and other regional and national organizations. At this time, she is currently Chair of the UN New York NGO Committee on Ageing, a member of the APA's Fellows Committee, and a former member of the APA's Committee on Aging. An internationally recognized scholar, researcher and policy-maker, with a particular expertise on the ageing of women, she is a Fellow of the APA and has received many national and international awards and five honorary doctorates. Dr. Denmark has authored or edited 15 books and over 100 articles and book chapters. She has presented numerous papers and reports on women's issues as well as ageing at local, regional, national and international meetings. In 2004, Dr. Denmark received the American Psychological Foundation's Gold Medal for Lifetime Achievement in the Public Interest. In 2005, she received the Ernest Hilgard Award for Distinguished Sustained Contribution to General Psychology, and in 2007, received the Raymond D. Fowler Award for Outstanding Contributions to American Psychological Association. Denmark was also elected to the National Academies of Practice as a distinguished scholar member in 2007.*

BIOGRAPHIES OF PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

TOPIC: *A One-country/Two-state Solution to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*

Herbert Kelman, Ph.D.

Emeritus Richard Clarke Cabot Professor of Social Ethics, Harvard University



Professor Kelman received his Ph.D. at Yale University, where he worked with Carl Hovland in the early days of the Yale attitude change project. He first came to Harvard in 1957 as Lecturer on Social Psychology in the Social Relations Department. In 1962 he moved to the University of Michigan as Professor of Psychology and Research Psychologist in the Center for Research on Conflict Resolution. He was an active participant in and for a while chair of the Joint Doctoral Program in Social Psychology. In 1968 he returned to Harvard as Richard Clarke Cabot Professor of Social Ethics, a chair originally held by Gordon Allport. From 1994-97, he chaired Harvard's Doctoral Program in Social Psychology. In 1999, he retired from teaching, but continued as Richard Clarke Cabot Research Professor of Social Ethics. In 2004, he became Richard Clarke Cabot Professor of Social Ethics, Emeritus.

The theoretical focus of Professor Kelman's work throughout his career has been social influence and attitude change, with an emphasis on the distinction between different processes of influence; on the relationship of action to attitude change; and on conceptions of personal responsibility for actions ordered by legitimate authorities. The last of these topics is the subject of his most recent book, *Crimes of Obedience: Toward a Social Psychology of Authority and Responsibility*, coauthored with V. Lee Hamilton (1989). He has explored influence processes in various applied settings, including psychotherapy, international educational exchanges, and more recently, problem-solving workshops in the resolution of international conflicts.

The latter work bridges his work on social influence and attitude change with his other long-standing interest in the social psychology of international relations. His work in conflict resolution has concentrated for a number of years on an action research program on the Arab-Israeli conflict. He has developed interactive problem solving, an unofficial third-party approach to the resolution of international and ethnic conflicts, anchored in social-psychological principles, and he and his colleagues have applied this approach to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and to other protracted conflicts between identity groups. He is associated with Harvard's Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, where he directed the Program on International Conflict Analysis and Resolution (PICAR) between 1993 and 2003 and co-chairs the Middle East Seminar.

Professor Kelman has also written and lectured extensively on the ethics of social research and social intervention, including ethical problems in human experimentation and the social consequences of psychological and social research.

PANEL 1 **Human Behavior and Climate Change: A Social Justice Issue**

David Uzzell, Ph.D.

Professor of Environmental Psychology, Department of Psychology, School of Human Science, University of Surrey



David Uzzell is Professor of Environmental Psychology at the University of Surrey in the UK. His research interests in climate change and sustainable development focus on social and critical psychological approaches to changing consumption and production practices. He is one of the Co-Investigators on a five year ESRC-funded interdisciplinary research programme examining the links between lifestyle, societal values and energy consumption (<http://www.surrey.ac.uk/resolve/>). *He has just started a project with colleagues in Sweden on “Trade Unions facing the dual challenge of globalising work division and environmental degradation: An interdisciplinary comparative case study” (Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research). *He was recently a consultant to the EU funded ChangeLAB Project (Changing Lifestyles, Attitudes and Behaviour) which devised practical proposals for local and regional governments to promote sustainable patterns of consumption (<http://www.changelabproject.org/>). Other research interests: risk; crime and the environment; architecture; the role of heritage on identity formation. He is Past President of the International Association of People-Environment Studies (IAPS). He is currently Visiting Professor in the Departments of Psychology and Sociology at the University of Umeå.

Inka Weissbecker, Ph.D.

NGO Representative of the International Union of Psychological Science to the United Nations; Executive Committee Member of the U.N. Family Committee; MPH candidate, Harvard University, School of Public Health



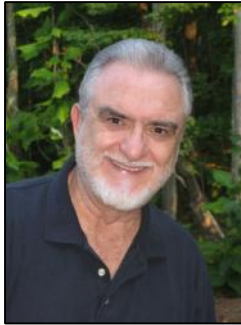
Dr. Weissbecker received her PhD in Clinical Psychology at the University of Louisville and she completed her clinical psychology internship with focus on mental health systems and policy at the University of South Florida. She is currently pursuing her MPH at Harvard University, specializing in Global Health and Humanitarian Studies. Dr. Weissbecker is an NGO representative of the International Union of Psychological Science to the United Nations (ECOSOC and DPI) and serves on the NGO Committee on Mental Health and the NGO Committee on the Family at the United Nations in New York. Her work focuses on mental health and psychosocial issues in the context of disasters, civil unrest, and complex emergencies. Her goal is to shed light on interventions that address prevention, mitigation, and recovery efforts at the community and public policy levels. Dr. Weissbecker has received rapid response funding from the National Science Foundation to conduct research during the 2007 California wild fires and she has collected data on long-term mental health outcomes among individuals who remained displaced after Katrina. Several of her projects have involved students in Service Learning, including a trip to Belize that assessed the integration of the "IASC Guidelines on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergency Settings" into current disaster mental health plans. Earlier this year, she co-directed a student project in Tanzania, which focused on the impact of climate change on human health. Her work at Harvard focuses on evidence based interventions and best practices that address mental health problems such as PTSD in low-resource settings, and on mental health issues in the context of peacebuilding.

Discussant: **Dr. Ani Kalayjian** (*Professor of Psychology, Fordham University; President, Association for Trauma Outreach and Prevention*)

PANEL 2
Poverty Reduction and Social Justice: The Role of Psychology

Anthony Marsella, Ph.D.

Emeritus Professor of Psychology, University of Hawaii, Honolulu



Anthony J. Marsella, Ph.D., is *Emeritus* Professor of Psychology, University of Hawaii, Honolulu, Hawaii, where he served as a Professor of psychology for 33 years. During his academic career, he also served as director of the World Health Organization Psychiatric Research Center in Hawaii, founder and director of the University of Hawaii Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance Program, director of clinical psychology training, and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs. He has been a visiting professor in Australia, China, India, Korea, and the Philippines, and a visiting lecturer at numerous national and international universities. Dr. Marsella has published 14 edited books and 190 book chapters, journal articles, and technical reports in cultural and international psychology and psychopathology. Many of his publications are considered essential reading. He is the recipient of numerous awards including the APA Award for the International Advancement of Psychology (1998), the International Psychologist of the Year Award from the International Division of APA (2004), the Asian American Psychological Association Presidential Award for lifetime contributions, and the Medal of Highest Honor from Soka University in Japan for his work in promoting global peace and justice. In 1999, he was awarded an honorary doctorate from the University of Copenhagen (*Doctoris Honoris Causas*) for contributions to cultural and international understanding and world peace. He serves currently as past President of the Psychologists for Social Responsibility.

Anthony Lemieux, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Psychology at Purchase College, State University of New York



Dr. Anthony F. Lemieux earned his Ph.D. and M.A. in Social Psychology at the University of Connecticut, and his B.A. in Psychology and Sociology at Boston College. He is currently an Assistant Professor of Psychology at Purchase College, State University of New York. Lemieux has studied applications of psychology across a wide range of topics, and has conducted research and published in several applied areas of psychology, including terrorism (Lemieux, 2006; Pratto, Lemieux, Glasford, & Henry, 2003), HIV prevention (Lemieux et al., 2008), intergroup relations and poverty (Lemieux and Pratto, 2003; Pratto & Lemieux, 2001; Hegarty, Pratto, & Lemieux, 2004), and the development of expertise among musicians (Chaffin & Lemieux, 2004; Chaffin, Lemieux, & Chen, 2006, 2007; Chaffin, Imreh, Lemieux, & Chen, 2003). His current research is supported by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, through the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, and previous research has been supported by the National Institute of Mental Health, and the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues. In addition to his research, Dr. Lemieux has been involved in the creation and evaluation of several intervention programs, including his work on conceptualizing and developing training modules for a computer-based HIV medication adherence program.

PANEL 3
Psychological Perspectives on the Abuse of Power

Susan Opotow, Ph.D.

Professor, Department of Sociology, John Jay College, City University of New York; President, Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues



Susan Opotow is a social and organizational psychologist. Her work examines the intersection of conflict, justice, and identity as they give rise to moral exclusion - seeing others as outside the scope of justice and as eligible targets of discrimination, exploitation, hate, or violence. She studies moral exclusion and moral inclusion in such everyday contexts as schooling, environmental and public policy conflict, and in more violent contexts, such as deadly wars and the post-war period. She has guest edited *The Journal of Social Issues* and *Social Justice Research* and co-edited *Identity and the Natural Environment: The Psychological Significance of Nature* (MIT Press, 2003). She is associate editor of *Peace and Conflict: Journal of Peace Psychology* and President of the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues.

Stacey Sinclair, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Psychology & African American Studies, Princeton University



Each day we are likely to interact with a variety of people, such as friends, relatives, and workmates, each of who has different thoughts and expectations. My research examines how participating in different interpersonal interactions shapes our self-understanding and evaluations of others, with a focus on outcomes related to ethnic and gender stereotyping, prejudice and discrimination. One line of research shows that individuals' stereotype-relevant self-views are shaped by the apparent beliefs of others. Individuals will engage in self-stereotyping when they want to get along with someone who seems to think stereotypes of their group are true, even if doing so may have non-relational negative consequences. A second line of research shows that although people can not consciously control their level of implicit prejudice, this form of prejudice can shift as a function of fleeting interpersonal interactions. A final line of research examines the impact of contact with members of other ethnic groups, and one's own ethnic group, on one's degree of prejudice. Overall, my work suggests interpersonal interactions are a vehicle by which cultural phenomena (e.g., stereotypes, prejudice) become individual thought.

Confirmation from Dr. Sinclair is pending.

Rita Chi-Ying Chung, Ph.D.

Professor in the Graduate School of Education and the Department of Psychology at George Mason University



Rita Chi-Ying Chung is a Professor in the Counseling and Development Program and the Department of Psychology at George Mason University. She obtained her doctorate in psychology at Victoria University in Wellington, New Zealand. Following her graduate studies Dr. Chung received the first New Zealand Medical Research Council (MRC - now Health Research Council [HRC]) Public Health Fellowship to work at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) National Research Center on Asian American Mental Health in the Psychology Department and later became a co-investigator and the project director for the first United States national study examining mental health issues of Chinese Americans. Dr. Chung's

research focuses on social justice and multiculturalism in the areas of psychosocial adjustment of refugees and immigrants, interethnic group relations and racial stereotypes, and trafficking of Asian girls. She has lived and worked in the Pacific Rim, Asia, and Latin American and served on the Executive Council of the International Association for Counselling. Prior to being a Professor at George Mason University Dr. Chung was a Professor at the Ohio State University and adjunct faculty member at Johns Hopkins University and George Washington University. She also worked as a consultant for the World Bank in Washington, DC. Dr. Chung has over 70 publications in professional journals and book chapters in major psychology and counseling textbooks including a book that she co-authored on refugee psychosocial adjustment and acculturation. She has given over 80 presentations on the topics noted above, which includes invited presentations and workshops throughout the U.S., the Asia Pacific Rim region, and South America. Dr. Chung is a recipient of the Counselors for Social Justice O'hana Award. She was recently invited to participate as the only person from North America in the joint National University of Singapore and University of Cambridge (UK), scientific organizing committee to plan a Asia Pacific Rim regional conference on cross-border issues, migration, and trafficking of children in Asia. Dr. Chung is currently a Consultant for Save the Children Alliance and is working in Myanmar conducting research on trafficking of children and child protection. The topic of her presentation is "Cultural Perspectives on Child Trafficking, Human Rights and Social Justice".

Co-Sponsoring Psychology Organizations

American Psychological Association
Association for Women in Psychology
International Association of Applied Psychology
International Council of Psychologists
International Union of Psychological Science
International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies
International Psychoanalytic Association
Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues
World Federation for Mental Health
World Council for Psychotherapy

Psychology Day Planning Committee

Berry, Mary O'Neill
Carll, Elizabeth
Chitayat, Deanna
Cook, Harold
Danieli, Yael
Denmark, Florence (*Coordinator*)
Kalayjian, Ani
Kantrowitz, Ricki
Kuriansky, Judy
Okorodudu, Corann
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Ravich, Rachel
Reichman, Walter
Rubin, Neal
Shahinian, Siroon
Sigal, Janet
Simon, Norma
Takooshian, Harold
Velayo, Richard
Walker, Peter (*Co-Coordinator*)
Weissbecker, Inka

Other Psychologists at the UN

Altman, Neil
Antonucci, Toni
Appelbaum, Lauren
BA, Moussa
DeLuca, Anthony
DeMeyer, Joseph
Forstyth Sommer, Desiree
Fulcher, Claire
Hallak, Maram
Hand, Sean
Mahfouz, Afaf
McCormick, Mercedes
Montaiseti, Christina

Murino, Eva
Nadien, Margot
Nanaj, Emmanuela
Opotow, Susan
Owens, Vicki
Sabourin, Michel
Siegel, Karen
Tylim, Isaac
Weiss, Alfred
Wesner, Robert