

# THE INFORMANT 2.0: SOCIOLOGY NEWSLETTER

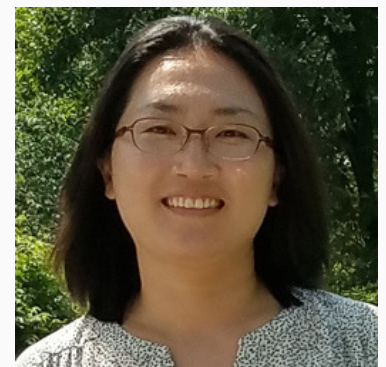


From the Chair - 1
<b>Undergrad News - 2</b>
Graduate News - 3
<b>Staff News - 4/5</b>
Graduate Student Organizations - 6/7
<b>Commencement - 8</b>
Conference/Workshops - 9
<b>Publications - 10/11</b>
Grants and Awards - 11
<b>Mailing List - 12</b>

## From the Department Chair

MINJEONG KIM  
AUGUST 2019

Welcome to the 2019-2020 academic year! I am excited to present our newsletter with a new name, The Informant 2.0! Last year, while cleaning up the Department's storage room, the staff unearthed old Sociology newsletters from the 1990s, and the 1998-1999 issue had the name, **The Informant!** (a nod to qualitative research terminology). It was fascinating to read this blast from the past and I used it for this issue with an upgrade to 2.0.



The 2018-2019 academic year was another dynamic year. As many of you may know, SDSU saw many changes in the leadership, including the College of Arts and Letters. As we said goodbye to Dean Norma Bouchard, Dr. Glen McClish of Rhetoric and Writing was appointed as CAL's Interim Dean. The issues that dominated much of our conversations in last year were Executive Order 1100 and CSU GE taskforce recommendations, which presented pedagogical and fiscal challenges to CAL. The faculty of Sociology Department have also discussed difficult questions regarding shifting demands and directions of higher education.

As we grapple with these challenges, Sociology faculty members continue to work to make our Department a stronger one. In addition to robust ongoing research activities (see pp. 10-11), many Sociology faculty, including Dr. Jung Choi, Dr. Jill Esbenshade, Dr. Hank Johnston, Dr. Norma Ojeda, Dr. Mike Roberts, and myself, facilitated important discussions on various topics by organizing campus events which attracted a wide range of participants (see page 9). Regarding teaching, Amy Wong, Tom Semm, David Gauss, and Dr. Jung Choi were once again honored with Favorite Faculty Award (see page 4). Even without public acknowledgement, our faculty members make critical contributions to SDSU students' education with their dedication, creativity, and innovation. To name a few, Dr. Esbenshade taught two courses that engage students in community outreach, one on wage issues and the other on migrant caravan issues. Dr. Johnston's Peace Corp Internship Course and Dr. Ojeda's transborder course provide unique opportunities for SDSU students. Amy Wong continues to be an important part of the Student Success Program for commuter students and the Equal Education Opportunity Program for first-generation students.

Considering these teaching activities and many of faculty members' research foci, the Department proposed to rename the Center for Qualitative Research, which had been dormant for several years, to be the Center for Community Research and Engagement, and it was approved by the Deans' Council. I look forward to working with Sociology faculty to make the Center an active unit on the campus.

Last but not least, David Gauss, one of the most cherished Sociology faculty members, announced his departure from the Department. Last month, Rachel Fine, the Department's administrative coordinator, left for a position in the College of Education. I am very saddened but also wish them the best.

The Department is trying to make itself more accessible to current and former students and faculty and visible on social media. To that end, we are making some exciting plans so please stay connected to us.

I would like to note special thanks to Alexcia Lopez, the Department's work-study student, who made this newsletter possible!

## From the Under - Graduate Advisor

DR. AUDREY BECK



We have had a successful year institutionalizing a new advising email ([advising.sociology@sdsu.edu](mailto:advising.sociology@sdsu.edu)) and new web content, including a frequently asked questions page called "Advising Assistance" on our department site. As our students are incredibly busy with the competing demands of school, work, and family, we have opened up more venues of advising to include not only in-person meetings, but also video chats and an expansion of email-based advising. We are also in the process of creating new content for our both our website and in the halls of our department to advertise internship and career opportunities. In terms of outreach, we had a successful Explore SDSU event in the spring where numerous faculty members came out to promote our program to future students. We also plan to better utilize our Twitter feed and Facebook page in the coming year to highlight the many successes of our students.

Sociology continued to be one of the most popular and selective CAL majors for new students with 1,685 applications, 239 admits, and 86 enrolled for the 2018-2019 academic year. We welcomed an even larger cohort of 124 new freshman and transfer students at this summer's orientation series. Over the past year, we have focused on enhancing student communication and outreach.

## SDSU Explore

The Sociology department took part in SDSU's annual open house, "Explore SDSU." The event took place on Saturday March 23, 2019, 9 am - 2 pm. Professor Beck gave the information session on Sociology.







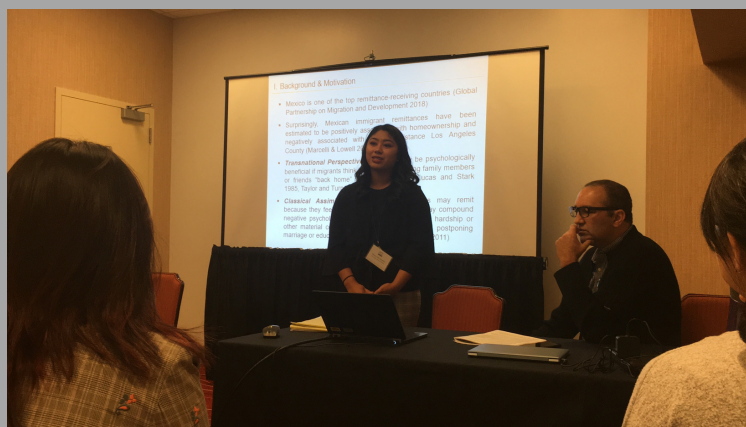
## From the Graduate Advisor

DR. ENRICO MARCELLI

On behalf of the Department of Sociology's faculty, staff and eight second-year graduate students, and as the Graduate Advisor of our Master of Arts (MA) program for an upcoming second year, I would like to welcome our seven new MA students – Kariar, Irma, Brooke, Robert, Antonio, Sophie and Emma. You are our program, and we have taken considerable care and time to invite you to join what we hope will become "your" community. During my tenure as advisor, I will work closely with you, the current Sociology Graduate Student Committee (SGSC) President and Secretary, Tabatha Page and Alyssa Hernandez, and other faculty and staff to create more than just another social group or network. One component of this is understanding our history. Sociology at SDSU began as a "concentration" in 1940 and became an official department sometime in the late 1950s or early 1960s (it was still a joint Anthropology-Sociology department in 1952). In 1960 our MA program was created. So the graduate student program you are joining has existed for more than half a century! During my tenure as graduate advisor, I will work to encourage you to help create a community of scholar-teachers in which we can both challenge and encourage one another. The good news is that we have students in the program already who are doing this. Furthermore, in addition to many of our past MA students who have gone on to work for community organizations or government, or to teach at various colleges or universities – over the past five years we have graduated more than 35 MA students and more than a dozen have begun Ph.D. programs. We are excited to welcome you into our program and our ever-changing community!

## SDSU Sociology @ Pacific Sociological Association (PSA)

The 90th Annual PSA Conference "Teaching Sociology: Innovations, Changes, and Challenges" was held March 28-31, 2018 in Long Beach, CA at the Long Beach Hyatt Regency. In addition to the presentations, current and former graduate student got together for SDSU Night at PSA!



# Faculty and Staff News

## 2019 Favorite Faculty Awards

Students living in the residence halls nominate their favorite faculty member at SDSU every year. Four Department of Sociology Professors received that distinction in 2019. Congratulations to professors, Amy Wong, Tom Semm, and David Gauss, at SDSU Favorite Faculty Awards luncheon! Professor Jung Choi couldn't be there but he was recognized too!



**Congratulations!**

### Promotions

**Dr. Mike Roberts**

**PROFESSOR MIKE ROBERTS WAS PROMOTED TO THE RANK OF FULL PROFESSOR BEGINNING THE ACADEMIC YEAR OF 2019-2020**



**Dr. Joseph Gibbons**

**PROFESSOR JOSEPH GIBBONS EARNED TENURE AND PROMOTION TO THE RANK OF ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR BEGINNING THE ACADEMIC YEAR OF 2019-2020**



# David Gauss's Farewell Party



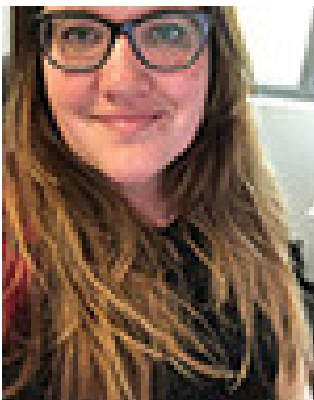
On May 8th 2019, the department gathered to celebrate the successful career of David Gauss at SDSU. David started in our Department as a graduate student, earning his MA degree in 1991. He started his teaching as a TA during his time at SDSU, and then he began teaching as a lecturer in 1996. Since then, he has shared his wisdom with 10,346 students. David mainly taught our intro courses, and is credited for influencing many students to become sociology majors. He has been nominated for Favorite Faculty Award multiple times, and has also been recognized by Rho Lambda Honor Society and the Interfraternity Council with Faculty Appreciation Awards. Sociology Department cannot express how much we appreciate the work that David has done for us over the years. While his retirement will be a monumental loss for the Department, we wish him only the very best.



## Happy 25 Years

Congratulations to Monica Cortez who is celebrating twenty-five years of service with SDSU!

Monica began her career at the Imperial Valley campus. She transferred to San Diego four years ago. She was nominated by the Sociology Department for the SDSU Presidential Staff Award for Community Service in Summer of 2018 and dedicates her time volunteering in grass-roots organizations for social justice. Thanks, for all that you do Monica.



## Goodbye Rachel

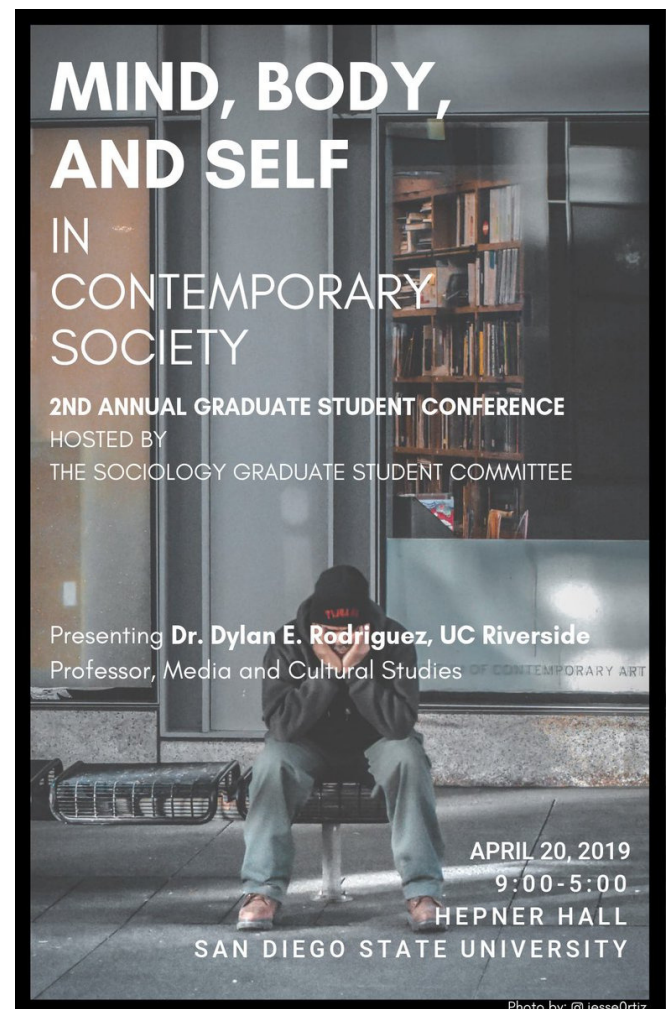
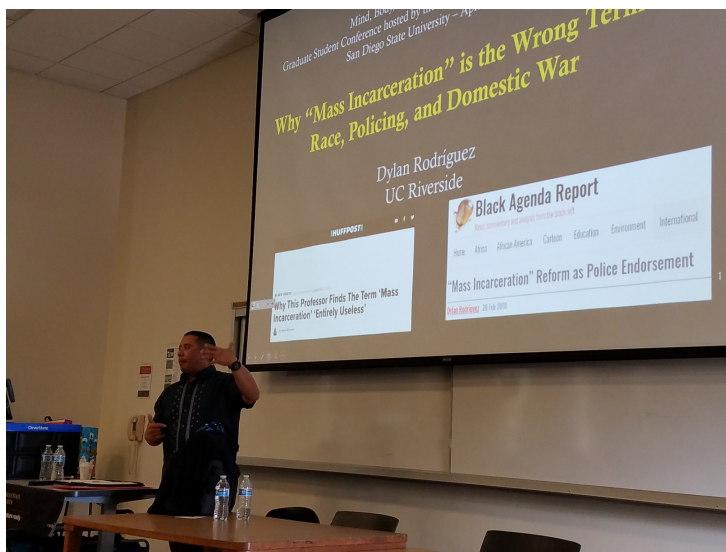
The Sociology Department sadly says goodbye to incredible staff member, Rachel Fine. Rachel started as the administrative coordinator in September 2017. Born and raised in San Diego, Rachel earned both her BA and MA in English and Children's Literature from SDSU. She spends her free time tutoring elementary school students and finding the best used book sales in town. We are sad to see her leave the department but know she will excel in her new position as assistant to the senior associate dean of the college of education.

# Sociology Graduate Student Committee

This conference is hosted by the Sociology Graduate Committee (SGSC), a student organization at San Diego State University. Our organization is comprised of graduate students from SDSU's Department of Sociology and we are committed to expanding and engaging in academic discourse regarding social life.

The keynote speaker, Dylan Rodríguez, is a Professor of the Department of Media and Cultural Studies at UC Riverside. Prof. Rodríguez is the author of two books: *Forced Passages: Imprisoned Radical Intellectuals and the U.S. Prison Regime* (University of Minnesota Press, 2006) and *Suspended Apocalypse: White Supremacy, Genocide, and the Filipino Condition* (University of Minnesota Press, 2009).

This conference aims to examine the ill-effects of contemporary society toward the individual whether it is the mind, body, or self. We also seek to engage in critical dialogue, ranging from social institutions' impact on certain bodies to the strain and stigma on mental awareness. We hope to create an interdisciplinary discourse regarding the extent of contemporary society's effect on the individual.





# Graduate Student's Conference Presentations:

## SDSG CONFERENCE

**Paul Poggemeyer**, "Class in Space: A Critical Analysis of Modern Trends in Science Fiction Film and Television"

**Alyssa Hernandez**, "The Long Reach of Home: Remittances and Psychological Distress Among Adult Mexican Immigrants in Los Angeles County"

**Lauren Pon**, "Why do we go to college? An analysis of the perceived, intended, and actual functions of higher education"

**Sean Jones**, "A Punk Public Sphere: The Politicization of Punk Rock"

**Joshua Hudson**, "Building Bridges: Inter-Racial Dynamics of Community Organizers of Color"

**Jonathan Sabino Baltazar**, "Renaming the World through Hip-Hop: The Soundtrack of the Revolution"

## PSA CONFERENCE

**Joshua Hudson**, "Building Bridges: Politics in Multi-racial Community Organizations"

**Kimberly Gan**, "Parental Stress in the Families of Parachute Kids from Mainland China"

**Enrico Marcelli and Alyssa Hernandez**, "Remitting and Psychological Distress among Legal and Unauthorized Mexican Immigrants in Los Angeles"

**Paul Poggemeyer**, "Class in Space: A Critical Analysis of Modern Trends in Science Fiction Film and Television"

## PSA Grad Fair



# Commencement 2019



The Sociology Department hosted the 2019 graduation ceremony on Friday, May 17 at Peterson Gym, Celebrating the students' accomplishments with families and faculty members.

In 2018-2019, 154 students recieved Bachelor of Arts degrees in Sociology, including 37 students with distinction. Seven students recieved Masters of Arts degrees in Sociology.

## We congratulate all our graduates!

**Nancy Nguyen**

Outstanding Graduating Senior



**Jung Choi**

Most Influential Sociology Faculty Member





# 2018-2019 Conferences Organized by Sociology Faculty

Resistance and Its Repression:  
Illiberal Democracies East and West

May 10 – 11, 2018, San Diego State University  
Aztec Center Templo Mayor



<https://MobilizationConference.sdsu.edu/program.html>



Roots of Immigration:  
Public Security Policies in El Salvador

Dr. Jose Morales  
Former Dean of the Law School  
at the National University of El Salvador  
and Vice-President of the Central American  
Commission for the Defense of Human Rights

SCRIPPS COTTAGE

Monday April 15

1:00-1:50

Refreshments Provided

Organized by Sociology

Co-Sponsored by: CAL Dean's Office, Interdisciplinary Human Rights  
Initiative, Latin American Studies, Political Science, Chicana and  
Chicano Studies



Workshop on

**Immigration, Marriage, and  
Multicultural Families  
in South Korea:  
Reflections and Future Directions**

When  
Feb. 22, 2019 (Fri)  
8:45am – 5pm

Where  
Scripps Cottage

Open to Public  
No Registration Required

Since the 1990s, South Korea began to see the increasing number of labor and marriage immigrants. In 2008, as a response to unprecedented demographic change, the Korean government implemented the Multicultural Family Support Act (MFSA) to provide support for so-called multicultural families. After a decade of the MFSA, workshop presenters critically reflect on the experiences of families with immigrants in Korea. Presentations and discussions will cover the topics on: diverse multicultural families; gender, ethnicity and marriage; intimacy, kinship, and money; and incorporation of multicultural families.

Check Sociology Department Website for the details.

Funded by Academy of Korean Studies  
Co-sponsored by College of Arts and Letters,  
Departments of Economics, Political Science, Sociology,  
and Women's Studies, Center for Asian & Pacific Studies,  
and Charles Wei-hsun Fu Foundation



DLP

**2nd Annual**

**Praxis in Education: Student Conference**

**With Keynote Dr. John W. Murphy**

**When: April 20, 2019, 8am-5:30pm**

**Where: SDSU**

**More info: <https://tinyurl.com/ycxbrl2z>**

## IMPACT ZONES AND LIMINAL SPACES

THE CULTURE AND HISTORY OF SURFING

APRIL 26-28, 2019

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

FRI & SAT: TULA COMMUNITY CENTER

SUN: STORM HALL, ROOM 011

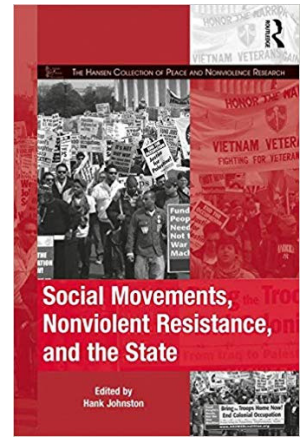
MORE INFO AT [SURFCONF.SDSU.EDU](http://SURFCONF.SDSU.EDU)

# Recent Faulty Publications

## 2018-2019 SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

**Johnston, Hank** (Ed.). 2019. *Social Movements, Nonviolent Resistance, and the State* Routledge.

**Johnston, Hank** . 2019. "Nationalism, Nationalist Movements, and Social Movement Theory" in *The Wiley-Blackwell Companion to Social Movements* David A, Snow, Sarah Soule, Hanspeter Kriesi, and Holly McCammon, eds. Oxford: Wiley Blackwell. Pp. 635-650



**Kim, Minjeong** and Brunn-Bevel, Rachelle J. 2019. "Hollywood's Global Expansion and Racialized Film Industry." *Humanity & Society* DOI: 10.1177/0160597619832045

**Gibbons, Joseph R**, Michael S Barton, and Timothy T Reling.\* 2019. "Do Gentrifying Neighbourhoods Have Less Community? Evidence from Philadelphia." *Urban Studies* Online First, 1-21. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0042098019829331>. \*Student Author

**Gibbons, Joseph R.** 2019. "The Effect of Segregated Cities on Ethnoracial Minority Healthcare System Distrust." *City and Community* 18 (1), 321-343. DOI: 10.1111/cico.12370

**Gibbons, Joseph R.**, Michael S. Barton, and Elizabeth Brault.\* 2018. "Evaluating Gentrification's Relation to Neighborhood and City Health." *PLOS ONE* 13 (11): 1-18. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0207432>. \*Student Author

**Gibbons, Joseph R**, Atsushi Nara, and Bruce Appleyard. 2018. "Exploring the Imprint of Social Media Networks on Neighborhood Community through the Lens of Gentrification." *Environment and Planning B* 45(3), 470-488. DOI 10.1177/2399808317728289

Glidden, Marc, **Timothy C. Brown**, Molly Smith, Mary Hughes. 2018. "Prisoners with Purses: The financial literacy and habits of incarcerated women" *Corrections: Policy, Practice, and Research* 1-24.

**Davis, Daniel** and Amy Binder. 2019. "Industry, Firm, Job Title: The Layered Nature of Early Career Advantage for Graduates of Elite Private Institutions." *Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World* DOI: 10.1177/2378023119859711

Walshok, Mary, **Daniel Davis**, and Josh Shapiro. 2019. "The Role of Philanthropy in Regional Economic Development: The Donor View." *Nonprofit Quarterly*: <https://nonprofitquarterly.org/the-role-of-philanthropy-in-regional-economic-development-the-donor-view/>

**Roberts, Michael James**, et al. (Eds.) 2019. Special Issue: Nietzsche and Critical Theory. *Critical Sociology* 45(2), DOI:10.1177/0896920518805650.



**Liu, R.X.** 2018. "Physical discipline and verbal punishment: An assessment of domain and gender-specific effects on delinquency among Chinese adolescents." *Youth & Society* 50 (7): 871-890. DOI: 10.1177/0044118X15618836

**Liu, R.X.** 2019. "Relational strains and delinquency: Assessing the gendering of emotions' claims among Chinese adolescents." *Sociological Inquiry*  
DOI: 10.1111/soin.12291



## New Research Grants/Awards

Professor Timothy C. Brown received a research grant from the FINRA Investor Education Foundation (\$10,000) for his research project titled "Financial Literacy from Behind Bars".

Professor Timothy C. Brown received an SDSU College of Arts and Letters Critical Thinking Grant for his research on youth gangs in rural Mississippi. -

Professor Timothy C. Brown received an SDSU College of Arts and Letters Microgrant to support his qualitative research.

Professor Erika Robb Larkins received a grant from National Endowment for the Humanities (\$105,000) for a project titled "Marginal Spaces, Race, and Modernity in Brazil," a three-week seminar for higher education faculty on race and place in contemporary Brazilian history and culture.

## Sociology Scholarships

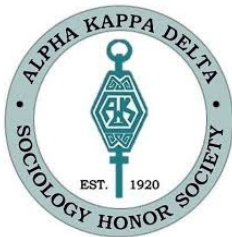


Sociology Department provides two scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students. (See the Department Website for application information.) Since 2021-2013, Sociology Department has awarded the **John O. and Mary L. Anderson Memorial Endowed Scholarship**, and Sociology Scholarship has relied on donations from generous supporters. This year, **seven** highly-motivated **undergraduate students** received the Endowed Scholarship to further their education.  
<https://sociology.sdsu.edu/resources/scholarships>

If you would like to make a donation to support SDSU Sociology majors' education, please go to the Department Website and click "Give to Sociology" or use the QR code:



# Alpha Kappa Delta Sociology Honor Society



ALPHA KAPPA DELTA national honor society dates from 1920. SDSU's chapter, Delta, began in 1935. Its purpose is to promote the improvement of the human condition through the study of and service to society. Alpha Kappa Delta also serves as a vehicle for students and faculty to meet, discuss topics of common interest, and work together.

Membership to Alpha Kappa Delta includes graduate and undergraduate students who demonstrate superior scholarship and a serious interest in sociology. Applicants must have a minimum 3.0 GPA overall and in their major to be eligible candidates.

Dr. Michael Roberts, Department of Sociology, 594-4245, NH 213, mroberts@mail.sdsu.edu, is the faculty adviser for Alpha Kappa Delta.

## Sociology Club

The Sociology Club serves as a community where SDSU students can rely on one another for support in academic opportunities and a healing circle for similar experiences endured while pursuing higher education.

A.K.A stress, text anxiety, forms of relief.

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Improving Human Well-Being by Investigating Social Inequalities