

**2014 Summer Research Program in
Social Sciences
At Wellesley College**

Faculty Projects

Africana Studies Department

Donna A. Patterson, Department of Africana Studies

Examining Pharmaceutical and Psychoactive Drug Markets

This summer, I am working on two research projects at different stages on psychoactive and pharmaceutical drugs in Africa. My primary project is one that explores new transnational perspectives on illegal and quasi-legal drug consumption and distribution on the continent. This project is ongoing and interdisciplinary. The project includes different methodological approaches and is influenced by the social sciences (sociology and anthropology), humanities (history), and hard sciences (botany).

A second research interest looks at the investment of BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) and Maghreb countries into sub-Saharan pharmaceutical markets. For this project, I will examine the role of two BRICS countries and two Maghreb countries in several sub-Saharan countries including Senegal, Ethiopia, and Ghana.

For both projects, the research assistant will hone her research capabilities in different methodological approaches as we catalog primary source data, helping to identify and gather relevant secondary sources, and by cataloging digital media. The student will gain experience in digital media as well as reading and cataloging documents. There may also be an opportunity to assist with the transcription of interviews. Students must be thorough and be able to work independently. Interested applicants should submit a short statement of interest and a c.v. or bio.

Anthropology Department

Anastasia Karakasidou, Department of Anthropology

During the summer of 2014, I will be working on two projects, and I would like a student to help me with one of them:

1. The role of religion and spirituality in cancer narratives, especially as they appear in social media. Ideally, I would choose a student with language skills other than English, to analyze cancer narratives.
2. The role of genetic testing and screening in inherited familial cancers. Ideally, I would choose a student skilled in statistics to research the increased number of inherited oncogenes.

Department of Economics

Kristin Butcher, Department of Economics

Investigating the link between Fertility Treatments and Unintended Health Outcomes for Children

Diagnoses of cognitive disabilities among children are on the rise. Little is known about why diagnoses of autism, for example, are rising. Recent scientific research, however, posits a link between use of fertility drugs and developmental disabilities in children. As more women are delaying child-bearing, and as fertility treatments have become widespread, there is potential for this increased use of fertility drugs to explain the increase in diagnoses.

I, along with Robin McKnight, plan to investigate whether there is a link between expanded fertility coverage by insurance companies and diagnoses linked to a special education designation. Some states have mandated insurers cover fertility treatments, the timing of which varied, and some states have not. Under the assumption that other factors that might lead to changes in diagnoses of disabilities among children are the same across states that did and did not mandate fertility coverage, we can exploit this variation in timing to examine whether states that were early adopters of fertility coverage also saw earlier increases in children referred to special education.

Assuming a link exists between insurance mandates and educational outcomes, more work will be needed to assess whether this is due to a causal link between use of fertility drugs and adverse outcomes. Alternative explanations include that expanded insurance coverage of fertility treatments coincided with expanded medical coverage that allowed more diagnoses of disorders. We will analyze law changes in other domains to ensure that other policy changes are not driving the result. Further data analysis is also required to assess the link. In particular, we will examine data that link women's use of fertility drugs to insurance mandates.

The rise in cognitive, social and developmental disabilities has a profound impact on children and families, but also on schools as they are charged with designing individualized education plans that ensure children make effective progress in their educational attainment. It is important to examine potential pathways through which medical interventions designed to improve lives may have unintended consequences.

Joseph P. Joyce, Department of Economics

Countries have external assets and liabilities, which they hold in the form of equity (foreign direct investment and equity) and debt (bonds and bank loans). A country's net external position is the difference between the assets in foreign countries held by domestic residents minus domestic liabilities held by foreign residents. If this figure is positive, the country is a net international creditor (such as China); if negative, a net international debtor (such as the U.S.)

My research deals with issues related to a country's external financial position: What determines whether a country is an international creditor or debtor? Why do some countries issue their liabilities in the form of debt and others as equity? How does the size and composition of a country's external position affect its performance during a crisis?

Prerequisites include knowledge of Excel and completion of a Principles of Macroeconomics course; further training in econometrics and macroeconomics is very useful. A student may also be enrolled in the Quantitative Analysis Institute's summer program.

Pinar Keskin, Department of Economics

I am an applied micro-economist focusing primarily on the environmental challenges facing decision makers in developing countries. This summer Professor Kartini Shastry of Department of Economics and I plan on analyzing recently acquired datasets to investigate the impacts of mining on child health and development in one of the leading mineral exporters in the world, Peru. Although many studies documented the problem of high levels of environmental contaminants in Peru as a result of poorly regulated mining operations and medical professionals pointed out the increasing blood lead concentration levels among children living close to mining and smelting activities in the country, developmental and health impacts of exposure to mining-related pollutants are understudied in the economics literature.

This project is entirely data-driven, and it will increase students' ability to conduct empirical work. The bulk of the summer work will involve work with Excel, ArcGIS, and STATA, with some limited library/internet research. Students with a background in economics or computer programming, regardless of major, are encouraged to apply. However, students with some familiarity with Stata (taught in Econ 203) would be an ideal match for the project.

Finally, there is some potential for continuing work during the academic year depending on skills, interest, and availability. To be considered, please email me (pinar.keskin@wellesley.edu) and Prof. Shastry (gshastry@wellesley.edu) a brief statement of interest and qualifications (500 words max) and an unofficial transcript.

Casey Rothschild, Department of Economics

I am looking for a student to work with me on one (or more) of three possible projects this summer.

- (1) A project studying the optimal regulation of polluting industries via price floors or other market restrictions;
- (2) A project studying the interaction of price floors or other market restrictions with rent-seeking behaviors such as political lobbying;
- (3) A theoretical and/or computational project studying a class of problems with asymmetric information, possibly including optimal insurance provision, optimal redistributive income taxation, and/or optimal incentive contracting.

My hope from the first two projects is to research and craft a jointly-authored “teaching” paper similar both in form and content to Colander, Gaastra, and Rothschild, 2010, “The Welfare Costs of Market Restrictions”, *Southern Economic Journal*, 77(1), 213-223. The third project is more open ended.

All three projects require a background covering *at least* Econ 201 and Econ 103. The third project requires a strong background in mathematics (e.g., analysis, topology, and/or differential equations) and some experience with MATLAB (or some programming background and a willingness to learn).

My summer advisee will be permitted—encouraged, even—to attend the Quantitative Analysis Institute Summer Program (M/W/Th, 9AM-12PM, June 2-July 24).

Environmental Studies Program

Beth DeSombre, Environmental Studies Program

As part of a broader book project examining why good people do bad environmental things, I am working on sub-project on the role of social norms as mechanisms for changing behavior. There are policy mechanisms that look as though they are operating using economic incentives but that almost certainly have their primary effect through the creation of, or intersection with, social norms. For example, providing a rebate for avoiding the use of a disposable bag increases the extent to which people bring reusable bags. That observation is often used as evidence of the importance of aligning incentive structures so that it is less costly to do the better environmental action. But it is unlikely that the primary effect of this action is through economic incentives; the incomes of people in most places where these policies are used are too high for such a small cost increment to make a large behavioral difference for purely market reasons. Similarly, the most effective information strategies for changing behavior involve informing people of how others in their community act, another signal that social norms are important. The student involved in this project will work both on finding and interpreting the existing literature on the field, and on finding details on case studies relevant for evaluating this effect. Students with backgrounds across the social sciences and environmental studies will be qualified to work on this project.

Jay Turner, Environmental Studies Program

Following Batteries; Rethinking Recycling

One of the challenges of the modern consumer economy is managing waste: Does it go to the

dump? Does it get burned? Does it get recycled? In a global economy, how waste is managed has significant economic, policy, and social justice implications. My current research focuses on the life-cycle of batteries and what these ubiquitous products can teach us about waste-management policy. Some batteries, such as lead-acid batteries, are usually recycled domestically. Other batteries, such as AAs and 9-volts, usually wind up in the trash. Newer batteries, such as lithium-ion batteries, often become a part of the stream of electronic waste being shipped abroad. By researching the life-cycles of these different batteries and the related policy regimes in the United States and abroad, my research aims to help develop better policy for managing such technology over the life cycle of these consumer products.

Political Science Department

Stacie Goddard, Department of Political Science

My research examines how states choose to balance, or check, the rise of great powers in international relations, and in particular, what effect legitimacy has on these decisions. Over the last decade legitimacy has emerged as a key concept in explaining when states balance in international politics: scholars argue that whether a rising power's behavior is seen as legitimate profoundly influences whether states choose to check that states' rise, or else let it continue to rise peacefully. However, little if any attempt has been made to systematically analyze legitimacy and balancing behavior in international politics. How do states legitimate their rising power in ways that prevent balancing? Theoretically, can we specify the conditions under which states legitimate their acquisition of power? Empirically, are there cases in which states have used legitimation strategies that successfully undermined balancing behavior, and conversely, when a state's illegitimacy has provoked international restraint?

Over the summer, I seek to work with a student to assist me in compiling and analyzing data about China's legitimation strategies. How has China, for example, justified its claims to contested islands, for example? How did it justify expanding its recent claims to air space, or other (possible) expansions of its sovereignty? Students should have the ability to conduct independent research on Chinese foreign policy, including a strong background in international relations (POL3 221 is required; advanced IR courses are suggested), Chinese foreign policy, and ideally, fluency in Mandarin. A willingness to learn techniques of content analysis is a plus.

Marion Just, Department of Political Science

I will be preparing a paper comparing the use of social media (YouTube, Facebook and Twitter) by male and female candidates for the U.S. Senate in 2012. The student assistant will be involved in all phases of the project including data analysis, graph preparation, writing, and interviewing. Some background in American politics would be helpful. I will be using SPSS and Excel for the analysis, but I am happy to help a student assistant to develop skills with these programs as needed. A second project involves the evaluation of facial displays of women members of the German Parliament. The goal is to assess whether or not political parties take into account women's appearance when they put them on the party ticket. The student assistant will help me to prepare the study for publication. The student will have hands on opportunity to participate in the research process.

Nancy Scherer, Department of Political Science

I am currently working on a book project about the impact of racial and gender diversity within our U.S. political institutions. The research question is: does the public care that our U.S. political institutions “look like America?” One part of the project involves analyses of four large sample data sets, each of which needs to be “cleaned up.” This survey data was previously collected solely for purposes of writing this book, and is not a publicly-available data set. All social science students (not limited to political science) interested in learning how to work with large data sets, as well as commonly computer programs used to analyze this data, are encouraged to apply. I have been told by former students who have worked with me on similar projects that potential employers respond favorably when they see on a Wellesley alumna’s resume that she has data analysis skills.

This summer’s project requires significant re-coding of raw survey data into variables I will later use to analyze the data. Preferably, the student should know how to use SPSS or STATA. However, I can teach any student in a few hours the re-coding process in SPSS. In addition, once re-coding is finished, I would have the student run basic bivariate analyses of the dependent variable and key independent variables I expect to use in creating future modeling of the data (I can also teach the student how to do this on the computer, if necessary).

Psychology Department

Angela Bahns, Department of Psychology

My lab is currently studying the social ecology of friendship. This work is informed by social psychological theories and research in the areas of prejudice and close relationships. Research suggests there are many benefits of diverse friendships, including reduced prejudice and intergroup anxiety as well as a host of social and cognitive benefits. And yet research on attraction demonstrates that people often prefer to form friendships with similar others. So how is the goal of fostering diverse friendships best realized? One strategy often employed by institutions and communities that profess to value diversity is to implement policies to increase the diversity of their personnel. In spite of these good intentions, however, my research reveals an ironic finding: As environments become more diverse, friendships become more homogeneous. With greater number and variety of friendship choices, it becomes easier to make friends with others who are just like us. Simply bringing a diverse set of people to a common space appears to be not enough to foster diverse friendships. My research examines how individual-level factors such as attitudes toward diversity and community-level factors such as population size and human diversity jointly affect the similarity and diversity of friendship pairs. We are finding that people who say they value diversity are more likely to be in attitudinally diverse friendships, and particularly if they are living in an environment in which people generally place a high value on diversity. The students working with me this summer will be

involved in data collection and analysis. The field method for this project involves surveying friendship pairs in public places in various neighborhoods of Boston.

Jonathan Cheek, Department of Psychology

Factor analysis of Introversion scales

I have been working on and off on my program of research about the many meanings of "introversion" since 1979. This work involves the psychometric analysis and conceptual probing of personality questionnaire items that have been included in scales purporting to assess aspects of introversion and related psychological constructs. During the 2014 Summer Research Program I will have a research student assist me with extending the 2010-2013 survey research described in the poster abstract below by administering the measures to a new online sample that will also include male participants and comparing the results of data analysis by gender of respondent:

Guilford demonstrated in the 1930s that the various attempts at transforming conceptualizations of Introversion-Extroversion by Jung and others into personality questionnaires were resulting in ambiguous multiple-factor scales. Proposed measurement models subdividing introversion into components resulted in heated but inconclusive debate, as exemplified by the exchange between Eysenck and Guilford in 1977. Carrigan (1960) argued that introversion was not effectively captured as a unitary construct, and pressure to clearly define introversion with a comprehensive conceptual and operational model continues (e.g., Block, 1995; 2010). The many meanings of introversion leave contemporary researchers with an unresolved dilemma: despite the persistent conceptual ambiguity and lack of a universally accepted measurement model, interest in the topic and demand for measures seems to be increasing (e.g., Laney, 2007). The purpose of the present research was to return to recommendations made by previous generations of psychologists such as Guilford and Carrigan; we identified contemporary personality measures that can be usefully organized into measurement domains that reflect coherent meanings of "introversion." Nineteen scales administered to 225 Wellesley students were grouped by examination of intercorrelations and factor loadings into four domains of introversion: social (4 scales), thinking (5 scales), anxious (6 scales), and inhibited (4 scales). Correlations among factor scores representing these domains indicated moderate convergence among social, anxious, and inhibited introversion (r s averaging .50). Thinking introversion, however, did not correlate significantly with the other domains.

Christen Deveney, Department of Psychology

Irritability, a low tolerance for experience frustration, is a common, severe, and impairing symptom among populations with psychiatric disorders. However, very little is known about this symptom. In particular, there is a surprising lack of information about the brain mechanisms associated with irritability. Such information might allow us to better understand and treat illnesses characterized by high levels of this symptom. Therefore, the projects in my lab study a) the psychophysiological responses to frustration and b) the impact that frustration has on other cognitive tasks. Specifically, we will collect and analyze data from electroencephalographic (EEG) recordings while participants complete a frustrating task. Based on data from similar studies with children, we expect differences in the neural responses to positive versus frustrating feedback. We will explore whether these differences are related to irritability within a healthy adult sample. In addition, because prior frustration studies have focused on attention tasks, we

will examine whether brief frustration inductions influence performance on memory and reward processing. The latter studies will help identify paradigms to be used in future psychophysiological studies. Students participating in these projects will receive training in psychophysiological data collection, analysis, and interpretation. We will also discuss how studies with healthy individuals provide important background information for future work with psychiatric populations.

Tracy Gleason, Department of Psychology

My work this summer will be dedicated to examining children's concepts of peer relationships, friendships, and the differences between them. This work is part of an ongoing program of research on the social cognition of young children (i.e., how young children think about other people) with a particular emphasis on peer relationships in early childhood. Asking children how they conceptualize their relationships with their peers and friends may illuminate how they begin to recognize and discriminate the social contributions available from different members of their social networks. For example, young children might not be aware of the emotional distinction between a friend, with whom one shares affection and intimacy, and an acquaintance, with whom one might associate companionship. To date, my students and I have gathered several years worth of data on children's peer preferences in a set of preschoolers. This summer, I plan to conduct longitudinal analyses to describe the changing nature of social networks over time. My summer student will have the opportunity to help with these analyses as well as their interpretation. A new round of data may be collected as well, meaning that my summer student might interview children and then do the data organization, entry, and analysis for a new project (on the same topic) as well. Consequently, desirable skills include experience working with/doing research with children, coding data, using SPSS for data analysis, and interpreting results.

Julie K. Norem, Department of Psychology

I have two projects available: the first is a continuation of research from last summer; the second is a new empirical project.

#1 Parsing Effects in Positive Psychology: When being positive helps and when it doesn't.

Positive Psychology (PP) represents a movement, begun in its contemporary version, by Martin E. P. Seligman in 1998. It aims to encourage scientific exploration of what leads individuals and collectives to thrive. The movement also promotes interventions intended to lead to positive change and foster positive development. An explosion of new journals, conferences, courses, fellowships, and even careers (e.g., positive psychology coaching and consulting) testify to the huge interest and impact of this movement.

Massive media attention to statements from those associated with PP has led to dissemination of over-simplified generalizations built from shaky empirical foundations. My reading of the PP research suggests that there are systematic distortions in the ways in which the evidence is interpreted: e.g., there is ample evidence that the "prescribed" interventions can successfully increase positive mood in the short term. Assertions about those interventions and performance is based on much weaker, more complicated and contentious evidence. In particular, there is very little *explicitly causal* evidence of those relationships.

I am working on a paper in which I review the major bodies of evidence from PP. I will test the hypothesis that the majority of PP effects are short-term positive mood increases, while effects on objective performance and health outcomes are overwhelming correlational, relatively rare, and sufficiently difficult to replicate or generalize from that we should be skeptical about them. I am looking for a student who would update my bibliography of relevant research (using Endnote for record-keeping), read and summarize findings using the categories I just described, and talk with me about the available research and its implications. Ongoing involvement in the project is a possibility, depending on motivation, interest and performance over the summer.

#2 Processing Styles, Strategies and Performance

There is growing recognition that individuals have different default cognitive styles, and that styles vary in their strengths and weaknesses depending on context and type of performance. For example, some people tend to use more analytic processing styles, and others tend toward holistic processing. Some individuals use more pessimistic strategies and others use more optimistic strategies.

I have several research projects (both underway and planned for the summer) designed to look at when specific styles and strategies are more likely to lead to better performance.

One set of studies will focus on defensive pessimism—a cognitive strategy used by anxious individuals that involves setting low expectations and working through possible outcomes prior to a performance or situation. Recent research suggests that the negative mood management skills developed by those who use defensive pessimism may help decrease some common cognitive processing errors and lead to less gullibility, less stereotyping, and less susceptibility to misinformation effects.

Another set of studies will contrast holistic and analytic processing styles on tasks related to class performance, with a focus on skills used in discussion and seminar class formats.

Students working on these projects will learn how to use Qualtrics (an on-line survey administration tool), Mechanical Turk (an on-line service for recruiting paid research participants), and SPSS (a data analysis software program). They will help with literature review, study design, data collection and data analysis.

Paul Wink, Department of Psychology

Longitudinal Study of Narcissism

Data from a long-term longitudinal study of men and women will be used to investigate how three types of narcissism change over the life-course (from adolescence to old adulthood). This part of the research project will involve the investigation of mean-level changes and rank order stability of a healthy type of narcissism characterized by personal autonomy, and two types of less functional narcissism associated with overt and covert presence of a grandiose sense of the self. The second part of the project will involve the investigation of the implication of adolescent narcissism for psychosocial functioning (e.g., life and marital satisfaction, work, physical and mental health, altruism, and creativity) in adulthood. We will test, among others, the prediction that health adolescent narcissism is associated with creativity, spirituality, and empathy in later

live and that covert narcissism predicts lower level of functioning over time than its overt counterpart.

Department of Sociology

Thomas Cushman, Department of Sociology

Human Rights Activists as A Social Type: A Sociological Study

This study focuses on human rights activists as a social type. Ideal-type analysis is a cornerstone of sociological methodology in which the conceptual characteristics of a phenomenon are outlined as a heuristic device for understanding its occurrence in the social world. The sociology of human rights aims to understand rights as a modern discourses on freedom. It seeks to understand the social construction of rights, their movement across space and time, and the processes of institutionalization through which human rights express themselves. The sociology of human rights has not focused at all on the actors who create, disseminate and institutionalize human rights. This study focuses on a sample of self-described human rights activists to explore the following questions: what are the social and structural forces that shape the identity of “activist”? How do activists conceive of themselves as actors in relation to themselves and others? What is the social cosmology of human rights activists? How do they define ideas of good and evil, justice and injustice, and imagine the future? How do they come to define themselves as agents of change and manage the intense emotional flows of empathy are the foundation of human rights work, but which drain and enervate them? These are just some of the questions that we will explore through a program of what sociologists call “grounded research. The student will focus on learning and using qualitative research methods, especially “the long interview” to collect data from a sample of activists, code, and analyze it.

Smitha Radhakrishnan, Department of Sociology

Microfinance for profit: A view from India

I am currently conducting research on the for-profit microfinance industry in India, and am interested in supervising student projects that take up theoretical and/or empirical concerns with regard to this topic. Some of the important issues include: to what extent are for-profit microfinance organizations substantively different from its non-profit counterparts? Are clients of for-profit microfinance companies also distinctive? How do careers in the microfinance industry alter the existing structures of opportunity for the Indian middle class? How do clients interact with microfinance organizations and the programming they offer? To what extent have financial literacy and other client training programs changed the landscape of microfinance offerings in India and beyond?

A student researcher will review the new and burgeoning empirical literature on these issues, and will also have access my own data, from extensive qualitative research conducted in southern India in 2012. I will work with the student to carve out a topic of interest that will engage a subset of this data. The student researcher will thus become familiar with qualitative data analysis methods, while also becoming a specialist in an interdisciplinary empirical topic that is timely and relevant for any international career in the development sector.

The student I work with should have excellent skills in library research, as well as some existing background in social science. She should be interested in developing skills in coding interview data with a software package. An existing interest in South Asia or microfinance a plus.

Wellesley Centers for Women

Erika Kates, Ph.D., Senior Research Scientist, Wellesley Centers for Women

Documenting State-Level Organizations Working for the Reform of Policies and Practices for Justice-Involved Women

In 2007, the Institute on Women & Criminal Justice published a report summarizing its survey of State Commissions and Task Forces focusing on women caught up in the criminal justice system. The report identified eighteen state organizations and described the reasons they were created, their staffing and structure, as well as their priorities and outcomes.

Since then, there have been major developments in our understanding of the majority of women offenders. We know more about their poverty; the relationship between trauma, addiction, mental illness and crime; parenting responsibilities; and the continued neglect of their needs by predominantly male-focused institutions. And there has been a remarkable growth in creating women-centered training and resources to respond to their circumstances.

The student would be expected to review the earlier study/report and work with me to revisit each state (through phone interviews, on-line searches, and meetings where possible). The purpose is to find out the status of the previously identified commissions/task forces, document their accomplishments, identify obstacles, and explore new entities.

The project supervisor founded the Massachusetts Women's Justice Network (MWJN) in 2010, and is working closely with policymakers and advocate groups to increase alternatives to incarceration for women in Massachusetts. The MWJN has developed an action platform focusing on pretrial diversion, and would benefit from knowing how other organizations have directed a reform initiative.

Wendy Wagner Robeson, Ed.D., Senior Research Scientist, Wellesley Centers for Women

Work, Families and Children

Currently several research projects are being conducted under the umbrella of Work, Families and Children at the Wellesley Centers for Women. My focus is on child development (birth to age 8) and early education and care. One project is supporting quality improvement in child care centers serving children from low-income families through on-going professional development for their child care teachers. Another project is focused on fathers' increased participation in child rearing and involvement in their children's lives. A third project involves families enrolling their children in kindergarten and increased family engagement through the Mind in the Making model. One other project is focused on children's language and literacy development. There are other on-going projects as well. I am willing to supervise any research project a student wishes to complete involving any of the projects listed as well as on any topic in child development or

early education and care. There are many data sets that can be explored and used in answering questions a student may have about all facets of child development, school readiness, quality of child care, family functioning, combining work and family and/or early education and care in general.

Rosanna Hertz, Sociology and Women's and Gender Studies

Donor Gametes, Donor Siblings, and the Making of Families

I am presently researching on “new kinds of kinship” which have emerged as an outgrowth of advances in new reproductive technologies coupled with the purchasing of gametes, embryos and gestational carriers. In each of these projects I am collecting data that includes families (two-parent, one-parent, heterosexual, lesbian) who became parents through using donated gametes or embryos.

There are two U.S. surveys one for parents and the other for children who share the same donor who may decide to meet or not. “The Making of Families” examines how innovative relations are developing among families who selected the same donor, how technological developments have made genetic relatives possible (e.g. the Internet) and how these families may become a new political group making demands on the fertility industry in the U.S. A third survey is based on data collected through a clinic in Spain, a “hot spot” for cross-border travel by EU people for reproductive services. In Spain donors are anonymous and untraceable. The three surveys offer us important insights about the interplay of genetics and social interaction.

Summer 2014: Surveys above will be analyzed and interviews with families will be conducted. Depending upon a student's interest and skills they will work on one part of the project. If a student has quantitative research skills and can assist with data analysis they will work with the surveys. If a student is curious and likes to find out about how people make decisions they will work on interviewing selected families in the Boston area. I plan to conduct in-depth interviews with parents and offspring. A student will work with me to interview families and will be expected to transcribe some interviews. There is some literature review work as well.

Susan M. Reverby, Women's and Gender Studies

“Brother Doc”: The Unlikely Journey of a 20th Century American Revolutionary and Global Health Activist

“Violence is necessary,” Jamil Adullah Al-Amin better known as H. Rap Brown famously quipped in 1967. “It is,” he concluded, “as American as cherry pie.” Brown might have said the *debate* over whether violence is necessary and *who* should participate in that violence is as American as cherry pie. My project is to write a “life and times” rather than “cradle to grave” book about Alan Berkman (1945-2009), a universally labeled brilliant doctor with an unlikely American story that moved him from small town ambition to revolutionary bomber to academia. By the end of his life, he was a renowned Columbia University global health physician whose political/medical work saved millions of lives of those with HIV/AIDS in the Global South.

He was also, however, only the second doctor (the first aided John Wilkes Booth after Lincoln's assassination) in U.S. history to be arrested for accessory to murder after the fact. Berkman treated, but did not report, the gunshot wounds of a woman involved in a Brinks' truck robbery

by self-described revolutionaries that led to the deaths of two police and a Brinks' guard in 1981. He skipped bail, went underground for two years, was on the FBI wanted list, and was caught and prosecuted as part of a late 1980s Resistance Conspiracy Case (composed primarily of radical lesbians) that did bombings of the U.S. Senate and other government buildings. He spent seven years in prison, many of them in solitary in the worst American penitentiaries, while almost dying of recurring lymphoma. The student on this project will be doing literature reviews on revolutionaries in the post 60s era and global activism around HIV/AIDS, coding multiple interviews, reviewing legal documents, and doing historical research.