

JS 136 (1)
Violence And Hate In The Family & Community

Summer Session 2006
JS 136, Section 1
Tuesdays 9:00-1:10pm

LECTURER: Maureen Lowell, MA
OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday 1:15-2:15pm
OFFICE: MacQuarrie Hall Rm.
529
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Course Description

This course examines abusive relationships, community response, justice system policy and preventive interventions. Topics include child abuse and neglect, gangs, hate crimes, rape, intimate partner violence and elder & dependent adult abuse.

Area S: "courses to meet areas R, S, and V of SJS Studies must be taken from 3 different dept or distinct academic units."

GE Student Learning Objectives

After successfully completing the course, students shall be able to:

1. describe how identities (i.e. religious, gender, ethnic, racial, class, sexual orientation, disability, and/or age) are shaped by cultural and societal influences within contexts of equality and inequality; (course learning objectives 1 and 3)
2. describe historical, social, political, and economic processes producing diversity, equality, and structured inequalities in the U.S.; (Course learning objective 2)
3. describe social actions which have led to greater equality and social justice in the U.S. (i.e. religious, gender, ethnic, racial, class, sexual orientation, disability, and/or age); and (course learning objectives 4 and 5)
4. recognize and appreciate constructive interactions between people from different cultural, racial, and ethnic groups within the U.S. (Course learning objectives 5 and 6)

The Course Learning Objectives are for students to:

1. define and differentiate the abuse of power and the use of violence based upon gender, ethnicity, race, religion, class, sexual orientation, disability and age
2. identify how historical, social, psychological, economic and political factors have influenced the recognition of and response to each type of abusive relationship,
3. review current knowledge about the consequences of violence and effects on victims from diverse backgrounds,
4. develop self-awareness about their own prejudicial attitudes and behaviors that tolerate and promote abusive relationships,
5. explore and evaluate ways that individuals from diverse backgrounds and communities can prevent and intervene in each type of abusive and violent relationship,
6. Critique the current justice system response and propose ways in which greater equality and justice can be achieved in each type of abusive relationship. This involves reviewing
 - (a) statutory laws,
 - (b) role of law enforcement,
 - (c) proceedings within criminal, family and juvenile courts and

* Preferred contact number. I never check a university voicemail.

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- (d) auxiliary services offered by child protective, victim's advocates and family court agencies.

Two writing assignments require students to demonstrate their understanding of the course learning objectives 1-6 as stated above. Other experiences that develop mastery of the objectives include small group discussions and exercises analyzing case vignettes, mock trials, documentary film reviews, class debates and observations in dependency, family and criminal courts.

Course Content:

The course is divided into five parts that range over the life span of individuals in diverse socioeconomic, ethnic and racial communities:

- infants and children's neglect and psychological maltreatment, physical and sexual abuse
- neighborhood gang violence and hate crimes motivated by religious, racial and sexual orientation discrimination and prejudice during adolescence and young adulthood;
- date rape and sexual violence between intimate partners;
- violence, stalking and psychological terrorizing in dating, cohabiting and marital partnerships;
- Abuse of the elderly and handicapped in the family and care institutions.

Recurring themes are social discrimination on the basis of gender, religious, racial and ethnic background, socioeconomic status, disability, age and sexual orientation. The dynamics of power and control in relationships and the social and historical processes and institutions that legitimize the abuse of power provides the basic framework for the analysis of all violence and abuse. An understanding of how infant and child development is compromised by witnessing abuse and being the objects of abuse provides a complementary developmental understanding (or mechanism) to help explain the intergenerational cycle of abusive relationships. A further theme is the development of civic responsibility in individuals and groups to recognize and respond effectively to violence in diverse communities and the development of awareness of attitudes and beliefs that support and/or hinder social action.

3. **Prerequisites.** Students must have passed the Writing Skills Test (WST), have upper division standing (56 units), and have completed their CORE GE classes.
4. **Advanced GE Course.** JS136 has been approved for Area S. of Advanced General Education.

Required Reading:

1. Wallace, H. (2005). *Family violence: Legal, medical and social perspectives*. 4th Edition. Boston, Allyn & Bacon.
2. Sagatun-Edwards, I.J. & Edwards, L.P. (1995). *Child abuse and the legal system*. Chicago: Nelson Hall.
3. Hubner, J & Wolfson, J (1996) *Somebody Else's Children*. Three Rivers Press, New York. ISBN: 0-609-80170-8.
4. **Materials:** CD of lecture slides (PowerPoint) and separate documents (provided in class and/or on the web)

Recommended Readings (but not required) will be excerpts from the following books. These are available on reserve in the instructor's office.

1. Barnett, O.W., Miller-Perrin, C.L.; & Perrin, R.D. (1997). *Family violence across the life span*. Newbury Park, CA: Sage.
2. Curry, C.D., & Decker, S.H. (1998). *Confronting gangs: Crime and community*. L.A.: Roxbury.
3. Jenness, V. & Broad, K. (1997). *Hate crimes: New social movements and the politics of violence*. N.Y. Aldine de Gruyter.

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Course Requirements and Grading:

Papers

Two take-home written assignments are required during the semester. Each assignment involves library and internet research and writing a six-page paper and analysis based on the information covered in the course. The first paper requires students to view a movie or read a book about family violence, specifically child abuse. The second paper requires researching a current controversy in family violence, presenting both sides of the issue and taking an informed position. Papers are graded on a 50 point rubric. Please note the due date. Late papers will be docked **4 points for the first day late** and **1 point for each day after**. See separate handouts for instructions for these papers.

Students are expected to participate in small-group discussions (during class time) on social policy issues, including an in-class mock hearing/trial and may be asked to give a brief oral report to the class. Ungraded, writing exercises will also be included in class after viewing video segments from documentary films or as part of small group discussions.

Exams

A mid-term and a final exam will be a combination of multiple choice, true/false, fill-ins and short essays. This will be based on *assigned readings and lecture material*. Grades will be made up of 30% for each exam, and 20% for each paper. (The academic standards for each grade are included.)

Extra Credit

Extra credit opportunities are available to those students who have completed all other course requirements including both exams and both papers. Students can improve their grade up to a half letter grade by completing ONE of the following:

- Attending a hearing in juvenile dependency court
- Attending court proceedings in cases of intimate partner violence in Family or Criminal Courts
- Participation in approved University programs relating to topics covered in the course.

A sign-up sheet for court observations will be available through the instructor. A letter of introduction will be provided to those students wishing to observe court proceedings and course of conduct will be discussed. Notify the instructor if interested.

Students will summarize in a three page paper how the observation or experience increased their awareness of concepts learned in the course. Students should use the course objectives as a guide for content. **Papers must be submitted by the midterm for dependency court observations and on or before the last day of class for experiences pertaining to post-midterm topics.**

Teaching Philosophy

This class combines reading, lectures and video segments to present the conceptual material. Regular in-class discussions and group exercises are used for students to critique the readings, lectures, videos and data presented on rates of incidence and prevalence of violence. These small group activities and individually written assignments, in class and through outside assignments, also enable students to examine their own attitudes, and cultural and family beliefs about abusive relationships. The focus of the in-class discussions is on engaging in dialogue about critical issues and developing practical, creative and effective community and justice system responses for preventing and intervening in violence that are respectful of diverse perspectives and achieves greater justice and equality.

In accord with departmental policy, make-up exams and acceptance of late reports after the due date will be provided only in extreme cases and only where appropriate documentation is provided. Make-up for mid-term exam will typically be done on the make-up day of final's week.

Warning: The material covered in class is not hypothetical and reflects experiences shared by many individuals including individuals enrolled in the course. It is not unusual for students to

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have experienced some of the abuses discussed and these associations may bring up strong feelings. If you feel the material is bringing up issues for you that are affecting your ability to be successful in the course, please take advantage of the University counseling center and/or see the instructor.

Due to the nature of the course, the instructor asks that students not bring children to class. The topics and audio-visuals used in class are not intended or appropriate for children.

Academic Integrity Statement:

"Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University, and the University's Academic Integrity Policy requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the Office of Judicial Affairs. The policy on academic integrity can be found at <http://www2.sjsu.edu/senate/S04-12.pdf>

In accordance with University policy this course strives to uphold academic honesty. Page 40 of the University catalogue clearly details University policies regarding cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes copying, submitting work previously graded in another course or submitting work simultaneously in two courses (unless otherwise approved), altering or interfering with grades, and use of surrogates for examinations. Plagiarism involves "representing the work of another as one's own without appropriate credit." (S98-1, p2). If a student is suspected of academic dishonesty, the student will be instructed to meet for a mandatory conference with the instructor. Further academic and administrative sanctions will be considered based on the infraction. Academic honesty is taken very seriously and any violations of university policy will not be tolerated.

Americans with Disabilities Act

Campus Policy in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act:

"If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during my office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires students with disabilities register with DRC to establish a record of their disability."

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Class Schedule

Spring 2006	JS 136 (1)	MW 9:00-10:15am
Class date	Topic	Required Reading
1. 6 June 06	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Green sheets & Course Overview 2. Spectrum of Violence & Models for Community Response 3. Social Conditions for Violence 	Wallace Chapter 1 Sagatun-Edwards 1-2
2. 13 June 06	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Child Neglect 2. Physical Abuse of Children 3. Psychological Maltreatment 	1. Wallace, Chapter 4 Hubner & Wolfson (Nikki) Ch 2,4,7,8,10-13 (55 pgs) 2. Wallace, Chapter 2
3. 20 June 06	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Effects and Theories 2. Sexual Abuse of Children 3. Interventions 	1. Wallace Chapter 15 2. Wallace, Chapter 3 Hubner & Wolfson (Kimberly) Ch 14-17 (40pgs)
4. 27 June 06 First Paper Due	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Community Response to Child Abuse & Neglect 2. Class discussion: Abuse & Neglect Cases: Mock Juvenile Court Hearing (Time permitting) 3. Review for Midterm 	1. Sagatun-Edwards 3-5 1. Wallace Chapter 7 2. Hubner & Wolfson Nikki & Kimberly
5. 4 July 06	Campus Closed- No Class	
6. 11 July 06	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. MIDTERM EXAM 2. Youth Gangs 	
7. 18 July 06	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elder Abuse 2. Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) 3. IPV & Same Sex Partner Abuse 	1. Wallace, Chapt. 10 Barnett, Chapter 8 (Opt) 2. Wallace, Chpt. 8 3. Wallace, Chapter 11
8. 25 July 06	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Psychological Dominance 2. Effects Of IPV on victims & children 3. Child Witnesses to Violence 	3. http://nccanch.acf.hhs.gov/profess/tools/usermanual.cfm (worksheet) Barnett, Chapter 9 (opt)

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			Barnett, Chapter 6 (opt)
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9.	1 August 06 Second Paper Due	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Community Response to Partner Abuse 2. Coordinated Community Response 3. Stalking 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wallace, Chapter 9 2. http://www.vawnet.org/DomesticViolence/Research/VAWnetDocs/AR_bip.pdf (worksheet) 2. Barnett Chapter 11(opt) 3. Wallace, Chapter 14
10.	8 August 06	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sexual Violence & Date Rape 2. Hate Crimes 3. Review & Prep for Final Exam 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wallace, Chpt 13; 2. http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/assist/nvaa2002/chapter2_2_1.html -worksheet 2. Jenness & Broad Chpt. 2 (opt)
F	11 August 06	Final Exam: Friday, August 11, 2006 0900-01115	

FINAL EXAM FOR THIS CLASS IS SCHEDULED FOR:
 Friday, August 11, 2006 0900-01115
 Please check your schedule for exam conflicts and notify the instructor ASAP

Academic Standards

- A+ grades are received by students who receive full credit for 95% of the objective questions on the examinations, and whose analytical written work are exceptional, providing evidence of conceptual skills and depth of analysis beyond what the instructor has provided to the class.
- A grades are received by students who have 90% correct answers on the objective exam questions and whose written work is excellent, mastering the depth of analysis of what the instructor has provided to the class.
- An A- grade is warranted for those with 85% correct answers on the objective exams and where written work is generally excellent, but might have one area of weakness.
- B + grades are for those with 80% correct answers on objective exams, and where written work is very good but is either weak in one or two areas or tends to be too general, lacking specificity.
- B grades are for those with 75% correct answers on the objective exams, and the written work is good but has two-three points of weakness, or lacks depth or specificity.
- B- grades are for those with 70% correct answers on objective tests, and written work has three-four weaknesses or lacks depth/specificity.
- C+ grades are for 65% correct answers on objective tests, and written work has two-three errors and lacks depth, specificity and clarity.
- C grades are for 60% correct answers on objective tests, and written work that is flawed with four or more errors and lacks depth, specificity, and clarity.
- C- grades are for 55% correct answers and written work that is sufficient to pass the course but is flawed by basic misunderstandings of the material and gaps in knowledge.
- D+ (50% correct answers), D (45% correct answers) and D- (40% correct answers), and written assignments that are completed but flawed by numerous errors and gaps in knowledge.
- F is given to students that do not complete examinations or the written assignments, who receive less than 45% on the objective exams, and who pass in written work, that shows little or no knowledge gleaned from lectures or readings, or show no attempt to correctly address the questions in the assignments.

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AJ136: WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS AND SEMESTER PROJECTS.

ASSIGNMENT No 1: CHILD ABUSE

Report on book or movie about **Child Abuse**

Due Date: June 27, 2006

(Late papers will be docked points for each day late.)

You may choose to review one of the following books or movies about child physical abuse, molest, or neglect.

Books include: *A Child Called It*, or *The Lost Boy*, or *A Man Named Dave* by David Pelzer, Health Communications; *Another Place at the Table* by Kathy Harrison; *The Liars Club*, by M. Karr, Penquin; *White Oleander*, by J. Fitch, Time-Warner, and *Prince of Tides* by Patrick Conroy, *The Great Santini*, by Patrick Conroy, *Affliction*, by Russell Banks

Movies include: *RADIO FLYER*, *WHITE OLEANDER*, *LOLITA*, *BASTARD OUT OF CAROLINA*, *ANTOINE FISHER*

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING ASSIGNMENT:

The total length of each paper should be six (not to exceed 10 pgs) double-spaced typed pages (12 font). It should address each of the items (a - i) below in essay form. Include definitions, concepts and theories that support your assertions and at least 3 references, one of which can be a required text and one of which can be an on-line professional article. Be sure your references are properly cited using APA style and include a bibliography page. Papers will be assessed for grammar, clarity, conciseness and coherence. Please note previous reference to University policy for academic honesty. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Students must submit a **hard copy to the instructor** and submit papers **electronically to turnitin.com** prior to the due date. Be sure to submit only final drafts to turnitin.com.

Be sure to address each of the following for a total of 50 (see grading rubric below):

- a) Write a brief synopsis of the case(s) that were reported in the book or movie. Do not simply retell the story. Provide a frame for addressing the remaining topics. (about ½ to one page).
- b) Identify the specific forms of family violence that were illustrated. Define and explain whether the behavior met the definition of each type of abuse and whether it was reportable to any authority e.g. Child Protective Services, police etc. (about one page)
- c) Suggest what historical, social or political factors influenced the recognition of this kind of abuse. These factors may have occurred after the setting of the movie. Present clearly the time perspective. Include citations. (about one page)
- d) Discuss the precursors, correlates or causal factors that you consider to be associated with or contributed to the abuse and the relevant theories that help explain this type of abuse. If you have insufficient information about the family, suggest the kind of information you would gather that would address this question. Site sources that support your assertions. (about 1 pages)

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- e) Discuss the effects of the violence on the victim or victims and the victim's response and accommodation to the abuse. Refer to specific examples.
- f) Discuss the background of the family, cultural and social factors that contributed to keeping the abuse hidden from the scrutiny of the justice system and/or the community?
- g) Discuss the response of different parts of the justice system to each type of violence described (i.e. the actions of police, DA, judges, attorney for defendant or for child etc.). If there was not justice system response, what hindered the response? What should the response have been? What were the conditions at the time of the story? How have they changed and what would the response be today based on current response systems. (about 1 pages)
 - ⚡ How effective were the actions of the justice system?
 - ⚡ What could have been done differently?
- h) What kinds of legal and community interventions and services are available today that may have helped this family address and eliminate the abuse? (about 1 pages)
- i) Discuss past and present attitudes and/or cultural beliefs that have inhibited reporting and intervention in this form of violence. Discuss personal beliefs that may effect your own acknowledgement of this violence or abuse.

Paper Grading Rubric

See Assignment for full details

Points	Paper includes:
2	a. Brief synopsis of the movie book or case
5	b. Examples of types of family violence in case/story with definition of each type of abuse
5	c. Historical, social or political factors that influenced the recognition of this kind of abuse
5	d. Precursors, correlates, causal factors and/or theories associated with the abuse presented clearly. Examples effectively used to illustrate the assertions.
5	e. Description/examples of the effects of the violence/abuse on the victim(s).
5	f. Family, social and cultural factors that contributed to keeping this abuse hidden from the scrutiny of the community and/or justice system or inhibited early detection, intervention and/or prevention
5	g. Response of different parts of the justice system to the violence, role of courts & effectiveness of the justice system response
5	h. Legal and community interventions currently available to help
5	i. past and present attitudes and/or cultural beliefs that have inhibited reporting and personal beliefs that may effect your own acknowledgement of this violence
3	Effective use of references, clear citations, bibliography of at least 3 sources provided
5	Clearly written, proof-read for typos, assessment of grammar, clarity, conciseness and coherence
50	TOTAL

ASSIGNMENT No 2: Intimate Partner Violence

Current Controversy Paper

Conceptualization of the Reason for Intimate Partner Violence

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Due Date: August 1, 2006

(Late papers will be docked points for each day late.)

Write a 6-10 page paper on the controversy regarding what causes intimate partner violence. On the one hand feminist theory takes a strong position that domestic violence is the manifestation of patriarchy and male supremacy over time which subordinates women and justifies violence against women. On the other hand, others claim that there are clear psychological disturbances in men who would batterer their partners and psychology has more to offer this understanding than interpretations of feminist ideology. Using at least **four references**, research these two perspectives, state the position of each and provide supporting evidence for each position. After you have provided these position statements, draw your own conclusions and clearly state what you believe based on the evidence you have presented. Take a position on the issue of what is the basis of domestic violence, what causes a partner to abuse and/or batterer their partner. A strong paper uses objective analysis of the positions and the strengths and weaknesses of both in drawing conclusions.

- Papers will be graded for clarity and support for ideas based on empirical information.
- a. Briefly state the thesis of your paper before beginning.
 - b-e. Gather data and research for each position. Clearly develop each position. Outline your thoughts and supporting evidence before beginning so that your ideas are well organized.
 - f. Present your position on the issues based on the data and research you have found.
 - g. Provide thoughts about the impact each of these perspectives would have on interventions and effectiveness of response. Which theory provides the best guidance in safe and effective intervention?
 - h. Finally, provide ideas about how cultural beliefs and perspectives might influence support for each of these theories.

Points	Paper includes:
5	a. Statement of thesis
3	b. Position 1: introduction of perspective or conceptualization of violence
7	c. Data provided clearly supports the position
3	d. Position 2 clearly stated
7	e. Data provided clearly supports position 2
5	f. Personal position based on evidence and information provided
5	g. How these perspectives could influence interventions and effectiveness of response.
5	h. How might cultural beliefs and perspectives influence these different theories
5	i. Effective use of references, clear citations, bibliography of at least 4 sources provided
5	j. Clearly written, proof-read for typos, assessment of grammar, clarity, conciseness and coherence
50	Total

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