



# NEWSLETTER

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THE BENJAMIN L. HOOKS INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

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October 2004



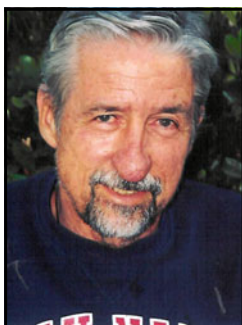
Patricia Williams

## PATRICIA J. WILLIAMS

The Hooks Institute is honored to have **Patricia Williams**, Professor of Law at Columbia University, deliver a Ben Hooks Lecture on 21 October 2004. In 2000, Patricia Williams was awarded a MacArthur Foundation "genius" grant. Her book, *The Alchemy of Race and Rights*, was named one of the twenty-five best books of 1991 by the *Voice Literary Supplement* and one of the "feminist classics of the last twenty years" that "literally changed women's lives" by *Ms. Magazine's* Twentieth Anniversary Edition. Other books include *The Rooster's Egg*, *Seeing a Color-Blind Future*, and *Open House: Of Family, Friends, Food, Piano Lessons, and the Search for a Room of My Own* (in press). She has appeared in a number of documentary films, including *That Rush!*, which she wrote and narrated. At present, she serves on the boards of the Center for Constitutional Rights, NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund and the Society of American Law Teachers.

"We are honored to have Patricia Williams deliver a Hooks Lecture this year, and to participate in the Hooks Institute's ongoing examination of new frontiers in the continuing struggle for civil rights and social justice in this country," said Hooks Institute Founding Director, Dr. Benjamin L. Hooks. "Her path-breaking work as a legal scholar and social activist has inspired many of us, in the public as well as in universities."

Williams will speak in the University Center, room 311, at 4:00 p.m. The event is co-sponsored by African and African American Studies, the Center for Research on Women, and the Department of History at the University of Memphis. It is free and open to the public and the media.



Tom Hayden

## TOM HAYDEN

On November 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m in the Fogelman Executive Center, former Senator **Tom Hayden** will give a Hooks Lecture on the subject of his tenth book, *Street Wars and the Future of Violence* (New Press, 2004), the culmination of a decade of activism as a California State Senator working to prevent gang violence in Los Angeles. *Street Wars* "showcases some of the positive forces that have a chance to redirect the future," Marian Wright Edelman has written.

Tom's political activism as a California legislator has earned him three invitations to the symposium "After the War on Crime: Race, Democracy

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## REFLECTIONS

"We must transform stumbling blocks into stepping stones and march on with the determination that we will make America a better nation for all..."

—Benjamin L. Hooks

It has been an exciting year at the Hooks Institute, and it's nice to have a chance to pause and reflect on some of the events that have kept us so busy. A substantial share of the Institute's work in the past year concerned the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court decision and its continuing implications for American society. Some of the principal events related to that agenda included a policy roundtable on New Frontiers in Civil Rights in the United States. The roundtable offered an opportunity for public policy researchers, civil rights activists, and community leaders in the Mid-South to share their ideas and concerns with the Senate Majority Leader, Senator Bill Frist, M.D. "This gathering was unique both in the range of voices brought together, and in the 'off-the-record' nature of the gathering, which allowed for a candid and generative discussion . . . and will have a significant impact on public policy," commented Hooks Institute Co-Director Doug Imig.

In July 2003, the Institute convened an advisory group of educators to help guide and expand its program in Civic Education for Social Change. Dr. Ric Hovda, Dean of the College of Education at The University of Memphis, addressed the group and noted the importance of the Hooks Institute's educational initiatives in the post-Brown context. "The No Child Left Behind Act is silent on the imperative that public schools teach our young people to be civically engaged," Hovda said. "This is a deplorable silence and I commend the Hooks Institute for seeking to redress it."

Speaking before a crowd of students, faculty and community leaders, noted civil rights lawyer, author, and political science professor Peter Irons delivered a Hooks Lecture on his recent project, "Jim Crow's Children: The

Broken Promise of the Brown Decision." For this project, Irons revisited the five school districts that were defendants in the Brown case in order to assess where they are now in terms of educational attainment, racial integration, and civil rights. Irons' findings are troubling. Not only did it take nearly twenty years before the last officially segregated school closed, but all five of the districts involved in the Brown case remain fundamentally segregated today.

In October 2003, the Institute convened a research workshop featuring the recipients of the Institute's Summer Faculty Research Awards. These awards supported research projects examining the influence of Brown on public education, business practices, political mobilization, and patterns of urban and suburban development. Winners of the Faculty Research Awards included: Ken Holland (formerly of the Political Science Department at The University of Memphis and now in the Office of the Provost at The University of Kansas), Cynthia Bond Hopson (Department of Journalism), Kevin Smith (School of Law), and Paul Wright (Department of Human Movement Science and Education). The workshop generated a lively discussion about the gains made in this country as a result of Brown. These papers are available on the Institute's web site.

Also in October 2003, the Institute hosted its annual educational outreach program, bringing elementary and secondary students to campus to discuss civic education and social change with Dr. Benjamin L. Hooks, Chairman of the Board of the Hooks Institute and Distinguished Professor of Political Science and History at The University of Memphis. Since 1996, more than two thousand students from public and private schools in Memphis and Shelby County have participated in the program. With the assistance of

Drs. Nichelle Boyd, Jeffrey Hawkins and Kantaylieni Hill-Clarke in the Department of Instruction and Curriculum Leadership, the program introduces fifth- and eleventh-grade students to issues related to voting rights, equal opportunity, and the importance of civic engagement.

In December 2003, the Hooks Institute combined forces with The National Institute of Law and Equity and the National Civil Rights Museum and presented a symposium entitled "Crime and Unjust Punishment: The Emerging Civil Rights Agenda." The day-long event at the National Civil Rights Museum featured national and regional judges, prosecutors, political leaders, and three individuals who were exonerated because of the efforts of the Innocence Project, a non-profit legal clinic that has identified and exonerated 130 persons through DNA evidence testing. We are pleased to note that, subsequent to the symposium, the Tennessee State General Assembly, led by Senator Steve Cohen, reversed the state's long-standing refusal to grant reparations to exonerated persons.

Over the course of the spring 2004 semester, the Institute continued to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court decision. In February 2004, Dr. Lee Bollinger, President of Columbia University and former President of The University of Michigan, delivered a major address as part of the Hooks Lecture Series. Bollinger traced the path from Brown to the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decisions that re-examine the place of affirmative action in university admissions policy and bear Dr. Bollinger's name. Dr. Bollinger received an award from the Hooks Institute for his continuing commitment to social justice. The award was presented by Dr. Benjamin L. Hooks and University of Memphis

President Dr. Shirley Raines. Dr. Bollinger's lecture is available for viewing on the Hooks Institute web site.

In March, the Hooks Institute's celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Brown decision culminated in a major research symposium that brought together an exciting group of social scientists under the banner of "America's Second Revolution: The Path to and from Brown v. Board Education." Dr. Hooks has long maintained that Brown represents nothing less than a "virtually bloodless revolution in America." The Institute facilitated a series of conversations to consider that proposition. Panelists included Dr. Kenneth Andrews of The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and the Russell Sage Foundation, Dr. Charles Payne of Duke University, Dr. Aldon Morris of Northwestern University, Dr. Kim Williams of Harvard University, Dr. Sidney Tarrow of Cornell University and the Russell Sage Foundation, Dr. Lauren Edelman of The University of California at Berkeley, Dr. Katherine Tate and Dr. David S. Meyer of The University of California at Irvine, and Dr. Rosalee Clawson of Purdue University. Panelists from The University of Memphis included Dr. Barbara Ellen Smith, Director of the Center for Research on Women, Dr. Kevin Smith, Professor of Law, Dr. Steve Scanlon, Assistant Professor of Sociology, Dr. Ken Jolly, Assistant Professor of History, and Dr. Beverly Bond, Director of the Program in African and African American Studies. The papers presented at the March workshop are available through the Institute's web site, and collectively provided a rich foundation for Benjamin Hooks' remarks at the national celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Brown in Wichita, Kansas on May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2004.

The work of the Hooks Institute is currently shouldered by some

twenty-five faculty affiliates, divided into nine research groups, along with two visiting scholars and five student workers, in addition to the Institute's staff.

To find out more about the Hooks Institute and its programs, we encourage you to visit our web site (<http://benhooks.memphis.edu>), which offers a complete list of upcoming events.

-- Doug Imig, Co-Director



## TEACHERS' ADVISORY BOARD

In summer 2004 the Institute established a Teacher's Advisory Board, which consists of ten elementary, middle, and high school teachers from Campus School, Craigmont Middle School, Fairley High School, Kingsbury Middle School, Ridgeway Middle School, and Trezevant High School. The Advisory Board suggested ways the Hooks Institute could most effectively assist teachers in their daily efforts to spark students' intellectual curiosity and to sharpen students' critical thinking skills. The Hooks Institute is especially grateful to the unstinting generosity and insight of Rhonda Charnes-Martin, Clarence Dickson, LeeAnn Fryman, Marva Gumbel, Mary Ann McNeil, Zandria Robinson, Marilyn Taylor, Mildred Williams, Rick Stearnes, and Nancy Yeager-Smith.

## HOOKS SUMMER INTERNS

Starting in the summer of 2004, the Hooks Institute initiated an internship program for especially promising undergraduate and graduate students. Interns engage in experiential learning, reinforcing their commitment to a career in public service and thereby honoring Dr. Hooks' own legacy. This summer's interns were actively involved in program development to enhance the effectiveness of the Hooks Institute's ability to build bridges between the community and the university. Additionally, they catalogued and preserved more of Dr. Hooks' papers for use by future generations.

**Giovanni Nicholle Dortch**, a summer intern for the Hooks Institute, was actively involved in the process of archiving Dr. Hooks' papers. She is a native Memphian and a 1999 graduate of the Political Science and International Studies programs at The University of Memphis. Currently, Ms. Dortch is a graduate student in the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies (Women's Studies) program at The University of Memphis. She has received numerous Awards and Achievements throughout her academic career including the Tennessee Board of Regents Scholarship and National Achievement Scholarship (1994-98). In 1994, she received the JC Penney Golden Rule Award and the United Way Youth Volunteer of the Year Award. Ms. Dortch has served as a Legislative Intern for the Tennessee State Legislature (1997) working under Shelby County Representatives Henri E. Brooks and Katherine I. Bowers. Upon graduation in 2004, Giovanni plans to pursue her research interests of third world feminism and women and social policy in academia



**Rochelle K. Ingram**, who worked on processing Dr. Hooks' papers for preservation, is an alumnus of Tennessee State University, where she received her B.S. in Africana Studies in 1999. In 2000, she received the *Who's Who in American Universities and Colleges* award. Her studies have taken her to Gambia, Senegal, Jamaica, Trinidad, Tobago, and Canada. She has also interned with the Embassy of Ghana, in Washington, D.C. and the Office of Minority Affairs at the Tennessee State Legislative Plaza in Nashville.



As an Intern with the Benjamin L. Hooks Institute for Social Change, **Demadre Lockett** designed training workshops for local organizations involved in educational activities for disadvantaged urban youth. A San Francisco native, DeMadre was a graduate of the Omega Leadership Academy and a member of the Omega Boys Club/Street Soldiers, a program founded in 1987 to combat youth violence and provide opportunities for disadvantaged youth. Passionate about African history, DeMadre studied at the University of Ghana with the University of Memphis's African and African American Studies Program. Before his tragic and untimely death in August, 2004, DeMadre had hoped to develop African and African American studies curricula to be used by youth organizations nationally.



As a Hooks Summer Intern, **Korbet Moering** developed a database of local outreach organizations that minister to the needs of homeless people, at-risk children, and drug addicts. She actively explored how the Hooks

Institute might design useful training workshops for the staff of these organizations. Ms. Moering is a junior majoring in African and African American Studies. She plans to pursue a Ph.D. in History, after which she hopes to design programs that will introduce urban children to the world of art and offer them a unique forum for creative and wide-ranging emotional expression.



**Stephanie Stokes-Eley**, a native of Mississippi, was a Hooks Summer Intern. She undertook a survey of the secondary literature on mentoring programs in order to facilitate the implementation of the Frances Darcy Hooks Mentoring program in spring 2005. Ms. Stokes-Eley received a Bachelor of Arts degree in speech communication and a Master of Science degree in communication from the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg. She is a doctoral candidate in Higher Education at the University of Memphis, and a lecturer at the University of Tennessee in Chattanooga.

The Hooks Institute Newsletter will be published four times a year. To subscribe electronically, please send an email to [bhi@memphis.edu](mailto:bhi@memphis.edu).

Free copies are available at the Institute. PDF versions can be downloaded free at <http://benhooks.memphis.edu/newsletter.html>.

The Institute asks for a \$5.00 donation to cover postage and handling of newsletters sent to off-campus addresses. Please send to the Institute a check made out to The University of Memphis Foundation, and indicate the address at which you wish to receive the newsletter.

# CIVIC EDUCATION FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

This project develops educational initiatives to empower students of any race, class or gender to graduate from high school fully prepared to compete in a rigorous university setting, to pursue meaningful careers of their own choosing, and to lead civically engaged lives as they work for a safer, more equitable world. The rich and inspiring legacy of the American Civil Rights Movement continues to play a central role in the civic education repertoire.

Each year since 1998, the Hooks Institute has brought elementary and secondary school students to the University of Memphis campus for a program on the history of the Civil Rights movement. Dr. Hooks has hosted the program, delivered the keynote address, and answered questions from the students. This program brings many at-risk children to a university campus for the first time, and introduces them to the possibility of attending college. We believe this introduction to university life – and the possibilities it suggests – is a critical part of the program. In the past six years, over two thousand students have attended. In fall 2004, the Hooks Institute under the able direction of David Madlock and his Teachers' Advisory Board expanded its range of campus offerings in order to reach more students each year. The first session of 2004, held on 13 October, "Voting: Why Bother," took place in a political environment where a lot is at stake for this country's blacks in this year's presidential election. Americans are witnessing the elimination of Affirmative Action, the secret purging of African Americans from voting rolls in many states, and

the incarceration of a disproportionate number of black males. Dr. **Ron Davis**, who earned an Ed.D. from the University of Memphis in 2004 and has worked on such community initiatives as Hip Hop The Vote and the African American Men's Summit, gave a lecture on the contemporary disenfranchisement of African Americans. Dr. Davis drew heavily on his interviews of over 400 African American young men in Memphis. Mr. **David Madlock**, a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of History at the University of Memphis and the Associate Director of the Hooks Institute, gave a talk on the potential impact of a united block of formerly apoliticized voters of color on the outcome of national and local elections. The event was attended by over 150 seniors from three local high schools. One of the teachers accompanying her students, Marilyn Taylor of Trezevant High School, wrote a note "to say how much my kids enjoyed the lecture yesterday. They really felt as though they learned something. Two students, who previously showed no interest in continuing their education, now have a desire to attend the U of M."

Two more sessions are planned for the fall semester:

**November 3, 2004**  
**University Center Ballroom**  
*Education:*  
*The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Silver Bullet*

In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, educational empowerment is more vital to social mobility than ever before. The transition from an at-risk environment to a stable, prosperous, non-violent environment requires the ability to competitively navigate the global marketplace. Necessary skills include excellence in math, reading, writing, and, above all, critical thinking. Professor **Larry McNeal's** long career has focused on helping at-risk communities reconceptualize children

as assets. As Chair of the Department of Leadership at the University of Memphis, Dr. McNeal has studied the critical relationship between schools and communities in mobilizing both organizational and individual transformation. His lecture will strive to motivate students to maximize their school experience. **Zandria Robinson**, a graduate student in the Department of Sociology at the University of Memphis, is completing a master's thesis on stratification processes in city schools. Her own experiences as a student in the Memphis public schools and as a volunteer at Yo! Memphis will enter her discussion of the ways race, culture, and organizational structures can prevent black students from achieving academic equality with students from higher socio-economic levels.

**November 17, 2004**  
**University Center Ballroom**  
*Unraveling the*  
*Prison Industrial Complex*

According to the 1999 *Bureau of Justice Statistics Bulletin*, 48.2% of all adults jailed in America were African American. In addition, 42.5% of inmates facing the death penalty were African American. One in three black men between the ages of 20 and 29 lived under some type of institutionalized corrections supervision that year. Criminal Justice Professor **K. B. Turner**, who got his Ph. D. from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln after serving as a police officer for twenty years, will discuss questions of black incarceration, bail, and the lack of minority police officers. **David Madlock** of the Hooks Institute will discuss the politics of incarceration, media portrayals of crimes committed by African Americans, and how the African American experience of slavery and Jim Crow has shaped the mainstream American perception of African Americans as criminals.

## VALERIE JEAN LOVE



Valerie Jean Love

Valerie Love joins the staff of the Benjamin L. Hooks Institute for Social Change at The University of Memphis as the Archivist of the Hooks Papers. "We could not be more enthusiastic about the outcome of a lengthy, painstaking search for an archivist capable of archiving a document collection of such magnitude and importance," remarked D'Ann Penner, chair of the search committee and Co-Director of the Hooks Institute. "Without the hard work and generosity of Beverly Bond, Gary Carman, Ron Ferrari, Silverna Ford, Ed Frank, Doug Imig, and Armie Williams, the position might well have remained unfilled for years to come."

A native of Pennsylvania, Love attended Smith College in Massachusetts and received a B.A. in Italian Language and Literature in May, 2002. Love's interest in archival work grew out of a class assignment her sophomore year. "I was taking an education course and the professor wanted us to use materials from the archives for one of our papers. I remember meeting with the archivists and looking through boxes of old letters and diaries of past students, and I just absolutely loved it. There were so many amazing materials, and it was by far the most fun I had ever had writing a paper." Love began working as a student assistant in the College Archives at Smith that summer.

Her junior year abroad in Florence, Italy, was an experience that awakened a passion for travel within her. At the end of the academic year, she spent three months backpacking solo across Europe. "It was this wonderful, crazy experience. I tried to pack as lightly as possible, so I wore the same three outfits the entire summer. The soles of my shoes were completely worn through by the time I came back." Love continued to work in the College Archives upon returning to Smith for

her senior year. Applying to graduate school in archival work seemed the next logical step.

Love received a Master's Degree in Library and Information Studies with an emphasis on Archival Administration from The University of Wisconsin, Madison, in May, 2004. At Madison, she was the coordinator of the student chapter of the Society of American Archivists, and held numerous library and archival jobs on campus. Love also completed a practicum at the Wisconsin State Historical Society, working with social action collections there.

In summer 2003, Love participated in the World Library Partnership's "Inform the World Program." This program, based in North Carolina, provides the opportunity for volunteers from around the globe to travel to African villages and work with communities to create or improve local libraries. "It was an incredible experience, and I feel incredibly lucky to have been able to participate," Love said. She raised the \$3,700 needed to participate in the program and was assigned to a middle school with fifth through seventh grades in the town of Mseleni, in KwaZulu Natal, about twenty miles from the Indian Ocean. During her stay, she lived with the principal of the school and his family.

In addition to working in the library, Love filled in for absent teachers in the classrooms. "We tried to pick up the lessons where the teachers had left off the day before, but without a lesson plan or any real knowledge of the curriculum, it was extremely difficult," she said. "The classes often turned into cultural exchange sessions where the students would ask questions about the United States and we would ask questions about South Africa. A few times I had the students write Zulu words and translate them into

English so that I could learn some basic Zulu. And it helped them practice their spelling.”

An avid ice hockey player and fan, Love never envisioned herself moving to the South, but found coming to Memphis an opportunity which she could not pass up. "I'm just so excited to be a part of the Hooks Institute and the University of Memphis community," Love explained. "Archiving Dr. Hooks' papers will create extraordinary opportunities for researchers and anyone interested in fully understanding the Civil Rights movement in the United States. I am extremely honored to be a part of this project."

Africa's Right to Health Campaign, according to Salih, is the number one priority of Africa Action, an organization dedicated to educating and mobilizing Americans and others to fight for U.S. and international policies that will benefit Africa. It seeks to address the structural injustices that triggered and now perpetuate the AIDS pandemic. It also works to remove the international obstacles that deny Africans the resources they need to respond effectively to the continent's health crisis.

D'Ann Penner, Co-Director of the Hooks Institute, the event's co-sponsor, said, "Mr. Booker did an extraordinary job of graphically depicting the extent of the health disparities among men, women, and children—there are 13 million AIDS orphans today—suffering from global apartheid, a phrase he prefers to 'globalization.' Yet he didn't leave his audience without hope, but emphasized repeatedly the effectiveness of even e-advocacy in influencing governmental policy. Sources within the State Department told Booker that the 30,000 e-mails urging Colin Powell to classify the Sudanese crisis as a 'genocide' achieved the desired mobilizing impact." The war against HIV-AIDS can be won, Booker concluded, because treatments (but not resources) are available to convert contraction of the virus from a death sentence to a chronic illness.

The Africa Action web site is:  
[www.africaaction.org/index.php](http://www.africaaction.org/index.php)

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## PAST EVENTS: SALIH BOOKER



### “Africa’s Right to Health Campaign”

On October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2004, Salih Booker, Executive Director of Africa Action, presented a lecture in a series sponsored by The African and African American Studies Program at The University of Memphis. Mr. Booker addressed what he called “the moral and ethical challenge of our generation,” namely the duty of wealthy countries to respond to the HIV-AIDS pandemic that is sweeping across communities of color in Africa, the Caribbean (especially Haiti), and the United States. “The face of AIDS is a woman’s face,” asserted Mr. Booker. “Her color is black. Not since the days of the Transatlantic Slave Trade has our race been so threatened.”



## VISITING SCHOLARS



Beverly Bond

The Institute has created a Scholars in Residence program for leaders of the civil rights movement who are working on their memoirs, and for researchers who will benefit from a university affiliation in the Mid-South. They may access the valuable research materials at the Hooks Archives, at the National Civil Rights Museum, and in the Mississippi Valley Collection at the University of Memphis Libraries. **Dr. Beverly Bond**, Director of the African and African American Studies Program at the University of Memphis and Associate Professor of History, is the Hooks Institute's first Scholar in Residence.

Bond's work focuses on African American women in the nineteenth-century urban south. Her dissertation, "Till Fair Aurora Rises": African American Women in Nineteenth-Century Memphis and Shelby County," examines the experiences of black women in antebellum and late nineteenth-century Memphis. A book-length manuscript based on this dissertation is under contract with the University of Illinois Press. While in residence, Professor Bond is working on an article on Julia Britton Hooks, grandmother of Benjamin L. Hooks and a talented musician and teacher. Mrs. Hooks championed social and political rights of African Americans in post-Reconstruction Memphis. Dr. Bond will give a public lecture on Julia Hooks in March of 2005.



Julia A.B. Hooks

**Ernestine Jenkins**, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Art at the University of Memphis, is a fall 2004 Hooks Fellow at the Benjamin Hooks Institute for Social Change. As a scholar in residence, Dr. Jenkins is preparing her dissertation manuscript, "A Kingly Craft: Manuscripts, Society, and Ideology in 19<sup>th</sup>-century Ethiopia," for publication. Dr. Jenkins received her Ph.D. in History from Michigan State University, her M.A. in Art History from the Uni-

versity of Memphis, and her B.F.A. in painting from Spelman College. Her area of focus is the African Diaspora, which she studies from a visual and cultural historical perspective. Dr. Jenkins' interdisciplinary and comparative research crosses the fields of history and art history. She has created new courses in African and African American art and culture in the Department of Art, and has revised courses in American and tribal art. During the 2005-2006 academic year, Dr. Jenkins will give a public talk about Delta State's collection of Hooks' Brothers photographs.

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## FEATURED RESEARCH

### "Building a Social Movement for America's Children"

In this essay, **Douglas R. Imig**, Co-Director of the Hooks Institute and Professor of Political Science at the University of Memphis, examines the gap between public concern for the conditions of children and young people and the fact that political action on behalf of children has historically proven to be politically anemic. This paper is part of a larger project that examines the emergence, political engagement and decline of organized movements for children and young people. This research project is intended to contribute to our understanding of the roles of social movement organizations and mass political action in achieving policy gains for children and young people. The paper is available for downloading at <http://benhooks.memphis.edu/papers/dougpaper2.pdf>.

## WORKSHOPS: ENDING THE SILENCE



On November 3-5  
**Nan Woodruff**,  
prize-winning author  
of *American Congo*  
and the National Co-  
ordinator for Break-  
ing the Silence: The  
UNESCO Transat-

lantic Slave Trade Education Project (TST-USA), will be a guest of the Hooks Institute. The TST Education Project was organized in 2000, with Professor Sylvia Frey of Tulane University and the Deep South Regional Humanities Center serving as the National Coordinator. The project's goal is to work with public school teachers in developing a curriculum to teach about the Transatlantic Slave Trade, slavery, and emancipation. Its aim is to achieve understanding and reconciliation by encouraging students to perceive the links between their local communities and the world. Approximately one hundred schools are involved in the TST project in Africa, the Caribbean, Europe, and Latin America. The U.S. project has five sites that link public schools with institutions such as universities, museums, and archives. Activities have included a four-day teachers' summer institute for the past three summers, field trips to sites of memory and archives, and the development of lesson plans and student projects around the issues of slavery and emancipation.

Professor Woodruff is eager to meet with interested faculty, teachers, and curriculum planners to explain her program and to explore the possibility of creating a sixth project site that would link public schools with other institutions in Memphis.

The Hooks Institute is in the process of arranging meetings between interested individuals and Dr. Woodruff. For more information, please email [bhi@memphis.edu](mailto:bhi@memphis.edu) or call (901) 678-3974.



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and a New Reconstruction," organized by the University of California at Berkeley's Center for Social Justice. In fall 2003, he was a Visiting Fellow at Harvard's Institute of Politics, where he led the study group "Activism Now! Students, Sweatshops and Globalization." Among his many books are *The Lost Gospel of the Earth, Irish on the Inside, The Whole World was Watching*, and *Irish Hunger*. In 1988, *Reunion: A Memoir* was honored by the *New York Times* as one of the best books of the year.

Tom's intellectual curiosity and expertise ranges from the 1960s to environmental issues, from Irish-American identity to 21<sup>st</sup>-century street gangs in El Salvador and Los Angeles, from the Zapatistas to the rights of immigrants. He locates the origins of his seemingly disparate interests in his Irishness, which he describes as a "hidden magnet drawing me towards dreams, underdogs, lost causes, and crusades" for over forty years.

Perhaps most famous for his highly visible role as a civil rights activist and as co-founder of the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), Tom began his career as a freedom fighter in Fayette County, Tennessee, where he delivered a carload of food to sharecroppers evicted from their land for attempting to register to vote in the 1960 presidential election. In later life

he would see the connection between the civil rights heroes of Tent City and his own distant Irish ancestors evicted from their land during the Great Famine.

In 1962, while still a student at The University of Michigan, Tom penned the Port Huron Statement, which became SDS's manifesto. "Some would have us believe that Americans feel contentment amidst prosperity—but might it not better be called a glaze above deeply felt anxieties about their role in the new world?" the Statement reads. "And if these anxieties produce a developed indifference to human affairs, do they not as well produce a yearning to believe there *is* an alternative to the present, that something *can* be done to change circumstances in the school, the workplaces, the bureaucracies, the government? It is to this latter yearning, at once the spark and engine of change, that we direct our present appeal."

Tom served as a member of the State Assembly from 1982 to 1991 and as a State Senator from 1992 to 1999, when he retired to what the *Los Angeles Times* hailed as the longest farewell of any legislator in memory. In the California Legislature, he chaired the Labor, Higher Education, and Natural Resources Committees, through which he passed pivotal legislation on behalf of African-Americans, Latinos, Holocaust survivors, recent immigrants laboring in sweatshops, women, and youth who, marginalized in socially constructed ghettos, searched for employment rather than incarceration. He was recognized as the Legislature's foremost watchdog against special-interest waste and abuse of power, and he led battles in Sacramento to stop university tuition increases and to reform the K-12 system. Upon his retirement he was honored by the American Lung Association for his battles against the tobacco industry, by

the California League of Conservation Voters for his environmental leadership, by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference for his civil rights achievements, by the University of California, California State, and Community College student associations for his commitment to affordable higher education, and by the Jewish National Fund for his commitment to Israel.

Currently he is a Professor at Occidental College, a member of the Editorial Board of the *Nation*, the National Co-director of No More Sweatshops!, and a Social Science Advisor for Green Dot Public Schools' charter schools in Venice, Inglewood, Lennox, South Central and Boyle Heights, California. Tom Hayden fights for causes he believes to be just, irrespective of their projected success rates. In the end, he argues, it is necessary to take on unpopular causes because "the world would be worse off if no one did."

—D'Ann Penner, Co-Director



## WORKING GROUPS

The Hooks Institute Working Groups Program brings together faculty, graduate students, and community activists from diverse fields. The groups are in the process of forming, and if you are interested in joining, please contact one of the group leaders.

For updates on the groups' activities, please go to <http://benhooks.memphis.edu/workinggroups.html>

### Enabling Alternatives to Global Apartheid in the Delta

Contact: Alan Gumbel (agpolsci@aol.com) or D'Ann Penner (dpenner@memphis.edu)

Many rural citizens of the Delta Region (as defined by the Lower Mississippi Delta Development Commission in 1990) struggle to create meaningful lives of their choosing against the constraints of globalization, or what Salih Booker more aptly describes as "Global Apartheid." Masses of men, women, and children of color have been disadvantaged by centuries of systematic, violent repression, beginning with the Transatlantic Slave Trade and continuing at least until the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s. By examining how alternatives to globalization have developed in analogous social and economic spaces within other national contexts, this group seeks to analyze multiple discourses in a scholarly fashion, and to deliberately translate theory and research into concrete agendas for action. Meetings will be held every two weeks and will alternate between guest speakers and presentations of critical works within the field.

### Manuel Castells' Works

Contact: Barbara E. Smith (bsmith2@memphis.edu) or D'Ann Penner (dpenner@memphis.edu)

This group meets once every three weeks to critically engage Manuel Castells' *The Information Age* trilogy. Faculty and graduate students from all disciplines are welcome. No prior knowledge of Castells is required.

### Memphis

Contact: Wanda Rushing (wrushing@memphis.edu) or David Madlock (wmadlock@memphis.edu)

The group meets once a month to discuss topics selected by the members and to foster interdisciplinary interaction among graduate students and professors with common thematic interests. Anyone interested in approaching the City of Memphis from an academic viewpoint is invited to attend these informal gatherings.

### Minority Faculty Recruitment and Retention

Contact: Beverly Bond (bgbond@memphis.edu), Joseph Hawes (jhawes@memphis.edu) or D'Ann Penner (dpenner@memphis.edu)

This group investigates the history of minority faculty recruitment and retention at the University of Memphis and analyzes models more successfully implemented nationwide. Our goal is to make a written recommendation to the Dean of Arts and Sciences by May 2005.

### Oral History and the Civil Rights Movement

Contact: D'Ann Penner (dpenner@memphis.edu) or Jayme Stone (jaymes@uca.edu)

The purpose of this working group is to discuss contemporary scholarly research and critically review participants' works-in-progress. It is open to the local community as well as to university faculty, graduate students, undergraduates and staff. We examine various theories and methods of

crafting an interdisciplinary approach to the creation of archives, and conducting interviews with attention to issues of race, class, and gender.

### **Public Will and Policy Change for Children**

Contact: Doug Imig ([dimig@memphis.edu](mailto:dimig@memphis.edu)) or  
Ashley Bonds ([aabonds@memphis.edu](mailto:aabonds@memphis.edu))

Concern for the condition of children and families transcends the boundaries of economic class, ethnicity, and gender in this country. Yet by most indicators, the well-being of American children trails that within the rest of the industrialized world. This working group examines this paradox. We explore the historical pattern of mobilization for children's rights, as well as strategies for framing children's issues and building public and community support for children's policy. What are the best possibilities for launching a community-based social movement for children in the context of No Child Left Behind, shifting family, work, and care patterns, and emerging economic forces, what are the best possibilities for launching a community based social movement for children? Consisting of members from Memphis, Stanford, Yale, and Berlin, the group shares its work over the internet throughout the year and holds an annual workshop.

### **South Africa**

Contact: Valerie Love ([valeriejlove@yahoo.com](mailto:valeriejlove@yahoo.com))

The group meets once every three weeks to discuss themes selected by its members and to foster cross-departmental interaction among graduate students, instructors, and staff with common research or activist interests.

### **Transformative Education**

Contact: D'Ann Penner ([dpenner@memphis.edu](mailto:dpenner@memphis.edu)) or  
Marilyn Taylor ([mhtaylr1@memphis.edu](mailto:mhtaylr1@memphis.edu))

The group fosters dialogue among public school teachers and university faculty and students on critical issues facing our public school systems. We focus on the potential of critical pedagogy in transforming schools from conveyor belts to the prison-industrial complex into institutions of empowerment for a fully engaged life as an equal citizen in a global community. The group meets bimonthly to discuss common readings and papers presented by group members. In order to facilitate a dialogue between scholars and practitioners, the Hooks Institute proposes to bring in guest speakers, including recent graduates from Memphis City Schools, principals of Charter Schools, and authors of award-winning books on critical race theory. The K-12 teachers in the group are encouraged to engage in complex, critical research within their own classrooms. Our hope is that we will eventually submit policy papers to the Memphis City and Shelby County School Boards, as well as to political leaders.

### **West Africa**

Contact: Beverly Bond ([bgbond@memphis.edu](mailto:bgbond@memphis.edu)) or  
Dennis Laumann ([dlaumann@memphis.edu](mailto:dlaumann@memphis.edu))

This group meets twice a month to explore the possibilities for enhancing

#### **How to contact us**

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The University of Memphis  
405 University Center  
Memphis TN 38125

Phone: 901-678-2769  
Fax: 901-678-2983  
Email: [bhi@memphis.edu](mailto:bhi@memphis.edu)

<http://benhooks.memphis.edu>

K-12 teachers' global awareness of West Africa, with a focus on Ghana. It seeks to create the possibility of travel abroad for local teachers, accompanied by a team of University of Memphis experts. Through a Summer Institute Abroad, teachers would gain a sense of renewal and excitement that they would then take back to their students and colleagues.

The Hooks Institute aims to provide a flexible framework for developing and undertaking innovative scholarship for broadly conceived social change. In the future, we hope to sponsor programs that interrogate research and teaching structures already in place, propose new curricula, or create new research environments for undergraduate and graduate students.

## WEBSITE RELAUNCH

<http://benhooks.memphis.edu>

The Hooks Institute is pleased to announce the relaunch of its web site for academic year 2004-2005. The site was redesigned in the summer of 2004 by Liezell Bradshaw from pureimpressions.com. It reflects the Institute's commitment to the widest possible dissemination of ideas and resources related to our mission of promoting social change in a manner consistent with Dr. Hooks' legacy.

We welcome your feedback as we continue to make enhancements during the year.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Trading Justice: NAFTA's New Links and Conflicts Call for Papers

The Center for Research on Women and the Benjamin L. Hooks Institute for Social Change at the University of Memphis invite proposals for papers to be delivered March 24-26, 2005 at a multidisciplinary, international symposium on the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). The symposium will be held at the Fogelman Executive Center on the campus of the University of Memphis.

Proposals that address social inequality and social justice activism, both locally within NAFTA's signatory countries and across borders, are particularly encouraged. Appropriate topics include, but are not limited to, labor activism and worker-to-worker exchanges, local community impacts and civic engagement, the environmental consequences of NAFTA, gender and im/migration, citizenship and racial/ethnic identities, and transnational communities. Papers that include descriptions of specific research experiences and methodological concerns from projects examining NAFTA's effects during the past decade are especially welcome. Scholarship that explores the future development and possible implications of the NAFTA corridor (I-69, for which Memphis, Tennessee lies at the midpoint) is also of interest.

Interested scholars and activists/practitioners should submit a proposal of approximately 500 words (excluding references) that summarizes their topic, methods of investigation and conclusions. A brief biographical statement and full contact information should also be included. To ensure consideration, proposals must be received by November 1, 2004 at the address below:

NAFTA Symposium  
Center for Research on Women  
The University of Memphis  
Clement Hall 337  
Memphis, TN 38152

Authors will be notified of the results of their submission by December 15, 2004. Food and lodging expenses at the symposium will be covered for authors of successful proposals. Limited travel assistance is also available, with priority given to participants from Mexico, Canada and other locations outside of the United States.

I would like to support the Hooks Institute. Enclosed is my tax deductible contribution in the amount of: \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Please make checks payable to:  
The U of M Foundation:  
Attn: Ben Hooks Institute

Mailing address:  
The Hooks Institute  
The University of Memphis  
405 University Center  
Memphis TN 38152

#### Contributions can also be made via credit card:

Mastercard: \_\_\_\_\_ or Visa: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_