



ISPP News

International Society of Political Psychology

Fall 1999 Vol.10(2)

The purpose of the International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP) is to facilitate communication across disciplinary, geographic and political boundaries, among scholars and concerned individuals in government and public posts, the communications media and elsewhere, who have a scientific interest in the relationship between politics and psychological processes. In so doing, ISPP aims to continue to advance scholarship in political psychology, and to contribute to the usefulness of work in political psychology.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

The recent annual meeting in Amsterdam turned out to have been our largest on record, with more than four hundred people registered. Much of the credit for that success goes to the Program Chair, Sam McFarland, who put together a remarkably varied set of panels, and to Bert Klandermans and Christ'l De Landtsheer who chaired the local committee responsible for organizing the reception, planning special events, recruiting volunteers, and much more.

The Seattle meeting is shaping up to be just as successful. We have a website detailing the area's delightful sight-seeing opportunities, the renown selection of Seattle book stores, as well as the ubiquitous coffee shops and first class restaurants to help you relax after a jam packed day of panels and lectures: <<http://ispp.org/ISPP/seattle.html>>. Kristen Monroe <krmonroe@orion.oac.uci.edu> is the Program Chair for Seattle and Denis Snook <ISPP2000@aol.com> will head up the local committee and they both welcome suggestions from members. Kristen and Denis already have several very exciting events lined up for us, so start clearing your schedule for July 1-4, 2000. In this issue you will find the "Seattle Call for Papers" which we urge you to copy, post on department bulletin boards, and circulate among your colleagues.

The planning for future meetings will be greatly facilitated by our new Conference Planners, Holland-Parlette Associates of San Francisco. We are the newest of many professional associations for which HP acts as conference planner. Erika Cox will be the Chief Meeting Planner, taking care of most of the pre-meeting organization and she will be joined by another HP staffer during each of our meetings.

Already HP is at work solidifying details for the 2001 meeting in Cuernavaca, Mexico and for the 2002 meeting in Berlin, Germany. At the mid-winter meeting in Bath, England next January the Governing Council will begin entertaining proposals for the site of our 2003 meeting, tentatively planned for some location in Europe. If you would like to host ISPP at your locale, please get in touch with the Central Office for information about the requirements and responsibilities for hosting an ISPP Annual Meeting.

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When the final ballots were counted in Amsterdam, the result was resounding approval for the Constitutional Reforms presented to members late last Spring. We needed 233 people to vote in the referendum for it to be valid and a total of 239 ballots were received. Proposition six changing the decision rule on committees from a super majority to a simple majority received the most opposition: 17 votes. All the remaining propositions received less than ten negative votes. Thank you for participating in these important changes. I am confident that the Society's operation will run much more smoothly as a result of the changes. We now have much more flexibility in how ballots are conducted and when meetings can be held. We also will be able to reach decisions more easily without the super majority decision rules and with better results since the longer terms in office increase the collective experience we bring to the decision making process.

At this writing our membership now stands at 892, which is a record high. If all of you reading this issue of *ISPPNews* who have not paid dues send in your membership forms, we will easily surpass 1,000. With more members we will be able to support many more activities, so if your mailing label has a date earlier than 1999, indicating you have not yet paid your 1999 dues, please send in your membership form today or sign up online at <<https://ispp.org/ISPP/membershipform.html>>.

Also keep in mind that the ISPP Governing Council approved a new initiative at the last mid-winter meeting which will provide seed money for a Small Thematic Conference with between 15 and 20 participants focusing on an issue in political psychology. You can receive up to \$2,500 to help cover participants' accommodation and meals. The deadline for submissions is December 1, 1999 for a meeting in 2000 and should be submitted to the Central Office.

Finally, as I begin my second year as Executive Director I want to thank all of you who have made my work for the Society a pleasure. This is a remarkable organization with some of the most creative people I have ever encountered. It is an honor to serve you.

Dana Ward
Executive Director

FAREWELL

First, I want to thank all those who worked so hard to make the Amsterdam annual meeting a great success. Sam McFarland, as program chair, and Christ'l De Landtsheer and Bert Klandermans, as conference co-chairs, did an excellent job in organizing everything. They were assisted by dedicated staff and committee members. Conference Director Mat Hakemi, along with Dana Ward and Heather Gillespie of the ISPP Central Office, ensured that everything went as smoothly as possible, and Treasurer Alan Whittaker made sure our plans were financially sound (and paid the bills!). Finally, of course, any scientific meeting depends on the papers, roundtables, workshops, and addresses - this year more than 375 people were on the program - created and presented by many of you, the meeting participants. On behalf of the record number of people who attended the meeting, may I give an enthusiastic "thanks!" to all.

I very much enjoyed serving as president this past year. It was a real treat to work with so many different talented and energetic people who are dedicated to making ISPP a thriving and stimulating organization. In terms of membership and organizational vitality, we have had a good year. We have an enthusiastic publicist in Aubrey Immelman, and an active Junior Scholars Committee chaired by Markus Kimmelmeier. The Summer Institute in Political Psychology, jointly sponsored by ISPP and the Ohio State University, continues as our highly successful educational "flagship." And several different monograph publishing ventures, developed by Kristen Monroe, Daniel Bar-Tal, and Margaret Hermann, are taking shape.

All of this did not happen by chance: rather, it was the result of sustained caring and hard work by many people - Dana Ward and Heather Gillespie at the Central Office, members of the Executive Committee and Governing Council, chairs and members of various other committees, and many individual members who responded to our requests and calls for help. Thanks to all of you!

In many respects, ISPP as an organization embodies the theme of the 1999 annual meeting. That is, political psychology is a "global" collaboration, to which we bring the "localisms" of our separate nationalities, disciplines, scholarly traditions, and research practices. Sometimes, of course, this involves conflict; but as an organization, we are notable for creating an atmosphere of communication and civility - as well as friendship. At our annual meetings, this sense of friendly communication is immediately felt by those who are attending for the first time. I hope that, in the future, we can continue to maintain this distinctive

atmosphere. Graduate students and junior faculty, in particular, often remark that our meetings are more enjoyable and helpful than are the larger, “mainstream” conventions. This bodes well for the long-term future of ISPP and the “interdiscipline” of political psychology.

Finally, I am pleased to welcome our new president, Daniel Bar-Tal, and to congratulate Ervin Staub (our new president-elect), Gerda Lederer and Peter Suedfeld (our new vice-presidents), and the newly-elected members of the Governing Council. It is gratifying to all of us to know that the future of ISPP is in such capable hands.

*David Winter,
ISPP President, 1998-99*



David Winter, delivering his presidential address at the ISPP annual meeting in Amsterdam (Photo taken by Martina Klicperova-Baker.)

HAIL FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is a privilege for me to serve as President of the International Society of Political Psychology, and I would like to thank the society members for entrusting me with this role. Today ISPP is a vital and intellectually stimulating multidisciplinary organization. The officers and members of the society contributed to this state and I want to thank my predecessors — Martha Crenshaw and David Winter, as well as the central office of the ISPP under the direction of Dana Ward, who made the society function so well till the present time. In this hail statement, I would like to take an opportunity to outline in short my vision of the ISPP. In evaluating a professional organization like ours, I have proposed six criteria, as described below.

Membership

The core of any professional organization is its membership, and therefore we have a special challenge to be truly international and multidisciplinary. We need to attract members from all parts of the world and from various disciplines, who are united by their common interest in political psychology. Likewise, our professional organization should actively try to draw the younger generation of political psychologists in order to expand the scope of our field. Finally, our society should also attract practitioners, who provide a special contribution to the development of political psychology.

Annual Meetings

The essential activity of the ISPP is to promote professional contact among its members. Conducting annual meetings, which shape the character of the organization, is the most important mechanism in achieving this goal. Our society, thus, should strive to have intellectually stimulating and exciting meetings, which cover a wide range of political psychology topics, debate its disciplinary and professional controversies, tackle theoretical and methodological issues, discuss current events, suggest directions for professional development, and explore new areas of interest. Annual meetings should become arenas to present the latest research and conceptions, as well as, to try new, creative and original ideas. This intellectual endeavor should be carried out in an open, supportive and friendly atmosphere. Finally, in order to stimulate regional interest in political psychology the meetings should be held in various places around the world.

Leadership

A society like ours should have dedicated, effective, dynamic, innovative, opened-minded leadership. This

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leadership should lead the ISPP democratically and be attuned to members' needs and aspirations. In terms of instrumentality, it should provide direction for the professional development of political psychology, as well as initiate and realize various activities to promote this development.

Publications

One of the important objectives of our society is to publicize our field's body of knowledge. In order to achieve this significant objective, it is necessary to utilize the various channels for publication including newsletters, journals, and books. ISPP should initiate new publication outlets and support motivations to broaden the available channels in order to encourage publication of fresh ideas and foster education of new political psychologists.

Professional Activities

ISPP should act to expand our field and knowledge. This should begin with involvement in training young political psychologists, by helping to plan and initiate undergraduate courses in political psychology, devise graduate training programs, establish postdoctoral specialization, and continue by training students, postdoctoral fellows and practitioners through summer schools, conferences and symposia. In addition, the society should strive to stimulate ongoing interaction among political psychologists by organizing small conferences, informal debates on specific topics, and encouraging the electronic exchange of ideas.

Contact with the Non-Academic World

It is important that ISPP be open to the extensive political world, which is the focus of our professional interest. Therefore, the society should actively be involved, and even influence, the political surroundings. This goal can be achieved by disseminating political psychology's knowledge via the mass media, establishing contact with nongovernmental organizations and institutions, as well as with governmental institutions, in order to help them further humanity's well being, within the spheres of political psychology.

I deeply believe that ISPP develops according to the delineated objectives, but I also believe in the need to constantly and continuously act to achieve them. New ideas, proposals, or insights always arise that can improve and innovate the society's course of development. In the midterm meeting, the Governing Council will hold brainstorming sessions to formulate proposals as to the possible ways that the ISPP can develop in the next decade. It is of utmost importance that society members take an active part in these efforts by sending suggestions,

comments, and ideas about the future of the ISPP (these can be sent to me by email - daniel@ccsg.tau.ac.il or to Dana Ward - ISPP@pitzer.edu). Several new projects have already begun. The society recently announced the support for the organization of small conferences on specific themes. ISPP will sponsor them and partly finance (details were published in the spring issue of our newsletter, but everyone can contact the central office to receive information). Also, two publishing projects have been initiated: ISPP will launch an annual series entitled *Advances in Political Psychology* and sponsor the publication of the new *Handbook of Political Psychology*.

This hail also provides the occasion to encourage you to join the 23rd scientific meeting which will take place on July 1-4, 2000 in Seattle. We are confident that this meeting, with its theme, "Hopes and Fears in the Transition to the New Millennium," will turn into a momentous event. Our Program Chair, Kristen Monroe, with the help of recruited section heads, and Conference Chair, Denis Snook, with the help of the central office are working diligently to prepare this exciting meeting. We look forward to seeing you in Seattle, the "Emerald City."

Daniel Bar-Tal
President of the ISPP

Submission Information for the
**23RD ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING
OF THE ISPP
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON
JULY 1-4, 2000**

THEME: *Hopes and Fears in the Transition to the New Millennium*

PROGRAM CHAIR : Kristen Renwick Monroe
Dept of Political Science, U of California at Irvine
Irvine, CA 92697 USA
Tel: 949-824-6092; Email: krmonroe@orion.oac.uci.edu

Besides submissions that address any aspect of the theme of the 2000 conference, the program also will cover the full range of research in political psychology. All proposals for papers, panels, roundtables, or symposia should be submitted directly to one of the section heads. PROPOSAL DEADLINE: DECEMBER 31, 1999.

For further information on section heads, addresses and specific information required for each submitted proposal, please refer to the insert "Call for Papers" in this issue of *ISPPNews* or visit the ISPP website:
<<http://ispp.org>>

ISPP AWARDS

MCGUIRE RECEIVES LASSWELL AWARD

William J. McGuire was the winner of the 1998 Lasswell award for distinguished scientific contributions to political psychology. The committee decided that the Lasswell award should be given to someone whose presence was discernable throughout political psychology, someone who had helped to define a new subfield, reformulate a set of central questions, or refocus a field of inquiry. Professor McGuire definitely fits this bill. His presence in the field of attitude change and persuasion - a core component of political attitude research — is inescapable. His work consumes an entire page in the bibliography of Eagly and Chaiken's exhaustive review of attitude research, *The Psychology of Attitudes*. Moreover, his work spans an impressive three to four decades, beginning in the late 1950s and continuing unabated to the present time.

Moreover, McGuire's perspective continues to shape our thinking about persuasion and the effects of political communications, even if we do not always directly acknowledge his legacy. Any time we draw a distinction between exposure to, comprehension, and acceptance of a message we draw directly on his theoretical framework. Indeed, McGuire's interest in the processing of a message's content paved the way for much of the recent work on attitudes in political psychology that draws directly on information processing models. Such thinking has had a profound influence on understanding reactions to political candidates, explaining the modest effects of the media on public opinion, and delineating the dynamics of public opinion more generally as reflected in the seminal works of Philip Converse and John Zaller.

*For the committee,
Leonie Huddy*

RAHN RECEIVES ERIKSON AWARD

The International Society of Political Psychology grants the Erik H. Erikson Award for Distinguished Early Career Contributions to Political Psychology to a young scholar—no more than ten years beyond the doctorate—whose work exemplifies excellence and creativity in the field of political psychology. The 1999 Erikson Award was presented to Wendy Rahn of the University of Minnesota.

Professor Rahn received her PhD in political science from the University of Minnesota in 1990. She was a member of the faculty at Ohio State University and the University of Wisconsin-Madison prior to returning to Minnesota in 1995, where she is now an Associate Professor of Political Science and Psychology.

It is a testament to Professor Rahn's creativity and commitment to excellence that she has already made contributions to a number of diverse topics in political psychology. Her dissertation and earlier career research in the area of political cognition illuminated the impact of stereotypes and trait judgments on evaluations of political candidates. More recently, she has conducted high quality and deeply original research on the role of emotions in political thinking and behavior, the origins and consequences of political and social trust, citizen participation in politics, and national identity. Regardless of the substantive topic, Professor Rahn's work consistently has had two defining characteristics. The first is her use of creative and truly multimethodological research designs. Second, Professor Rahn is committed to making use of psychological theory and methods to illuminate questions of enduring substantive and normative political importance.

For a young scholar, Professor Rahn has also provided an extraordinary amount of leadership and service to the profession. She currently serves as co-editor of *Political Psychology*, the journal of the Society; she has served on the Governing Council of ISPP; she has been co-director of the Summer Institute in Political Psychology at Ohio State; and she has been involved in many capacities with the National Election Studies, most recently as a member of the Board of Overseers.

Given Professor Rahn's substantial contributions to the discipline and the Society, it is fitting that she be the 1999 recipient of the ISPP Erik H. Erikson Award for Distinguished Early Career Contributions to Political Psychology.

*For the Committee,
Kathleen McGraw*

PROFESSIONAL NEWS

ISPP GRADUATE STUDENT COMPLIMENTARY MEMBERSHIPS

Complimentary one-year memberships are available to graduating doctoral students who have completed a dissertation in the field of political psychology. The complimentary membership includes four issues of *Political Psychology*, *ISPPNews*, and mention in the newsletter. Faculty working in the area of political psychology are encouraged to submit names of recent Ph.D. students, including contact information (i.e., mailing address, email address, telephone, etc.) to: Professor Dana Ward, Executive Director, ISPP, Pitzer College, 1050 N. Mills, Claremont, CA 91711. Tel: (909) 621-8442; Fax: (909) 621-8481; Email: dward@pitzer.edu

In 1999, complimentary membership was awarded to the following graduate student:

From the University of Maine,

Mark I. Walter

Dissertation Title:

“Authoritarianism and Helping Behavior: The Role of Status and Attributions of Controllability”

Faculty Sponsor: Bill Stone

LASSWELL AWARD CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Lasswell Award is given annually to a distinguished scholar and member of ISPP for outstanding contributions to the field of Political Psychology. The award will be announced at the annual convention of ISPP.

The Lasswell Award Committee calls for nominations and candidates for the award. Nominations should include the name of the nominee, a reasoned explanation for the nomination, and, preferably, a C.V. Nominations should reach the committee by January 15, 2000 and can be made by letter, fax, or email to:

Professor Yaacov Vertzberger
Chair, Lasswell Award Committee
NIAS
Meijboomlaan 1
2242 PR Wassenaar
The Netherlands

Fax: 31 70 5117162

Email: Y.Vertzberger@NIAS.KNAW,NL

ROBERTA SIGEL JUNIOR SCHOLAR AWARD CALL FOR PAPERS

ISPP first announced this award at its Vancouver meeting in 1996. Professor Sigel, whom the award honors, has been a distinguished professor of political science at Rutgers University since 1973. She is author and editor of seven books and many articles and book chapters, mostly in the areas of political socialization and democratic citizenship. She has had many leadership roles in the American Political Science Association and has served as program chair, Vice-President and President of ISPP.

The Sigel award has been dedicated to support Junior Scholar travel to the 2000 ISPP Annual meeting in Seattle. All Junior Scholars who have their paper accepted at the Seattle conference are eligible to be considered for this award. Junior Scholars are all students (graduate or undergraduate) and faculty who received their Ph.D. within the last five years.

This year, there will be two prizes with slightly different criteria to accommodate the authorship and publication practices in the various disciplines represented in ISPP:

—The first award will be given to the best paper written by Junior Scholars only. Especially in the case of multiple authors, all co-authors must be Junior Scholars.

—The second award will be conferred to the best paper with a Junior Scholar first author. This award allows, but does not require non-Junior Scholar co-authors.

Please submit your complete paper postmarked by May 1, 2000. Papers previously submitted to the Sigel award are not eligible. All submissions will be read by a 3-person committee, consisting of two members of the ISPP Junior Scholars Committee and one senior scholar. Two papers will be selected strictly according to scientific excellence and their contribution to research in political psychology. The winners will receive an award of \$250 each at the Seattle meeting.

Send three copies of papers nominated for this award to:

Dr. Shana Levin
Roberta Sigel Award Committee
Claremont McKenna College
850 Columbia Ave.
Claremont, CA 91711
Email: shana_levin@mckenna.edu

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

**for
EDITOR**

Peace and Conflict:

Journal of Peace Psychology

Division 48: American Psychological Association

Nominations are now being accepted for the next editor of *Peace and Conflict: Journal of Peace Psychology*. The editor will serve a three-year term, from January 1, 2001 to December 31, 2004 with the possibility of renewal. Transitional responsibilities will begin June 2000.

Peace and Conflict: Journal of Peace Psychology is the flagship publication for scientists and practitioners who are members and affiliates of Division 48, Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict, and Violence: Peace Psychology Division of the American Psychological Association. The journal is a key outlet for scholarly work from around the world on nonviolent conflict resolution, reconciliation, social justice, and the causes, consequences, and prevention of violence between and within nations, communities, families, and individuals. The journal and division seek to build an inclusive peace psychology that welcomes multidisciplinary perspectives and neglected voices of people from many different countries.

The editor will need scientific, editorial, interpersonal, and organizational skills. He or she sets journal policy in regard to the content and character of the journal, within the boundaries of its mission as initially established by the Executive Committee and approved by members of Division 48. The editor will receive a stipend of \$2,500 per year. Because of budgetary constraints, it would be desirable if candidates had institutional and additional secretarial support. The Division encourages participation by members of underrepresented groups in the publication process and would particularly welcome such nominees. Self-nominations are also encouraged.

Nominees will be asked to submit a copy of their resume, an indication of their previous editorial experience, and a statement of interest by December 1, 1999. The Search Committee will review nominations and make a recommendation to the Executive Committee of Division 48 in January 2000. Questions about the position may be directed to members of the Search Committee: Mike Wessells <mwessell@rmc.edu>, Deborah Winter <winterd@whitman.edu>, and Dan Christie <christie.1@osu.edu>. Nominations and materials should be sent to Dan Christie, Chair, Editor Search Committee, Department of Psychology, Morrill Hall, Ohio State University, Marion, Ohio, 43302.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

ICSA V. WORLD CONGRESS

Civil Society and Religion
in the Third Millennium

Tampere, Finland, 29 July - 3 August 2000

Three panels + a roundtable on ethical/religious foundations of civil society, civic culture, and democratization in the (post-)communist world, in particular how Judeo-Christian ethical and spiritual values sustain democratic institutions and the rule of law. Open slots for papers/country studies on Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, P.R. China, N. Korea, Vietnam, and Cuba. Preliminary program at: www.JISonline.org All participants must register with: VI. ICCEES World Congress Secretariat, FIREES, Annankatu 44, FIN-00100 Helsinki, Finland. Electronic address: www.rusin.fi/iccees.

**XIV WORLD MEETING OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR
RESEARCH ON AGGRESSION**

“Prevention and Control of Aggression
& the Impact on its Victims”

July 9-14, 2000 Valencia, Spain

The XIV World Meeting of ISRA will be held in Valencia, Spain, on July 9-14, 2000. The local organizers welcome all participants to review the knowledge that we have accumulated so far with respect to the causes of aggression that allows us to design appropriate interventions to prevent and control this behavior in humans. Furthermore, we will also look into the consequences that this behavior has on the victims. Invited addresses will review the present knowledge of a research field, and symposia, roundtables and workshops will be held in which the participants will actively discuss the methodology, results and future approaches. Paper and poster presentations will complete the interchange of information by showing very recent data. We invite all of you to contribute with your suggestions to make the scientific program very exciting and promising! For submission information, see the ISRA HOME PAGE: www.israsociety.com. For more information contact the Conference Organizer: Manuela Martinez, University of Psychology, Faculty of Psychology, University of Valencia, Avda. Blasco Ibañez, 21, 46010 Valencia, Spain, Tel: 34-96-3864420, Fax: 34-96-3864668, Email: isra2000@uv.es

BOOK AND JOURNAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Book announcements and descriptions are published in this column. For book reviews, submissions are encouraged to the ISPP journal *Political Psychology*.

POLITICAL BEHAVIOR SPECIAL ISSUES

Diana C. Mutz, Editor

SPECIAL ISSUE:

EVALUATING CITIZEN COMPETENCE

Guest Editor: James Kuklinski, Univ. of Illinois

The purpose of the papers will be to grapple with the problem of choosing criteria by which to judge citizen performance. Converse was the first researcher to explicate precisely what those criteria should be: ideological understanding, issue constraint, and issue stability across time. Since then, authors have offered a variety of alternative criteria, including full information (an unattainable goal), the effective use of heuristics, and the ability to connect self interests and policy alternatives. Although each of these criteria has served a purpose, researchers have offered them on an ad hoc basis. At times the performance criteria and the actual performance itself have not been fully distinguished. This issue will serve as an opportunity to provide a comprehensive and more fully integrated treatment of the topic. Deadline for submissions: December 31, 1999.

SPECIAL ISSUE:

COMPARATIVE POLITICAL BEHAVIOR

Guest Editor: Richard Johnston, Univ. of British Columbia

On the surface, at least, the 1990s have brought massive electoral change. Long-established parties of government have disappeared. In some places, social democratic and labor parties were moved to the electoral margin even as, elsewhere, overseas equivalents of Clinton New Democrats occupy the high ground. Are these changes the culmination of trends first observed in the early 1970s, the breakdown of cleavage structures dating back to the 1920s and before, gradual dealignment, deficit politics, the rise of postmaterialism and of new forms of identity politics? Or do the changes reflect the collapse of the Cold War system? Or has less changed than meets the eye? We invite papers focused on these and other important topics of Comparative Political Behavior. Deadline for submissions: November 31, 1999.

Submissions should be sent to the new Political Behavior address: Diana Mutz, Department of Political Science, 2140 Derby Hall, 154 N. Oval Mall, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH 43210-1373.

JOURNAL OF INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES: AN INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF INTERDISCIPLINARY & INTERFAITH DIALOGUE

Vol. XII No. 1/2 2000

Ethics and Faith: THE REALITY OF ABSOLUTES

Thomas Jefferson, Albert Einstein, and Albert Schweitzer agree that if humanity followed Jesus' moral teachings, it would be a far better world. In *The World as I See It*, Einstein admitted that Jesus' moral teachings are "capable of curing all the social ills of humanity" (1934: 170). And C. S. Lewis notes in *The Abolition of Man* (1947) that the Tao or moral imperative, a sense of right and wrong, may be found in all cultures across time and space, confirming objective values. How, then, can the posting of the Ten Commandments in schools and public places infringe on the separation of church and state? Without ethical norms, all laws lose their justification. Indeed, in a postmodern world, without moral absolutes, no human conduct may be proscribed. If everything is relative, if all perspectives are "principled," how can murder, rape, theft, lying, and immoral conduct in general, be condemned? Without morality, then, human dignity, liberty, and self-government become impossible, since society reverts to the Hobbesian state of nature—a war of all against all. But, is religious faith necessary to justify morality itself?

Manuscript Deadline: January 1, 2000. Send 3 double-sided copies of: 15-25 page mss. + 150-word abstract, typed, double-spaced, in-text citation format, author identification on a separate sheet only (with postage for mss. return/SASE) to: Dr. O. Gruenwald, JIS Editor, IIR, 1065 Pine Bluff Dr., Pasadena, CA 91107-1751, USA. Early submissions welcome. JIS sample: \$15 prepaid (Invoice).

NEW BOOKS

**HOW CHILDREN UNDERSTAND
WAR & PEACE:
A CALL FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE
EDUCATION**

Raviv, A., Oppenheimer, L., & Bar-Tal, D., Eds.
1999, San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, ISBN 0-7879-4169-7

Written by an international panel of experts in the fields of developmental, social, and educational psychology, *How Children Understand War and Peace* presents a collection of the current thoughts and insights into how children and adolescents develop an understanding of war, conflict, and peace. Based on research studies done in Australia, Canada, Finland, Holland, Israel, Northern Ireland, Portugal, Sweden and the United States, this volume presents evidence that perceptions of war and peace formed during childhood relate directly to adult perspectives on these critical issues.

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Introduction: Understanding Peace, Conflict, & War by
Louis Oppenheimer, Daniel Bar-Tal, & Amiram Raviv

PART I-DEVELOPMENTAL PERSPECTIVES

1. Children, War & Peace: A Review of 50 Years of Research from the Perspective of a Balanced Concept of Peace Education by *Lennart Vriens*
2. I Know What You are Thinking: The Role-Taking Ability & Understanding of Peace & War by *Ilse Hakvoort & Louis Oppenheimer*
3. The Peace Personality by *Robert C. Ziller, Dallie Moriarty, & Stephen Phillips*
4. Toward a Positive Conception of Peace by *Orlando Lourenço*

PART II -SOCIALIZATION AND EXPERIENCE

5. Cultural Socialization & Conceptions of War & Peace: A Cross-national Comparison by *Katherine Covell*
6. Concept Formation of War & Peace: A Meeting Point Between Child Development & Politically Violent Society by *Raija-Leena Punamäki*
7. Children, Peace & War in Northern Ireland by *Frances McLernon & Ed Cairns*
8. Beliefs About War, Conflict & Peace in Israel as a Function of Developmental, Cultural & Situational Factors by *Amiram Raviv, Daniel Bar-Tal, Leah Koren-Silvershatz & Alona Raviv*

9. Peer Relationships & Children's Understanding of Peace & War: A Socio-cultural Perspective by *Solveig Hågglund*
10. Adolescents' Beliefs about their Conflict Behavior: Correlates, Consequences & Cross Cultural Issues by *Michael R. Van Slyck, Marilyn Stern & Salman Elbedour*

PART III LEARNING IN SCHOOLS

11. Teaching Conflict & Conflict Resolution in School: (Extra-) Curricular Considerations by *Kathy Bickmore*
12. Teaching an Understanding of War & Peace Through Structured Academic Controversies by *Patricia G. Avery, David W. Johnson, Roger T. Johnson, & James M. Mitchell*
13. Learning Conflict Management Through Peer Mediation by *Robin Hall*
14. Types of Peace Education by *Ian M. Harris*

**SOCIAL THREAT &
AUTHORITARIANISM IN VENEZUELA**

Ricardo Sucre Heredia
Caracas, Universidad Central de Venezuela
1998, ISBN 980-00-1275-3

This book presents a theoretical model to explain authoritarianism and social threat from a cognitive perspective. It proposes that people with a high perception of social threat show an "authoritarian style" with specific cognitive categories such as simplicity in the construction of the outgroups and a bias to favor the ingroup. From a sample of 140 persons of the Universidad Simon Bolivar, 17 persons were selected for interviews in subjects such as death penalty, racism, presence of Haitians in Venezuela, minority rights, use of the Army to keep law and order, submission to group norms, and women professional and economic independence. Previously, these persons were classified "more authoritarian" and "less authoritarian" according to the results of a test. As hypothesized, the "more authoritarian" persons showed specific discourse categories to refer to social threat. For them, social threat is perceived in terms of chaos, of a danger to the social group. This perception triggers authoritarian predispositions conveyed in the discourse contents of the "more authoritarian". The research offers a cognitive style model of the "more authoritarian" and of the "less authoritarian" in terms of structure, process, and discourse expressions from the results of the interviews.

**POLITICAL PSYCHOLOGY IN JAPAN:
BEHIND THE NAILS
THAT SOMETIMES STICK OUT
(AND GET HAMMERED DOWN)**

Edited by Ofer Feldman, Naruto U of Education, Japan

1999, Nova Science Pub., USA ISBN 1-56072-636-9

The purpose of this book is to detail the various aspects of political psychology in Japan. The chapters draw on a variety of approaches and are written by researchers from such diverse disciplines as social psychology, political science, public policy, international relations, linguistics, and psychology. *Political Psychology in Japan: Behind the Nails that Sometimes Stick Out (and Get Hammered Down)* is a unique contribution, indeed, the first attempt to organize relevant data into a single, English-language volume. In the process of examining these factors, the book aims to contribute further to the growing knowledge of political psychology in general.

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**CONSTRUCTIVE CONFLICTS:
FROM ESCALATION TO RESOLUTION**

Louis Kriesberg, Syracuse University

1998, Rowman & Littlefield Publishers
ISBN 0-8476-8892-5

This comprehensive analysis of all kinds of social and political conflicts reveals an important, but neglected truth: conflicts often are waged constructively. *Constructive Conflicts: From Escalation to Resolution* makes it clear how that can occur at each stage of a conflict's course from emergence, escalation, de-escalation, termination, and finally, to resolution. Kriesberg compares and synthesizes a wide variety of theoretical approaches, drawing from the social sciences, especially sociology, political science, anthropology, and social psychology. He also draws from the new interdisciplinary fields of conflict resolution, peace studies, feminism, and security studies. Case studies and quantitative data about a wide variety of conflicts are used, including community and labor management conflicts, class and political revolutionary struggles, and gender-related struggles in small and large-scale settings. Kriesberg gives particular attention to major inter-state and inter-ethnic conflicts. These include the American Civil Rights struggle of the 1960s, the struggle against apartheid in South Africa, the cold war between the U.S. and the Soviet Union and its transformation, and the transformations of the Israeli-Arab conflicts. Kriesberg draws on past and current theory, research, and practice to develop a systematic and coherent approach to understanding how a wide variety of struggles can be waged constructively in a new global context.

**COUNTING THE PUBLIC IN:
PRESIDENTS, PUBLIC OPINION, &
FOREIGN POLICY**

Douglas C. Foyle, Wesleyan University

1999, Columbia University Press
ISBN 0-231-11069-3

Does the public alter American foreign policy choices, or does the government try to change public opinion to support its policies? In *Counting the Public In*, Douglas C. Foyle demonstrates that it depends on the president. Using archival collections and public sources, Foyle rigorously examines the foreign policy beliefs of all the post-World War II presidents. He also discusses the decisions of Eisenhower, Carter, Reagan, Bush, and Clinton, outlining four distinct types of decision makers (delegates, executors, pragmatists, and guardians), each of which weighs the importance of public opinion differently.

Including detailed case studies of decisions on military intervention in Indochina, Lebanon, Somalia, Bosnia, and the Gulf, and reactions to *Sputnik*, the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, and German reunification, the book offers a valuable contribution to recent debates about the domestic sources of international relations and development of American foreign policy.

**GAMES ADVISORS PLAY:
FOREIGN POLICY IN THE
NIXON & CARTER ADMINISTRATIONS**

Jean A. Garrison, Boston University

1999, Texas A&M University Press

A burning curiosity to know what makes people in power tick allows author Jean A. Garrison to take a fresh look at what happens when those closest to the president seek their own profit in *Games Advisors Play*. Presidential advisors serve as the gatekeepers through which people and information must pass to reach the president. In *Games Advisors Play*, Garrison examines foreign policy in the Nixon and Carter administrations and addresses how and why advisors manipulate the group process, under what conditions advisors engage in power games, and in what

situations they are most effective in influencing presidential policy choices.

During the 1970s, no question consistently nagged presidential advisors more than how to manage the U.S.-Soviet competition while maintaining U.S. security interests. Garrison compares the power games in Nixon's hierarchical system to Carter's more open advisory system. Garrison finds that the disparate advisory systems provided advisors with different opportunities to influence the president and overall policymaking.

Now in Paperback

**THE PSYCHOLOGY OF
POLITICAL COMMUNICATION**

Edited by Ann N. Crigler,
University of Southern California

University of Michigan Press, ISBN 0-472-08759-4

Rather than taking a traditional view of media influence flowing over a relatively passive audience, the contributors to this volume of essays treat political communication as an interactive process of making meaning. *Meaning* refers to what one intends to convey especially through language, as well as to what is actually conveyed and reflects the processes of message creation and interpretation. People communicate and interpret messages and meanings in the context of current and prior information according to the authors. The first part of the book focuses on the construction of political messages in the media and considers the roles played by the press, the president, political consultants, and campaign staffs. In the second part of the book, the authors look at individuals and how they construct political meanings from available messages.

Contributors to the volume include Dean E. Alger, W. Lance Bennett, Timothy E. Cook, Ann N. Crigler, Michael X. Delli Carpini, Robert M. Entman, William A. Gamson, Doris A. Graber, August E. Grant, Roderick Hart, Marion Just, John Llewellyn, W. Russell Neumann, Richard M. Perloff, Deborah Smith-Howell, and Bruce A. Williams.

**REPORT ON
DIRECT DEMOCRACY CONFERENCE**

The "First International Conference on Direct Democracy" took place August 1998 in Pribram near Prague, Czech Republic. The conference was not only about direct democracy, but also about how to improve representative democracy, about helping people everywhere govern their own collective affairs, and about the implications of new communication systems for all of this. The organizers are keen to promote a world-wide movement for more democracy.

Next conference proposed: Year 2000, Greece.

Contact information: Movement for Direct Democracy MDD, P.O.Box 38, 149 00 Prague 415, Czech Republic, www.pangea.ca/kolar/misc/DDe.html, fax: Czech Republic, 2-791 79 69

For a full report of the 1998 conference, write Jiri Polak at: jiri.polak@swipnet.se (small charge for postage etc.).

ON-LINE FORUM TO FOLLOW UP
THE PRIBRAM CONFERENCE:
<http://www.auburn.edu/tann/prague/index.htm>

MORE PRO-DEMOCRACY LINKS:
<http://www.npsnet.com/cdd/>
<http://www.ping.be/jvwit/directdemocracynow.html>
<http://www.snafu.de/~mjm/init.html>

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&
Ryan K. Beasley, Baker University

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We can publish notices of upcoming meetings, calls for papers, op/ed letters, book reviews, and limited-length scholarly articles. For these or publishers' ads, please submit material to the address below.

Especially for longer pieces, it is useful to submit material electronically or on disk. We can accept a variety of formats and attachments, but prefer material in a regular email message.

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