

Open Call for Proposals

Journal of Social Issues

Journal of the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI)

“Magnifying Inequity: Women’s Lives During the COVID-19 Pandemic”

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A shift in family organization brought on by stay-at-home orders during the COVID-19 pandemic may magnify the existing gender gap in family responsibilities, and changes in employment and working arrangements further elevate concerns for women’s health and safety. The Journal of Social Issues (JSI) and special issue editors seek proposals for a special issue on **“Magnifying Inequity: Women’s Lives During the COVID-19 Pandemic.”** This collection will focus on these risks to women including how such threats are compounded by discriminatory cultural structures that work to disempower women of color and those living in poverty. Early reports in news outlets suggest that women’s workloads and vulnerabilities have increased during this health crisis. The editors want to expand on these reports with careful empirical and theoretical considerations of the processes that underlie such change, as well as long-term ramifications for women, children and family structure.

We aim to include contributing articles that: apply a range of theoretical frameworks and methodologies, focus on issues of intersectionality, cover the multiple domains of women’s work and roles, and describe how cultural structures serve to buffer or escalate risks to women. We are interested in the wide range of impacts on women: financial, social, educational as well as on their physical and mental health. We are particularly interested in topics that are not yet represented in the literature. It is especially important to examine women with diverse lived experiences, including diverse representations of marital status, sexual identity, income levels, immigration status, health conditions, and a full spectrum of racial and ethnic backgrounds.

Interested contributors should submit titles, detailed abstracts of 3-4 pages, and short biographies (limited to half a page) to both editors by December 11, 2020. Detailed abstracts should conform to the 7th ed. of the APA style manual. They should describe the theoretical underpinnings of the work and implications for institutional policy or action. For empirical reports, the abstract should include descriptions of the sample, methodology, and primary results. Each proposal should describe the ethical concerns and research challenges presented by data collection during a pandemic. Authors reporting qualitative research should consider COREQ or SRQR guidelines. For review articles, the abstract should include a discussion of criteria for inclusion and primary conclusions. All submissions should include some discussion of implications for and applications to social policy.

The special issue editors will select a subset of detailed abstracts for inclusion with the formal proposal that they will submit to the JSI Editor. We aim to provide authors with feedback about inclusion in the special issue proposal by January 11, 2021. If JSI gives approval to proceed with

the special issue, then we will direct invitees to submit manuscripts within three months of the invitation date.