# "THE CONTESTED TERRAIN OF CONSUMPTION STUDIES" Consumer Studies Mini-Conference

Thursday, July 31st 2008 Boston College, Boston

#### PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

The Consumer Studies Research Network (CSRN) will present a one-day miniconference titled "The Contested Terrain of Consumption Studies," to be held at Boston College, immediately prior to the American Sociological Association (ASA) annual meeting in Boston. Following is a PRELIMINARY PROGRAM of the conference. Please check back at the conference web site: www.contestedconsumption.info for updates.

9:00-10:00 AM

#### Keynote Address:

Douglas Holt (Oxford University) Respondent: Sam Binkley (Emerson College

10:15-11:45 AM

#### Session 1: Contested Politics and Contestable Morals

Michael Haedicke (UC San Diego) "The dilemma of the citizen-consumer: Conceptualizing market growth and political engagement in the organic foods industry" mhaedick@ucsd.edu

Michaela DeSoucey (Northwestern University) "Appetite for Controversy: Market-based Resistance to Chicago's Foie Gras Ban" <a href="mailto:m-desoucey@northwestern.edu">m-desoucey@northwestern.edu</a>

Betsy Leondar-Wright (www.classmatters.org) "Scruffy for Different Reasons: Class, Race and Activist Clothing Subcultures" betsy@classmatters.org

Dan Cook (Rutgers University) "Arm-wrestling with the Child Consumer: Contradictions and Conundrums of Critical and Interpretive Stances" <a href="mailto:dtcook@camden.rutgers.edu">dtcook@camden.rutgers.edu</a>

# Session 2: Making and Made Consumers

Zsuzsanna Vargha (Columbia University) "Markets from Personas: Making Banking Markets by Matching Profile with Person" <a href="mailto:zv2003@columbia.edu">zv2003@columbia.edu</a>

Kaela Jubas (The University of British Columbia) "Shopping for Identity" <a href="kaelaj@interchange.ubc.ca">kaelaj@interchange.ubc.ca</a>

Sam Binkley, (Emerson College) Andrew Ladd (Emerson College) "Consumption, Governmentality and Impulse Constraint: The Case of Debtor's Anonymous" Samuel\_binkley@emerson.edu

Eugene Halton (Notre Dame) "On the Great Brain Suck" <a href="mailton@nd.edu">ehalton@nd.edu</a>

11:45-1:30

lunch

1:30-3:00 PM

## Session 3: Spaces and Settings of Consumption

J. Michael Ryan & Colin McNulty (University of Maryland, College Park) "A New Direction in the Settings of Consumption: An Exploration into Lifestyle Centers and their Significance for Consumer Studies" <a href="maryan@socy.umd.edu">mryan@socy.umd.edu</a>

Tyler Bickford (Columbia University) "Media Consumption as Social Organization in a New England Public School" tb2139@columbia.edu

Katherine K. Chen (William Paterson University) "'Disneyland in Reverse': Organizing Production and Consumption Experiences at Burning Man" <a href="mailto:chenk2@wpunj.edu">chenk2@wpunj.edu</a>

Keith Brown (University of Pennsylvania), Frederick F. Wherry (University of Michigan): "The Social Performance of the Moral and Aesthetic Value of Cultural Goods: Handicrafts, Fair Trade, and Other Niche Markets"

maga@san.rr.com

#### Session 4: Markets and Morals: Topics in Consumption Studies

Nicki Lisa Cole (University of California, Santa Barbara) "Ethical Capitalism, Ethical Consumption: Seeing New Forms of Hegemonic Domination In Coffee Consumption" nickilcole@gmail.com

Bettina Liverant (University of Alberta) "Giving or Spending: The Commodification of Philanthropy" <a href="mailto:liverant@ualberta.ca">liverant@ualberta.ca</a>

Dave Harker (Boston College) "Whose Problem is it? An Analysis of Online Postings Concerning Climate Change Solutions" harkerd@bc.edu

Itai Vardi (Boston University) "A Smashing Market: Auto Thrill Shows, Demolition Derbies, Bumper Cars, and the Commodification of Traffic Accidents in America" itaiv@bu.edu

Johanna Pabst (Boston College) "Mind, Memory and Identity: Technology Advertising and the Technological Project of Self <a href="mailto:pabstjo@bc.edu">pabstjo@bc.edu</a>

## Session 5: Consumption and Social Inequalities

Patricia Arend (Boston College) "The Cooptation of Feminism or Empowerment by Other Means? : Women, Weddings and Consumer Desire"

arend@bc.edu

Michael J. Yaksich (University of Maryland, College Park) "Sold Out: A Socio-Historical Analysis of the Influence of Consumer Capitalism on Modern Gay Identities" myaksich@socy.umd.edu

Julian Jefferies (Boston College) "Consumer Patterns of Undocumented Immigrant Youth: Constraints and Possibilities" <a href="mailto:jefferij@bc.edu">jefferij@bc.edu</a>

Magali Murià (University of California San Diego) "Researching Consumption at the U.S.-Mexico border: the Geographies of Shopping in Tijuana, Mexico" maga@san.rr.com

Ivaylo D. Petev (Stanford University) "What is the Link between Inequality and Lifestyles: A Theoretical Approach" <a href="mailto:ipetev@stanford.edu">ipetev@stanford.edu</a>

3:15-4:15 PM

#### Keynote Address:

Douglas Colin Beavan (writer, author, blogger; a k a "No Impact Man") Respondent: Juliet Schor (Boston College)

4:15-5:45 PM

# Closing Plenary:

Stephen Duncombe (New York University) Craig Thompson (University of Wisconsin-Madison) Davan Shah (University of Wisconsin-Madison)