

PATRICIA STRACH

Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy
135 Western Avenue
Albany, NY 12222
ph: 518/482-3856
pstrach@albany.edu

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor, Political Science and Public Administration and Policy. (2004-present)

EDUCATION

Ph.D. University of Wisconsin-Madison, July 2004 (Political Science)
Committee: John J. Coleman (chair), John F. Witte, Katherine Cramer Walsh

M.A. University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1999 (Political Science)

B.A. University of California at Davis, 1995 (Political Science)

University Diploma, University of Kent at Canterbury U.K., 1994 (Social Sciences)

CURRENT RESEARCH

All in the Family: Policy Structure, Process, and Change. (Manuscript) Family permeates public policy. Though political scientists study family in relation to policies with explicit family goals, such as welfare, I demonstrate that family's import lies in federal policies that incorporate family as the means to accomplish *other* policy goals. Using quantitative analysis of public speech and debate, statutory law, and federal regulations, I have found that legislators routinely incorporate assumptions about family in the structure of "non-family" policy in three ways. Family determines who qualifies for benefits, administers goods and services, and gains support for policy positions. But embedding family in the structure of policy in these three ways has consequences for policy change. I explore these consequences through qualitative case studies on immigration, taxation, and agriculture. I argue when the social practice of family deviates from the normative assumptions of family in policy, policy gaps emerge. By combining an analysis of policy structure and policy process, I am able to show under what circumstances policy gaps form and when they are likely to be closed successfully. My research contributes new insights to political science scholarship by showing how family is used as a distinctly *political* concept and by providing an integrated theory of policy change.

Gender, Campaigns, and Political Advertising. On-going research collaboration with Virginia Sapiro, Katherine Cramer Walsh, and Ken Goldstein on a multi-year project examining the nature of gender in political campaigns (2001-present).

PUBLICATIONS

Ken Goldstein and Patricia Strach. 2003. "Introduction." Ken Goldstein and Patricia Strach (eds.) *The Medium and the Message: Television Advertising and American Elections*. Prentice Hall: Upper Saddle River, New Jersey.

Ken Goldstein and Patricia Strach (eds). 2003. *The Medium and the Message: Television Advertising and American Elections*. Prentice Hall: Upper Saddle River, New Jersey.

Book Review of *By Order of the President: FDR and the Internment of Japanese Americans*, by Greg Robinson. 2003. *Congress and the Presidency*. 30:1.

"Social Welfare Policy: Social Security, Medicare, and Welfare." 2002. *The Reporter's Source Book*. Project Vote Smart.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

"Taxing the Family: Family Assumptions and Policy Change." Presented at the annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association, Portland, OR, March 11-13, 2004.

"Structural Assumptions in American Public Policy." Presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA, August 27-31, 2003.

"Family, Politics, and American Public Policy." Presented at the annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association, Denver, CO, March 27-29, 2003.

"Doing Gender in Congressional Campaign Advertisements" with Virginia Sapiro, Katherine Cramer Walsh, and Ken Goldstein. Presented at the annual meeting at the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 25-28, 2002.

"Women, Family, State: Two Cases from Botswana and Zimbabwe." Presented at the annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association, Long Beach CA, March 22-24, 2002.

"Widows, Wives and Felons: Understanding Women in Locke's Second Treatise" presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 19-22, 2001.

"From Gentlewomen to Congressional Members: Women's Representation and the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues" poster presented at the Women Transforming Congress conference, Carl Albert Center, April 14-15, 2000.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Origins and development of policy, ability of policy and policymakers to adapt to change, the political use of family, race and gender in American political development, theory and practice of gender in politics

TEACHING

PAST TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Lecturer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Political Science (Fall 2001)
Feminist Political Theory (PS 517)

Teaching Assistant, University of Wisconsin-Madison Political Science (Spring 2003)
Introduction to American Government (PS 104)

Teaching Assistant, Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison Integrated Liberal Studies (Fall 1999-Spring 2002)
Ancient Social, Economic, and Political Thought (ILS 205)
Modern Social, Economic, and Political Thought (ILS 206)

TEACHING INTERESTS

American government, political development, public policy, the policy process, ethics and public policy, institutions (Congress and the presidency), enduring controversies in American politics, gender and politics, feminist theory, modern social and political thought

HONORS

FELLOWSHIPS, SCHOLARSHIPS, GRANTS

University of Wisconsin-Madison Dissertator Fellowship (2003-2004)

Dirksen Congressional Research Award (2003)

Vilas Travel Grant, University of Wisconsin-Madison (Spring 2003)

Graduate Fellow of the Institute for Legal Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison (2002)

University WARF Fellow, University of Wisconsin-Madison (1998-1999)

Vilas Welcome Award, University of Wisconsin-Madison (1998)

Clyde Jacobs Distinguished Scholar, U.C. Davis Department of Political Science (1995)

Frank A. Mesple Memorial Scholarship (1994-1995)

University of California Regents Scholarship (1993-1995)

University of California, Davis General Fund Scholarship Award (1993)

RECOGNITION AND AWARDS

Capstone PhD University Teaching Award, University of Wisconsin-Madison (2003)

Political Science Teaching Award, University of Wisconsin-Madison (Spring, 2003)

Graduate Student Mentor Award, University of Wisconsin-Madison Graduate School (2002)

Departmental Citation for Excellence in Political Science, U.C. Davis (1995)

Phi Beta Kappa (1994)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

SERVICE

Panel Chair, Western Political Science Association Meeting, Denver, CO.: March 2003

Committee Member, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Integrated Liberal Studies Academic Prize Committee: 2002

Presenter, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Department of Political Science Teaching Assistant Training: Fall 2001, 2003

Coordinator, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Political Philosophy Colloquium Graduate-Faculty Group: 1999-2000

MEMBERSHIPS

American Political Science Association

Western Political Science Association

Midwest Political Science Association

REFERENCES

John J. Coleman (dissertation chair)
Professor and Associate Chair
Department of Political Science
University of Wisconsin-Madison
110 North Hall
1050 Bascom Mall
Madison, WI 53706
coleman@polisci.wisc.edu
608.263.2414

John F. Witte
Professor
Department of Political Science and the
LaFollette Institute of Public Affairs
University of Wisconsin-Madison
110 North Hall
1050 Bascom Mall
Madison, WI 53706
jwitte@polisci.wisc.edu
608.263.2029

Katherine Cramer Walsh
Assistant Professor
Department of Political Science
University of Wisconsin-Madison
110 North Hall
1050 Bascom Mall
Madison, WI 53706
kwalsh@polisci.wisc.edu
608.265.3679

R. Booth Fowler
Professor Emeritus
Department of Political Science
110 North Hall
1050 Bascom Mall
Madison, WI 53706
fowler@polisci.wisc.edu
608.263.2414

Ken Goldstein
Associate Professor
Department of Political Science
University of Wisconsin-Madison
110 North Hall
1050 Bascom Mall
Madison, WI 53706
goldstei@polisci.wisc.edu
608.263.2390