

# Barry Wellman's TIES AND BONDS

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## BBS

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**Nancy Nazer** (now a grad stud, Soc, U Toronto) has won U Western Ontario's prize for best undergrad soc thesis.... **James Davis** has retired from Harvard to return to the Sr. Lecturer. He's currently Senior Lecturer, Soc, U Chicago (& playing with NORC, of course). (Jim's article on the problems of sociology is my favorite article in the past few months: Sociological Forum, 6/94.... **Elisa Bienestock** has gone from being a UCLA grad stud to a tenure-stream Asst Prof, Soc, U North Carolina, Chapel Hill.... **Kathleen Carley** (Carnegie Mellon U) has had a 2nd daughter....

**Wilma Dunaway** (U Tennessee, Knoxville) won the 1994 best dissertaton award from the Political Economy of the World System section of the Am Soc Assoc for "The Incorporation of Southern Appalachia into the Capitalist World-Economy, 1700-1860).... **Susan Gonzalez Baker** received a Fulbright to Spain, 1994-1995, which is fortunate since her husband is in the US Embassy there. In Fall, 1995, she's moving from Mexican-American Studies (U Arizona) to Asst Prof, Soc, U Texas (no doubt to sample Austin's jalapeño bagels).... **Murray Turoff** named Distinguished Prof at New Jersey Inst of Technology. Murray created EIES, one of the first civilian e-mail & conferencing system — social network analysts were an early discussion group. Talk about being ahead of its time: Murray's book with partner **Roxanne Hiltz**, *The Network Nation* (MIT Press) is selling better in its 1993 lightly revised version than in the 1978 original. Their forthcoming book, *Learning Networks* (with **Linda Harasim** & partner **Lucio Teles** will be published by MIT Press in 1995....

**Stella Quah** (Soc, Singapore) now VP-Research Council of the Int'l Soc Assoc.... **Guran Therborn** (Soc, Guteborg) is a member of ISA's Exec Ctte.... **Robert Milardo** (Fam St, U Maine) new editor of Journal of Marriage & the Family. I look forward to Bob educating his readership that there is more to the subject than their fixation on emotional support among immediate family members.... **Barry Wellman** (Soc, Toronto) has won the Halbert Fellowship to spend 5/95, at Hebrew U, Jerusalem. He's currently learning the lyrics to "Yassir, That's my Baby".... **Janet Salaff** (Soc, U Toronto) & **Barry Wellman** received a grant from Bell Canada, 2/95, to study the relationship between telework & work/managerial relationships....

**John Logan** (Soc, SUNY-Albany) new president of the Urban & Regional Development section of the Int'l Soc Assoc. **Pat Mullins** (Australia) is on the board.... **Theda Skocpol** (Soc, Harvard) elected pres of Soc Sci Hist Assoc. **Andrejs Plakans** (Hist, Iowa State) cochair of 1995 program committee (16-19 Nov, Chicago).... **Min Zhou** spending 1994-1995 academic year at Russell Sage Fdn, NYC. She's working on a book about the adaptation of Vietnamese children in the US. Min moves Summer, 1995 from her LSU appointment to Soc, UCLA....

**Mark Granovetter** moving from Northwestern to Soc, Stanford, Fall, 1995. Guess a Rolling Stony Brook gathers no moss.... **Ed Laumann** now the new editor of *AJS*.... **Steve Gold** has moved from Whittier Col to Soc, Michigan St. U [steve.gold@ssc.msu.edu](mailto:steve.gold@ssc.msu.edu).... **Karl van Meter** & **Beatrix Depondt** (LASMAS, CNRS, Paris) are parents of Kenneth Alan Michael van Meter, born 18 Jan

95, weighing 4.4 kilos. Baby preceded by vast email search for names that read OK in both French & English.... **Victoria Bedford** (Psych, U Indianapolis) spending spring, 1995 semester at U Cal-Berkeley.... **Jeffrey Salloway** (Med Soc, U New Hampshire) spending 6-month sabbatical at Bar Illan U, Ramat Gan, Israel. He's helping to set up a doctoral program in Medical soc & teaching a course in social structure & health care.... **Shinji Nozawa** & collaborators have published families & Personal Networks in Urban Settings (177 pp.) in Japanese....

**Rose Coser** (Soc, Boston Col) died of kidney failure, 21 Aug 94, at her Wellfleet, MA summer home, at the age of 78. Long a driving force at Stony Brook, she was a committed structural analyst of medical sociology, the family and gender issues.....

**Herman Turk** (Soc, U Southern Cal) died of pancreatic cancer & heart failure, 23 Oct 94, at his home in Pacific Palisades. An urban & interorganizational analyst, Herman directed USC's Lab for Organizational Research & wrote the influential ASA Rose monograph, *Interorganizational Activation in Urban Communities: Deductions from the Concept of System*. Herman was an enthusiastic founding supporter of INSNA. As Judith Treas & Henry Barbera's obit puts it: "Throughout his life, the social sources of order & disorder dominated his thinking. How are individuals capable of uniting to form enduring orgs? How are accords achieved between organizations? His 1st answer was that organizational & social centers represent the locus of values, sentiments & beliefs which provide cultural cement for groups & individuals. On reflection, he abandoned that answer. His later work stressed the element of trust that individuals invest in their networks of interaction. Order is gained & continuity ensured by a sustained degree of social confidence in recurrent role performances & organizational expectations." [Footnotes, 1/95, p. 15].

**Chuck, Lorna & Melvin Get What They Deserve.** Faithful readers will have noted my pride in the U Toronto as being a centre of structural thought. I even co-wrote a paper once (with Jack Richardson) saying that Canucks are naturally more structuralist than Yankees. Just in case you thought it was mere puffery or limited to the sociology dept here, I'm happy to announce that:

**Chuck Tilly** (Soc Change Ctr, New Schl) will be awarded an honorary doctorate at the Univ. of Toronto, 23 Nov 95 (Thanksgiving Day in USA). Chuck taught sociology here in the late 60's (bring myself, Bill Michelson, Ned Shorter, and Louise Tilly Ph.D, Hist, Toronto up in chain migration), really started empirical soc. going, and did a lot to force our History dept to realize that there was more to social change than diplomats plotting. This will be the 1st honorary degree that Chuck will receive in North America, altho Amsterdam & 1 other school has weighed in already.

To go along with this auspicious event, Bev Wellman and I are organizing a Tillyfest at U Toronto, 6-9 Oct 95. (That's the Cdn Thanksgiving & US Columbus Day holiday weekend.) We'd love to have friends, fans, etc. of Chuck Tilly participate -- give a paper, organize a session, or just bring your party clothes. But registration for papers closes soon (we're trying for 30 March 95), so get in touch immediately with our conference secretary, Paul Gregory: pgregory@ epas.utoronto.ca (Or, Tillyfest, Centre for Urban & Community Studies, U of Toronto, 455 Spadina Ave, Toronto Canada M5S 2G8). The Tillyfest will be more sociologically inclined than the festschrift for Chuck Tilly that Mike Hanagan & others are organizing in Amsterdam, early June, 1995. (Bev & I will be there too, along with Gunder Frank, Nancy Howell.)

Two points almost make a trend. **Lorna Marsden** is also getting a honorary doctorate at U Toronto, 8 June 95. Lorna is probably not well-known to many of you, but she was chair of sociology when the Structural Analysis

Programme got started. Without her, it never would have flown, and she has been a big supporter of all of us — and structural analysis — in her subsequent distinguished career as Cdn Senator & prexy of Wilfrid Laurier Univ.

**Melvin Oliver** (Soc, UCLA) has been named "California Prof. of the Year" by the Carnegie Fdn for the Advancement of Teaching for his "extraordinary dedication to teaching & commitment to students. Oliver stated, "I approach teaching as a calling & as a critical responsibility to pass on to students the skills & knowledge they need, not only for their own lives, but also for the social, economic, and spiritual well-being of society." He has previously won the Luckman Distinguished Teaching Award and UCLA's award of excellence for undergraduate teaching.

**Power to the Networks.** Nominees for election to various Am Soc Assoc posts: VP, Doug McAdam (U Arizona); Council, Joe Feagin (U Florida); Pubs. Ctte, Wendy Griswold (U Chicago); Ctte on Nominations, David Knoke (U Minnesota), Bernice Pescosolido (Indiana U), Glenna Spitze (SUNY-Albany), Peter Marsden (Harvard), Paul DiMaggio (Princeton).

**Victoire Francaise.** Karl van Meter has ascended to be the Emeritus President of 1 of our kindred org.'s: the Int'l Soc Assoc's Research Committee 33, whose official title is something like "Logic and Methods of Research." Karl is working to build listservers for both RC33 & the ISA as a whole. Ray Pawson is the new head, Edith de Leeuw is the secretary; contact her for info @ Soc Res Methods, Free U Amsterdam; v70uedit@hasara11.bitnet; Peter Carrington (Soc, U Waterloo, Canada) & Alden Klovdahl are board members.

After all of his fights with bureaucracy, it's wonderful to see Karl happy (at his new LASMAS work home Alain Degenne, director). Here's how Karl put it in the last

RC33 e-mail newsletter (29 Sept 94): "In short, the fight is over & things are fine. As an anti-climax, former CNRS Scientific Director for Human & Soc Sciences, Alain d'Irbarne, "at the strong insistence of the French Min. of Higher Ed. & Res., was told by the new Director General of the CNRS on 1 Sept to clear out his office & leave by the evening of 9 Sept. That has been done."

**Fernando Cardoso**, former head of the Int'l Soc Assoc, has been elected president of Brazil. What does this portend for the USA & Emmanuel Wallerstein, current ISA head? The last sociologist I recall being head of a country was Kofi Busieh, a Harvard Ph.D. who ran Ghana in the early 1970s after Kwame Nkrumah was deposed. Trouble is, Busieh was a Parsonian who believed in social integration and the continuity of value system. In practice, this meant returning power back to the traditional Ghanaian chiefs who were mostly interested in the continuity of their wealth and power. He was soon forced from office.

Perhaps Cardoso will institutionalize despachantes — thousands of expeditors who cut thru Brazilian red tape on behalf of clients. They spend their days going from ministries to registry offices gathering bureaucratic approvals. (Reportedly the job is a carryover from Portuguese days.) Community colleges offer 2-year courses on how to cut red-tape & large orgs. typically have several on their staff (surely job openings for us). "Ordinary people just don't have the proper skills. The despachante already knows the ropes," says Vera Lucia Moraes, a senior Rio bureaucrat. Good despachantes frown on bribery & claim to rely more on relationships built up over a long career. "It's the best job in the world because I work with friendship & a handshake," says Jacinto Medeiros. Unfortunately, the recent rationalization of Brazilian government under deposed president Collor de Mello has reduced despachante income from US\$6K to 2K per month. Source: Isabel Vincent, "How to Get Ahead in Brazil," Toronto G. & M., 18-11-94.

## **Life along the Info Highway**

*Email Replicates Structural Analysis:* The "friends" group alias (which is how I send notes like this to friends) is the kind of personal community which I've been studying for 30 years. By definition, I'm at the center and replies normally come back to me alone. (Beware of the weird and dangerous software that Lorna Marsden & Joel Levine have -- in which a reply to one person becomes a reply to all others on the To: or CC: list.) The ego-centered "friends" group alias is a kind of network structure that is structurally different from a Distribution List or Newsgroup -- fully and directly linked whole network communities where all read all's messages.

*Carl Uncover/Reveal* is the name of an e-mail service that will automatically send you the table of contents of practically any journal you want. It's free, as they make their money out of sending you articles. For access, telnet to database.carl.org. My thanks to David Krackhardt for revealing this service — it's an armchair Current Contents.

*Using the Net to Study the Net:* As noted in the previous Connections, our Toronto research group (Wellman, Salaff, Dimitrova, Garton, Gregory, Gulia, Haythornthwaite) have been asked by the Annual Review of Sociology to review computer-supported cooperative work and community. In addition to normal bibliographic searching, we decided to use the Internet to gather information. Our best decision was to ask more than 20 obvious sources for information. Instead we sent out 250 requests for information, asking folks to pass them on. (Some of you may have received them.) It worked well. Not only did we get information from about 10 others whom we had directly contacted, but the indirect links have yielded about 10 other persons with whom we weren't in contact. Not only was Mark Granovetter right about the strength of weak ties in gathering information, but Mark himself was helpful, passing on the name of

Irvine computer scientists doing weak tie research.

*Getting a Job, Mark 2.* The 2d ed. of Mark Granovetter's 1974 classic *Getting a Job* is being published by U Chicago Press, 1/95 in paperback (US\$13.95). It contains a long afterword to bring readers up to date on the literature of the past 20 year. Mark says that the afterword is probably half as long as the original book. The book also contains the original embeddedness article as an Appendix. Wonder if this sequel is called, *Getting Tenure?*

*The Third Most Popular Lie?* It's been a commonplace that the most prevalent lies in North America are "I love you" and "the check is in the mail." While direct debit may make the latter obsolete, the information highway has brought a new candidate for most popular lie: "I haven't read your e-mail message yet." I used it one weekend when a university administrator asked me to respond to an especially troublesome e-mail message. But is putting off an administrator truly a lie? More like a justifiable fib.

*Networks and Privacy:* The US FBI is pushing for laws that "would enable law-enforcement agents to gather a wealth of personal info by monitoring citizens' calling patterns & credit card transactions over the telephone -- & over the 2-way cable TV networks. The system would go well beyond current wiretapping technology because much of the info could be gleaned without the police or FBI actually having to eavesdrop on specific voice or e-mail conversations.... Critics have warned that in the info age, it is possible to build a detailed model of an individual's behavior, political & sexual preferences, social network, & travel itineraries simply by examining telephone-calling patterns & credit card purchases. Some capabilities were demonstrated when agents pieced together a chronological list of phone calls made by the people carrying out the attack on the figure skater Nancy Kerrigan. `It would be possible to develop a life-size portrait about you as a

person,' said Jerry Berman, exec director of the Electronic Freedom Fdn." [John Markoff, "Wiretap Technology Plan Pushed by FBI Director," NY Times, 28 Feb 94].

*Creating Too Much Privacy for Others is a Crime:* A US plumber tried to expand his business by ordering call-forwarding telephone service for his rivals & having the calls re-routed to his own business. He is under criminal indictment. [NY Times, 29 Jan 95]

*Newt:* Allegedly, Newt Gingrich's email address is: georgia6@hr.house.gov. However, I haven't been successful in reaching him. Non-Americans: Note that Newt is the new Speaker of the US House Representatives, an internet buff, & 1 of the most important current politicians.

*Electronic SOS:* "Help. Feel sick. I need aid," was 56 year old Jack Miller's email message as he had a heart attack. 80 employees in his department at Witco Corp (chemicals) got it & saved him. "For me, email means emergency mail," says Witco. [Communications of the ACM, 6/94: 10]

*If You Really Need Help:* The email address of Groves Online Delivery (Cambridge, MA) is "god.com".

*Groupware:* "As more orgs., networks & individuals link up electronically, the wise are discovering it's much more than just connecting & having info at your fingertips. Using groupware (computer-augmented collaborative work & learning) changes patterns of interaction & power from hierarchies to looser, more fluid & lateral networks. The technology amplifies & accelerates whatever zips thru it. Relationships are as important as info when teams work over a network, especially across space & time. The quality of on-line communication is vital. When people are fully present via computer, risking to say what they think, feel, know & experience, they engage in potent conversations that generate knowledge -- the fundamental stuff of wealth in this new era & the key to effective

organizational response in turbulent times." [Peter & Trudy Johnson-Lenz, Using Our Differences Creatively: Awakening Technology Bulletin, Winter 1994/95, p. 1.] P&T invented the term "groupware," the only friends of mine ever to make the OED. Contact them at: p+t@awaken.com.

*Network Neighborhood* is reportedly Microsoft's descriptive term for the on-screen view of the network services to be available in Windows95. While Cybernoia is a new word to describe the excessive fear of electronic democracy. [Mickey Kaus, New Republic, 27 Feb 95, p. 6]

*When Virtuality Fails:* Bell Atlantic CEO Ray Smith on the failed attempt to merge with Tele-Communications Inc: "John Malone & I were just on a Networked Economy Conference panel together, & we were standing at the urinals talking about things, & Barry Diller comes in & stands between us. And Barry says, 'C'mon, you seem like such good friends. Just split the difference.'" [Wired, 2/95, p. 110]

*The First Gay-Oriented Computer Ad?* "Stop Kvetching, Don't be a Schmoie, Lay Out Some Gelt, and Get your Aunt Faygle a Mac for Hanukkah" [Now, Toronto, 24 Nov 94]

*It's a Mensch!* Because computer chip numbers are not copyrightable (that's why the 586 is the Pentium), Motorola is going to name its new 65C816 chip after its designer, William Mensch. The chip will run game machines & interactive TV boxes. [John Dvorak, PC Magazine, 25 Oct 94, p. 95]

*The Journal of Computer Mediated Communication* is now on-line on the net. I don't know exactly how to get to it — I happily hypertext along the yellow brick road of home pages — but Margaret McLaughlin (Annenberg) & Sheizef Rafaeli (Hebrew U) are the coeditors, and the ed. board includes Noshir Contractor (Communic, U Illinois), James Beininger (Annenberg) & Brenda Danet

(Hebrew U). For info: mmclaugh@alnitak.usc.edu

*A Computer Network is a Communication Network is a Social Network:* Musing on the above, it's interesting how cruising the World Wide Web is like wandering through a medieval European town, full of all sorts of interesting nooks & crannies except you're never sure of where you are in relation to where you've been — and where you're going is only clear as far as the next turning. If it isn't functioning as a winding country road, the Web works like Star Trek. Enter from your home page, type in the http number of your favorite URL, and you're almost instantly there (bandwidth permitting). Absolutely no sense of context or place if you travel this route. And I'd grown up thinking that computers were rational, linear and hierarchically organized! I now realize what a cognitive advantage social network analysts have over the linear, atomistic, hierarchical thinkers. Indeed, it's so easy to come to grips with hypertext when you see it as a cognitive network that's analogous to a social network. And often not just analogous, for when the hypertext links different person's works, they are linking different persons. It's neo-Breigerian: "The Duality of Persons and Ideas".

*Transition to Next Section:* "The information superhighway is like teenage sex. Everybody thinks everybody else is doing it; everybody thinks everybody else is doing it more than they are; and those that are doing it aren't doing it very well." [Toronto G. & M., 8-2-95]

## **Sex Nets**

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*Sex & the Single Dyad:* "What Mr. Kinsey wrote has nothing to do with the study of interpersonal relations." These were the reproving words of a spinster social science prof. to coed Barbara Nichols in that classic film, "Where the Boys Are." Directed by Henry Levin, written by George Wells. 1960. Fortunately we now have Ed Laumann & his Chicago sex team to set us straight.

*Recouplings:* Avion de Reconciliacion is a Spanish vacation package to the Canaries that is open only to certified divorced/separated couples contemplating reconnecting. Double beds only, no separate twins. At the Madrid departure lounge, "no one spoke," says organizer Ignacio Belaznde. "The couples communicated strictly on a gritted-teeth level." At the end of the holiday, 46/140 couples said that they had decided to give their marriage a 2nd chance, but there are no follow-up data. Julie Read, "Divorce Takes a Holiday," The European, reprinted in the Toronto Globe & Mail, 14 Jan 95.

*Laumann is Surely Next:* Elaine Hatfield has won the Distinguished Scientist award for "lifetime achievement" from the Society for the Scientific Study of Sex. Come to think of it, those of us who've been married 30 years to the same spouse deserve an award too.

*And to Get Your Award ...* Dan Canary (Speech Communic, Penn St U, University Park PA 16802-5201; 814-863-0030) & Kathryn Dindia (Communic, U Wisc-Milwaukee, Milwaukee WI 53201; 414-229-6676) are soliciting papers for a book devoted to "Sex differences and similarities in communication behavior." Send them a 30 pp. ms. or a 500 word abstract by 1 May 95.

*The Secret of Our Success & Happiness Revealed:* Laumann, et al. report that Ashkenazi Jews have higher IQs and more active sex lives than anybody else.

*Sleep with Me* is the name of an American movie: a "dark incestuous mediation about what a voracious beast friendship really is" (that's director Rory Kelly's account). EyeNets (Toronto), 22 Sept 94.

## **Sort of Simmel + Jules + Jim - 4 Brains = 0**

*When Georg Simmel Meets Erica Jong:* "Dear Miss Manners, an etiquette column: "What is the correct way to behave toward someone

with whom you've had a brief, anonymous sexual encounter. If you pass on the street, must you greet each other? If you are introduced at a party, should you pretend to be total strangers? Gentle Reader: Miss Manners is shocked that you do not seem to understand the meaning of a proper introduction. Or of anonymity, for that matter. One does not presume to know anyone who has shown no signs of caring to be on social terms." [Toronto Star, 1 Oct 94]

*Dangerous Dyad:* Lovers of Britain's Princess Diana should be warned that the Treason Act of 1351 states: "A person is guilty of treason who violates the wife of the sovereign's eldest son & heir." The penalty is bobbiting, followed by death. [Linwood Barclay, Toronto Star, 8 Oct 94]

*Politically Correct Dyad:* Antioch Col (US) has a sexual offense policy asserting, "Verbal consent should be obtained with each new level of physical &/or sexual conduct in any given interaction. The request for consent must be specific to each act." According to Marian Jensen, Dean of Students, prospective lovers inquire of each other: "Would you like to activate the policy?" And 1 Vassar Col woman advocates replacing "boyfriend" with "my special friend with whom I spend lots of quality physical time." Which to my mind is as offensive as the current vogue for replacing the term "making love" with "having sex." [all but last sentence from Kay Hymowitz, "We've Educated Sex to Death," NY Times, 13 Dec 94]

### **Political Economic Nets**

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*Rwanda was Not Community Lost:* "When the killing started it was being done systematically. These guys were following a plan," reports Canadian General Romeo Dallaire, the UN commander in Rwanda. Says an international human rights worker, "Instead of understanding that this was a highly systematic, organized genocide carried out by a group of extremists, it was presented as just one

more instance of 'those savages' tearing each other apart." [Antonia Zerbisias' review of CBC-TV's Rwanda: Autopsy of a Genocide in The Toronto Star, 29 Nov 94]

*Beyond the Trilateral Commission:* Prof. Robert O'Driscoll has discarded his theory of a Jewish conspiracy to take over the world. In his new book, *New World Order: Corruption in Canada*, O'Driscoll claims that the secret cabal controlling Canada consists of "every prime minister since Lester Pearson, every major international statesman and well-known millionaire, nearly every spy agency, the Royal Bank, the Unification Church, and the UN." The cabal allegedly controls all of finance, politics, the media, the weather, and accused serial killer Paul Bernardo. O'Driscoll charges that a Canadian espionage agency was beyond his 1986 dismissal as head of Celtic Studies at U Toronto, and that Nobel-prize winning Toronto chemist John Polanyi is working for the conspiracy to produce new killer viruses deadlier than AIDs. O'Driscoll is now on involuntary sick leave from the university. Source: U Toronto Varsity News, 5 Jan 95: 1-2. My own feeling is that O.J. Simpson is the true head of the Trilateral Commission. Why else would the world pay so much attention to him? Remember all those Hertz ads of him running thru airports. They never told us where he was going to or who was he running from.

*CIABASE is an 8MB DB* (for Mac & DOS) of CIA deeds & dirty work culled from 850+ sources. Compiled by ex ops officer Ralph McGehee. \$199, updates \$99. Info: +1(703) 437-8487; ralphm1020@aol.com

*Competitive Intelligence Agent is a DB* of info sources on companies, industries, markets & technologies. You simply select a keyword & the program produces a list of potential sources; even dialing the company's phone number for you. The program contains a library that includes descriptions of 100s of strategic DBs worldwide, and a routine that suggests research & analysis techniques. Not affiliated with any US agency. US\$99, CIA

Software, Alameda, CA, USA: +(510) 21-4375. [Source: PC Magazine, 6 Dec 94]

*Oaxaca Update:* Russ Bernard remains heavily involved in CELIAC, a NGO dedicated to the preservation of indigenous languages & cultures throughout the world. It's publishing books (which your library can buy) & running training programs. For info contact [ufruss@nervm.nerdc.ufl.edu](mailto:ufruss@nervm.nerdc.ufl.edu) or write CELIAC, B1170 Av. Ejercito Mexicano, Colonia Ampliación Dolores, Oaxaca, Oax 68020. email: [celiac@laneta.igc.apc.org](mailto:celiac@laneta.igc.apc.org). Meanwhile, rumours float around the internet, 2/95, that the Mexican army's armed intervention in nearby Chiapas state is being supported by a major American bank, the one that New Yorkers are always told they have a friend at.

*On the Take* is the best-selling book in Canada now. It's Stevie Cameron's account of who paid what to which politician under former prime minister Brian Mulroney. [Toronto: Macfarlane, Walter & Ross]

*At Least the Gnomes of Zurich were Informed and Smart!* Meanwhile, Canadians (like Mexicans) increasingly feel hostage to foreign currency & bond traders. Yet some of the key traders are callously ignorant. For example, "Guy" is a Columbia U MBA & chief Canadian bond trader for a giant NY brokerage house. He's been to Montreal 4x, Toronto 2x & skied once in BC. He misidentifies Toronto as the capital of Canada & doesn't know that the separatist Parti Québécois got less than 50% in the last election & that opinion polls show that most Québécois don't favour separation. Mary-Lue, an LSE commerce grad, trades bonds for a large British insurer. She's never been to Canada, doesn't know the name of the prime minister, and thinks Canada will join the US soon to get better access to capital. [Source: Jonathan Ferguson, "Foreign Portfolio Managers Decide Our Dollar's Fate," Toronto Star, 20 Jan 95]. You don't have to share my politics to be appalled at the ignorance of those who move billions around

daily & decide a nation's fate with the twitch of a computer key.

*Comeback:* The Fall & Rise of the American Automobile Industry provides blow-by-blow goings on at critical management & directors meetings. [NY: Simon & Schuster, 1994, 496pp]

*Corporate Family Therapy:* From Howard Book, a Toronto business consultant: "Recently I consulted a family-owned business run by a CEO and his 4 VPs, who were all his sons-in-law. When I asked for an organization chart, I received 5 — 1 from the CEO, & 4 from the VPs. No 2 looked alike. Only by meeting with the whole family — the CEO, the 4 VPs & their wives — did I discover the real organizational chart. The 4 VPs reported to their wives; these daughters reported to their mother, who told her husband what to do. The business ran in accordance with 'mother knows best.' That was the family belief system, & it became the unspoken, unarticulated decision-making factor." ["Why the Family Way Can be the Wrong Way," Toronto Globe & Mail, 7 Nov 94]

### **From Russia with Love?**

The Logic of World Systems? "It is our careless modern assumption that as trade borders fall & systems of communication advance, the countries of the world will be brought closer together. Nothing could be further from the truth. The end of the cold war has seen such a loosening of bonds & allegiances, and such a dying of forbearance on the part of the oppressed, that the old & new worlds are fragmenting as never before. In Europe alone, the count of ethnic or national entities demanding sovereignty stands at around 35. Half the states of the Russian Fed. are threatening to secede. Which of course is just 1 reason why Ingushetia & Chechnya must be punished. In every quarter of the globe, the magic word 'independence' is being passed from hand to hand. There was a time when independence was the most treasured jewel in the rhetoric of the free world. Today, ... the

very concept is becoming sullied, signifying insurrection & misrule." [Spy novelist John le Carré, "The Shame of the West," NY Times, 14 Dec 94] Speaking of the Chechen situation, I received (22 Jan 95) a long e-mail message from Julia Kalinina, a correspondent with Moskovsky Komsollets, alleging that the war results from a struggle for power within Russian President Yeltsin's inner circle.

*Russian Enterprise*: The only wage-earning job Lenin ever held was as head of the new Soviet state and the Communist Party.

*Comrade Criminal* is Stephen Handelman's 1994 book (Toronto: Michael Joseph) arguing that as the Soviet Union began to collapse, the stalwarts of the Communist regime, whether party functionaries or industrial managers, privatized themselves & struck it rich. (Alternatively, they moved from merely controlling the resources "in the name of the people" to actually owning them.) They privatized industrial enterprises, exported tons of natural resources, & pocket the proceeds. Bureaucrats had no interest in helping would-be entrepreneurs who would challenge their power so they became entrepreneurs themselves. It was not so much a matter of linkages between the "Mafia" the eastern european term for organized crime & the bureaucracy but a merger. Says 1 businessman: "To be a successful capitalist in this country & have access to real money, you need to have been in the Party for a long time." Handelman describes the KGB as "an important secret player — perhaps the most important — in bridging the criminality of the old regime with the criminality of the post-Communist era." Wherever possible, their talented officers have set out to control new commercial enterprises & banks. [From John Gray's review in the Toronto Globe & Mail, 21 Jan 95]

*Fly High with Capitalism*: Sky magazine's ad, 12/95: "Fly a MiG in Moscow." For US\$5500+ you can fly a MiG-29 accompanied by a "top Russian test pilot" & taking off "from a top-secret military base." Info: +1(800)-migs-etc; 813-923-0607.

## **Short Schticks**

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*Clyde Unsinkable*: Clyde Mitchell (Oxford) and wife Jean were aboard the Achille Lauro, the Italian cruise ship that sunk off of the Somali coast, 12/94. Clyde & Jean spent some time in the water and then were safely rescued by a passing ship. Clyde is now immersed in the insurance business as a result.

*Belshaw ReHashed*: The Canadian Broadcasting Corp. broadcast "L'Affaire Belshaw," 30 Oct 94, an account of the Swiss trial of UBC anthropologist Cyril Belshaw for the death of his wife Betty.

*How to Read Identity and Control*: Last issue I reported that I had found that a long train trip was a good way to get thru Harrison White's masterpiece, as rewarding and as difficult as Joyce's Ulysses (but easier than Finnegans Wake). Trouble is, the train pulled in to Amsterdam station with two chapters to go. Back in Toronto, there were all the usual distractions, and this is a book to which you must give complete and sustained attention. I finally found a solution: go to my hair stylist with book in hand. So when you're in the mood, stride into Mr. Claudio's and say what I did, "A cut and colour — and Identity and Control. Please don't talk to me for the next 90 minutes." P.S. If you ever see well-groomed U of Toronto sociology students at the Sunbelt, it's a good bet that they've recently taken their comprehensive exams in network analysis. One of our grad students, Stephanie Potter, inquires: "Has there ever been any research on co-authorship & the type of waiting time that can occur given people's schedules, implications for downtime, etc?" It is purely coincidental that Stephanie has been waiting for me to finish our paper for many months. She's at Soc, U Toronto, Toronto Canada M5S 1A1; potter@epas.utoronto.ca

*Multiplicity = Sanity*: The more roles that men or women have, the better they rate their own mental health. What predicts stress for women

or men is not the number of responsibilities they face but whether they find satisfaction from their spheres of life: personal, work or children. Hence working mothers are less anxious or depressed than childless employed women, and most women view their jobs as more rewarding than problematic, are generally pleased about their marriages, and feel good about their mother-child relationships. That's Pepper Schwartz's summary, NY Times, 17 Nov 94, of Rosalind Barnett's 8/94 article in *J of Marriage & the Family*.

*Sorry Peter Marsden & George Barnett:* As I prepare papers, I'm bedeviled by the perennial question: How do I reference articles that appear in annuals, such as *Sociological Methodology* or *Annual Review of X*? In response to e-mail queries, both the AmJSoc & the AmSocRev says to cite them as journal articles & not as articles in edited books. Says Susan Allen, AJS managing ed.: "My personal preference is to use a periodical format whenever possible. This way, you get the most important info. -- author /title of contribution /title of periodical / volume / date / pages -- without embellishment. Since a periodical is a continuously appearing entity, facts such as place of publication seem less important. You already ought to know this is a Blackwell publication. If you don't know, your librarian certainly will." Just another scanting of the contribution of hard-working annual editors, alas.

*Informed Consent?* For the in-service "Baby Basics" class at Toronto's Mt. Sinai Hospital, "a full range of infant care procedures are demonstrated using a volunteer newborn from the postpartum floor."

*Uninformed Dissent:* From Bruce Berg: "During the past 40 years, fewer & fewer qualitative researchers have recognized the utility of sociometry. 1 possible reason may be the attempt by some users to make sociometry more mathematical than is necessary. The notion of mathematicizing sociometry suggests that users have tried to claim precision akin to more sophisticated statistical measures

of association (Berg & Rounds 1992). Were this mathematicizing activity merely a dramaturgic attempt to play the part of scientist — the pretence of positivism to obtain federal funding or greater acceptance in the publication arena — I might understand such behavior. Unfortunately, mathematicizing sociometric techniques is a genuine attempt to convert a strategy once rich with grounded theoretical orientations into little more than another analytic formula stripped of its connections to social reality." Lin Freeman discovered this in *Qualitative Research Methods for the Social Sciences*, 2d ed. Boston: Allyn & Bacon, 1995, pp. 122-23. Guess some folks never stop being teenage post-modernists.

*International Sociological Association:* INSNA is now an "affiliated collective member" (altho we're haggling over dues) which gives us automatic rights to have some sessions at World Congresses.

*The Age of Innocence as Community Saved:* I finally saw Martin Scorsese's wonderful 1993 movie, *The Age of Innocence*. Although formally the story of a love triangle, I viewed it as the triumph of structure over voluntaristic dyads. The continuing theme is of people wanting to do something but being constrained by their interpersonal structures. It should be required viewing for the Personal Relationships crowd. The theme is carried over in the photograph. Except for the rare scene when two people are physically alone, most of the scenes are at least medium-long, so that when two people are conversing (and they do converse), we see the social milieu in which their interaction is taking place. In the two-person scenes (usually 2 lovers or husband-wife), there seem to be more two-shots than one-shots or reaction shots. Note: As I am the product of a liberal education, I do know that Edith Wharton wrote the novel upon which the movie is based. However, the visuals in the movie tell the story so much that I am reluctant to read the book.

*Dutch Run Amok:* Here's the (unedited) headline from the Toronto Star, 2 Feb 95: "Dutch Flood Victims at Mercy of Aging Dikes." The pun works in English; I don't know about Dutch. The subhead is pretty neat too: "'We came into this world naked and if that dike breaks, we'll leave it naked too,' Arnold Hubert evacuee". I can see the movie version now.

*JDs:* Research indicates that the most successful programs to address the problems of US juvenile delinquents are those which focus on their individual needs & social networks. From *What Works: Promising Interventions in Juvenile Justice* a directory of 425 effective intervention programs, via Peter Carrington.

*Network Impressions:* "Despite their disparate origins, all the impressionist [painters] insisted they were federated, especially after the 1st impressionist exposition of 1874. Degas evoked his closeness with Fantin-Latour & Whistler; Renoir reminisced about his camaraderie with Monet, Bazille & Sisley in Gleyre's studio. Fantin-Latour's painting, 'A Studio in Bagnolles,' grouped around Manet: Renoir, Monet, Bazille & Zola." [blurb at Paris Grand Palais exhibition, "The Origins of Impressionism," 7/94.]

*Fashion Networks:* "This is the story of the conspiracy last March 1994 to haul fashion away from a look that wasn't selling clothes or makeup. In its place is glamour." [For details, \*read Amy Spindler, "How Fashion Gave the Waif a Makeover," NY Times, 27 Sept 94]

*Is the AmJSoc a Network Journal?* Ed Laumann is new editor of Am J Soc. Other networkers on its various editorial boards are Tom Snijders, Ulf Hannerz, Noah Friedkin, Marc Granovetter, James Montgomery, Peter Bearman, Karen Cook, Scott Feld, Claude Fischer, Rob Faulkner, Miller McPherson, Glen Carroll, Andrew Abbott, Wendy Griswold, and Douglas Massey.

*Predicting Death:* Doctors at George Washington U (Washington DC) Med Ctr have developed a computer model, Support, that predicts the number of days that terminally ill patients have left to live. It will be used to psychologically prepare patients & their families for impending death. [Investor's Business Daily, 7 Feb 95 via Edupage email newsletter] I wonder what weight Support gives to social support in the equations? I'd also be interested to be around when the model & the MDs make their first Type 1 & Type 2 errors.

U Limburg has a new Master of Public Health Programme in the Faculty of Health Sci with an appreciable social network / social support component. [Info: Office of the Dean, PO Box 616, 6200 MD Maastricht, Neth; tel/fax: +31(43)-881-552]

The Center for Research on Interpersonal Relationships has been founded at U Minnesota. Contact Andrew Collins, Ellen Berscheid or Bob Leik (among others) for details.

## **Conference Notes**

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The Social Science History Assoc went network, 10/94, at their conference at the beautiful CNN Center in ugly, empty downtown Atlanta. (That's why CNN News has all those TV monitors -- there's nothing else to look at: Wait till you see the video of me as "guest anchor" on CNN News.) There were a half-dozen network sessions (see details later in this issue), & prexy Susan Cott Watkins (Soc, Penn) gave a lovely speech saying we all should think networks. Susan then went to Kenya to study how women tell each other about birth control and such.

Intercultural Communication Course will be taught in London, July 12-Aug 14, 1995, by a consortium of 10 US univs. The course features British faculty & field trips. Info From Charles Tardy, Speech Communic, U Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg MS, USA

39406-5131; tel: 601-266-4278; email: ctardy@whalte.st.usm.edu.

The next Int'l Conf on Personal Relationships will take place in Banff, Alberta, Canada, 4-8 Aug 96. Banff, in the midst of the Cdn Rockies is super-beautiful. The group that runs this, the Int'l Sty for the Study of Personal Relationships, has Rebecca Adams (Soc, U North Carolina-Greensboro) as chair of Recruitment Cttee, Rosemary Blieszner (Fam Studies, Va Poly) as Assoc Ed of its Bulletin & Rene Lyons (Leisure Studies, Dalhousie) as Cdn correspondent.

The next World Congress of Sociology will be in Montreal, 29 July-Aug 3, 1998. The way things are going in Quebec, it might be a trip to a foreign country for me. On the other hand, I've found the solution to the midlife Canadian crisis: I'm practicing with French language tapes as I work out on my new NordicTrack (highly recommended).□

## James Coleman Passed Away

James S. Coleman, University Professor of Sociology, Education and Social Service Administration at the University of Chicago, died March 25 at the age of 68 after an extended battle with cancer. Professor Coleman was one of the world's leading sociologists, and over his career he made distinguished contributions to sociological theory, the sociology of education, mathematical sociology, social change, rational choice theory, and public policy. He was the author of nearly 30 books and monographs, including *Foundations of Social Theory* in 1990.

Professor Coleman was committed to influencing the public agenda through his writings and teachings, and was particularly influential in shaping educational policy. Professor Coleman was a member of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Philosophical Society, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the National Academy of Education, and the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. He founded the Dept. of Social Relations at Johns Hopkins University. Throughout his career he was the recipient of numerous honorary degrees and awards.

He is survived by his wife, Zdzislawa Walaszek; four children, Thomas, John, Stephen, and Daniel; and granddaughter Cora. A private memorial service will be held. Plans are underway for a university-wide memorial service, probably to be held in May.

— *Communicated by David Krackhardt*