

WSSR WORKSHOPS ON SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Community Identity and Political Behavior

Dr. Mary R. Anderson

Chair/Associate Professor, Political Science, University of Tampa

September 22nd, 2017

9:00am – 4:30pm

Workshop Outline

Social scientists are motivated to understand how various facets of society influence all sorts of behavior. Individual's perceptions about their significance in a given community can have meaningful effects on the way in which we look to communities to develop and foster democratic values and promote civic engagement.

In her workshop, Dr. Anderson will take participants through her interdisciplinary approach to studying communities and political behavior, blending the fields of community psychology, sociology, and political science. She will draw on her research into community identity, focusing specifically on how community comes to influence political behavior.

- I. Defining concepts:
 - a. What do we mean by political behavior and attitudes?
 - b. What is a sense of community?
- II. Approaches to measuring sense of community or community connectedness.
- III. How or why does sense of community matter?
- IV. Fostering a sense of community.

Required Readings

McMillan, D. W. (1986-01-01). Sense of Community: A Definition and Theory. *Journal of community psychology*, 14(1), 6-23. [http://0-dx.doi.org/mercury.concordia.ca/10.1002/1520-6629\(198601\)14:1<6::AID-JCOP2290140103>3.0.CO;2-I](http://0-dx.doi.org/mercury.concordia.ca/10.1002/1520-6629(198601)14:1<6::AID-JCOP2290140103>3.0.CO;2-I)

Anderson, M. R. (2010), Community Psychology, Political Efficacy, and Trust. *Political Psychology*, 31, 59–84. doi:10.1111/j.1467-9221.2009.00734.x <http://0-search.ebscohost.com/mercury.concordia.ca/login.aspx?direct=true&db=poh&AN=47657367&site=ehost-live&scope=site>

Pavlova, M. K., & Silbereisen, R. K. (2015). Supportive social contexts and intentions for civic and political participation: An application of the theory of planned behaviour. *Journal of Community & Applied Social Psychology*, 25(5), 432-446. <http://0-search.ebscohost.com/mercury.concordia.ca/login.aspx?direct=true&db=a9h&AN=109227371&site=ehost-live&scope=site>

*If you are registered for non-credit and are unable to locate the readings, please contact us at wssr@concordia.ca