


WISEST INITIATIVES / LEADERSHIP SEMINARS

Upcoming Seminar

Friday Oct. 2, 2009	2:00 PM 1000 SEO WISEST Leadership Seminar
 <p>Joey Sprague Professor of Sociology University of Kansas</p>	<p>Student Evaluations and Gendered Expectations: What We Can't Count Can Hurt Us</p> <p>Prof. Sprague is most interested in the ways gender, class, and race structure knowledge, from the social organization of the academy to perceptions in the broader culture. She is author of <i>Feminist Methodologies for Critical Researchers: Bridging Differences</i> (Rowman & Littlefield, 2005). She is President-Elect of Sociologists for Women in Society and co-editor of <i>The Gender Lens</i> book series (Rowman & Littlefield).</p> <p>Abstract: Does teacher's gender impact students' evaluations? We critically evaluated the research literature and concluded that the form gender bias takes may not be easily detectible by quantitative scales. To explore this possibility, we did a qualitative analysis of the words that 288 college students at two campuses used to describe their best- and worst-ever teachers. Although we found considerable overlap in the ways that students talked about their male and female teachers, we also saw indications that students hold teachers accountable to certain gendered expectations. These expectations place burdens on all teachers, but the burdens on women are more labor-intensive. We also saw signs of much greater hostility toward women than toward men who do not meet students' gendered expectations.</p> <p>More about this workshop</p>

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