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Address: Sociology Department Boston College Chestnut Hill, MA 02167 (617) 552-4135 e-mail: pfohl@bc.edu 
Education

5. Professor of Sociology, Boston College, 1993 to present. Graduate and 
undergraduate courses in Social Theory; Cultural Studies; Images and Power; 
Postmodernity and Social Theory; Desire and Narrative; Sociology and 
Psychoanalysis; Crime, Deviance and Social Control; Crime and Social Studies; 
Critical Studies in Social Control. 
6. Visiting Professor of Sociology, University of Amsterdam, Fall 1996. 
7. Chairperson, Sociology Department, Sociology Department, Boston College, 
1998-2005. 
8. Graduate Director/ Assistant Chairperson, Sociology Department, Boston 
College, 2006-2007. 
9. Appointed Member, Boston College Institutional Review Board, 2016-present. 
A. Funded Research/Grants 
1. Researcher-Consultant, ³Migrant Mobile Team Project,´ East Coast Migrant 
Health Project, Washington, D.C., Project Director: Mr. Thomas O¶Neil, 1971.

2. Assistant Editor, Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency, 1976. 
 
3. Journal Referee, Social Problems, Social Forces; Law and Society Review; 
Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency; Journal of Correctional 
Psychology; Children and Youth Services Review; Crime and Social Justice; 
Symbolic Interaction; Qualitative Sociology; Sociological Focus; Western Social 
Science Journal; American Sociologist; Sociological Quarterly; Theory, Culture 
and Society; Crime, Media, Culture. 
 
4. Sociology-Criminology Manuscript Review Consultant, Allyn and Bacon, 
1976; D.C. Heath and Co., 1977-79; Temple University Press, 1979; Goodyear 
Publishing Co., 1979; P. Van Nostrand Publishers, 1979; McGraw-Hill 
Publishing Co., 1980; Florida State University Press, 1986; University of 
Minnesota Press, 1994; Routledge, 1994; Westview Press, 1994, State University 
of New York Press, 1995, Blackwell, 1997; Duke University Press, 2005; 
University of Minnesota Press, 2007, Worth Publishers, 2007, Bloomsbury Press, 
2020-2021. 
 
5. Associate Editor, Social Problems, 1981-1991. 
 
6. Corresponding Editor, CTheory.net, formerly the Canadian Journal of Political 
and Social Theory, 1989-2017. 
 
7. Editorial Board, University of Toronto Press, Digital Futures Series, 2002-
present. 
 
8. Co-editor, special issue of Critical Sociology on ³Culture, Power and History,´ 
Vol. 30, issue 2 (May 2004). 
 
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International Association for Philosophy and Literature

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Letters in Excess. 25 minute tape. (Boston: Parasite Cafe Productions, 1987). 
 
Death of an Author. (Boston: Parasite Cafe Productions, 25 minute tape, 1987). 
 
Love Is Not Work Death,with Jackie Orr. 25 minute tape. (Boston: Parasite Cafe 
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Terror of the Simulacra. 45 minute tape. (Boston: Parasite Cafe Productions, 
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Empires of the Senseless. 45 minute tape. (Boston: Parsiste Cafe Productions, 
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Gulf War Remix, with Jeremy Grainger. 40 minute tape. (Boston: Parasite Cafe 
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³Violent Crimes and Punishment.´ Presented at the 1977 Meetings of the 
Massachusetts Sociological Association,´ Wellesley, Massachusetts, November 5, 
1977. 
³From Whom Will We Be Protected: Comparative approaches to the assessment 
of dangerousness.´ Presented at the International Symposium on Selected 
Criminological Topics, Stockholm, Sweden, August 11, 1978. 
³Trends in the Cross-Cultural Study of Deviance and Social Control.´ Presented 
at the American Sociological Association Meeting, San Francisco, September 8, 
1978. 
³Ethical Issues in the Instruction of a Critical Criminology.´ Presented at the 
1980 meeting of the North Central Sociological Association, May 1, 1980. 
³New Wave Criminology,´ with Ron Kramer. Presented at the 1980 meeting of 
the North Central Sociological Association, May 1, 1980. 
³A Critical Perspective on Deviance and Social Control: toward a power-reflexive 
understanding.´ Presented at 1983 Meeting of Midwest Sociological Society, 
Kansas City, Missouri, April 14, 1983. 
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meetings of American Society of Criminology,´ Philadelphia, PA, Nov. 12, 1984.

"Embodying Theory: Power, Knowledge and Practice." Presented at 1991 
Meetings of Society for the Study of Social Problems, August 21, 1991. 
 
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Presented at 1991 Meetings of American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, 
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"Venus in Video: Symbolic Interaction in an Age of Cyborg Power," mixed 
media text with video, slides and sound. Presented at 1992 Meeting of of the 
Western Social Science Association, Denver, Colorado, April 24, 1992. 
 
"Twilight of the Parasites: Ultramodern Capital and the New World Order." 
Presidential Address to 1992 Meetings of the Society for the Study of Social 
Problems, Pittsburgh, PA, August 19, 1992. 
 
"Sociology, the University, and Sexual Harrassment." Presented at Conference of 
Sociologists Against Sexual Harrassment, Pittsburgh, PA, August 20, 1992. 
 
"Kermit the Frog on Hillary's Shoulder: Global Social Problems and the Cultural 
Politics of the Clinton Administration." Plenary Session at 1993 Meetings of the 
Society for the Study of Social Problems, Miami Beach, Florida, August 11, 
1993. 
 
"Symbolic Interaction, Mas(s)ochistic Capital and Cybernetics," mixed media text 
with video, slides and sound. Presented at 1994 Meetings of the Western Social 
Science Association, Albuquerque, New Mexico, May 20, 1994. 
 
"Theses on the Cyberotics of History: Venus in Microsoft, Remix," mixed media 
text with video, slides and sound. Presented at "Virtual Futures Conference", 
sponsored by Department of Philosophy, University of Warwick, Coventry, 
United Kingdom, May 6, 1994. 
 
"Juveniles in the Court: True Crises, False Memories, and Coalitions for Change." 
Presented at "Children in the Courts Workshop," 1994 Meetings of the Society for 
the Study of Social Problems, Los Angeles, August, 3, 1994. 
 
"Sacrificial Doublings and the Gift of Excess: Durkheim, Mauss, Bataille and the 
"Origins" os Poststructuralist Thought." Presented at 1994 Meetings of Society 
for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, Seattle, Washington, September 
29, 1994. 
 
"The Challenge of a Postmodern Criminology: Theory, Methods, Politics." 
Presented at 1994 Meetings of the American Society of Criminology, Miami, 
Florida, November 9, 1994.

"Sociology and Cybernetic Culture," mixed media text with video, slides and 
sound. Presented at 1995 Meetings of Western Social Science Association, 
Oakland, California, April 28, 1995. 
"Pale-Faced Venus in Video," mixed media text with video, slides and sound. 
Presented at 1995 Stone Symposium on Symbolic Interaction, Drake University, 
DesMoines, Iowa, May 20, 1995. 
"Cybernetic Capital and the Virtual Cultural Reality," mixed media text with 
video, slides and sound. Presented at "Virtual Futures II Conference," sponsored 
by Department of Philosophy, University of Warwick, Coventry, United 
Kingdom, May 28, 1995. 
"The Challenge of Justice and Democracy in a Context of Postmodern Social 
Power," mixed media text with video, slides and sound. Presented at International 
Conference on Justice and Democracy, Brunel University, London, June 13, 
1995. 
"The Practice of Power-Reflexive Social Theory." Invited presentation to 
Graduate Sociology Program, Queens College, City University of New York, 
February 23, 1996. 
"When the Moon Waxes Writing: Politics, Ethics and Aesthetics in the Work of 
Trin T. Minh-ha," with Alexandra Chaisen and Julie Chang. Presented at 1996 
Meetings of National Association of Woman in Catholic Higher Education, 
Boston College, July 12, 1996.

³The Culture of Social Problems,´ Presented at the Meetings of the Society for 
the Study of Social Problems, Atlanta, Georgia, August 15, 2003. 
 
³War, Writing, Power, Culture.´ Presented at Meetings of the Society for the 
Study of Symbolic Interaction, Atlanta, Georgia, August 16, 2003. 
 
³Energetic Materiality, Social History, Psychic Subjectivity in the Writings of 
Teresa Brennan.´ Presented at Teresa Brennan Memorial Symposium, Stony 
Brook Manhattan, New York City, October 3, 2003. 
 
³The Matter of Matter: Nature, Technology and Social Ethics.´ Presented at 
Terra-i-sing: Sociology and Globalization Conference, Buffalo State College, 
Buffalo, New York, April 24, 2004. 
 
³Reading History After Lacan.´ Presented at conference, A Surplus of living 
Attention: Celebrating the Life and idea of Teresa Brennan, Harvard University, 
Cambridge Massachusetts, May 1, 2004. 
 
³Introduction to Presidential Address by Kathleen Ferraro.´ Presented at the 
Meetings of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, San Francisco, August 
14, 2004. 
 
³Preemptive War, Preemptive Culture,´ a mixed media performance with text, 
video and slides. Presented at Meetings of the Society for the Study of Social 
Problems, San Francisco, August 15, 2004. 
 
³Data Banked Bodies: Global Technologies of Power,´ a mixed media 
performance with text, video and slides. Presented for Life in the Wires Lecture 
Series, Pacific Centre for Technology and Culture, University of Victoria, British 
Columbia, October 22, 2004. 
 
³Terrorism and Ultramodern Power.´ Presented at the Meetings of the American 
Sociological Association, Philadelphia, August 13, 2005. 
 
³Public Sociology in an Era of Reality TV and Global Corporate Warfare.´ 
Presented at the Meetings of the American Sociological Association, 
Philadelphia, August 15, 2005. 
 
³Feedback, Fear and Fascination: Cybernetic Social Control and Global Capitalist 
Power,´ Plenary Address to the Research Committee on Deviance and Social 
Control, World Congress of Sociology, Durban, South Africa, July 28, 2006. 
 
³Left Behind: Religion, Technology and Flight from the Flesh.´ Presented at 
Conference on Technology, Religion and Terrorism, Pacific Centre for 
Technology and Culture, University of Victoria, British Columbia, October 19, 
2006.

"The Sociological Imagination in an Era of Global Cybernetic Power," invited 
Keynote Address to 2009 Annual Conference of the New England Sociological 
Association, Springfield, Massachusetts, April 11, 2009. 
"Digital Magic, Cybernetic Sorcery: On the Politics of Fascination and Fear," 
March 12, 2010, Critical; Digital Studies Workshop, II, Pacific Centre for

Session Organizer and Chair, ³Postmodernity and Criminology,´ 1998 Meetings 
of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, August 21, 1998. 
Discussant, Session on ³Society and Culture,´ 1998 Meetings of the American 
Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA, August 25, 1998. 
Discussant, Session on "Feminism after Hegel," Eastern Sociological Association, 
Boston, MA, March 6, 1999. 
Panelist, Session on "The Future of Critical Sociology," Society for the Study of 
Social Problems, August 7, 1999. 
Discussant, Session on "Life History Writing: Investigating the Space Between 
Fact and Fiction." Meetings of American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, 
November 18, 2000. 
Moderator, ³Teresa Brennan Memorial Session,´ Meetings of Society for the 
Study of Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, Boston, November 8, 2003. 
Session Organizer/ Moderator, ³Terrorism and the Culture of Silence.´ Meetings 
of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, San Francisco, August 15, 2004. 
Session Organizer/ Moderator, ³Uses and Abuses of Sociology,´Meetings of the 
Society for the Study of Social Problems, San Francisco, August 16, 2004. 
Session Organizer/ Moderator, ³Resisting the Culture of War,´Meetings of the 
Society for the Study of Social Problems, San Francisco, August 16, 2004. 
Presider and Discussant, Session on "Social Movements and Problem Framing," 
Annual Meetings of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, San Francisco, 
August 7, 2009. 
Presider and Discussant, Session on "Civil Society and Political Discourse," 
Annual Meetings of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, San Francisco, 
August 9, 2009. 
Presider, Session on "The Political Power of the Inhuman: On the Psychoanalytic 
Critique of Humanism," International Psychoanalytic Conference on 
"Psychoanalysis, Tragedy, Politics," Boston College, October 28, 2009. 
Panelist, ³Scholarship and Activism: Honoring Severyn Bruyn,´ Annual Meetings 
of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, Las Vegas, Nevada, August 20, 
2011. 
Session Organizer and Presider, Session on ³Popular Culture,´ at Annual 
Meetings of the American Sociological Association, Denver, Colorado, August 
20, 2012.

³Labeling Criminals.´ Presented at the Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy 
(Law and Deviance Lecture Series), State University of New York at Buffalo, 
November 13, 1980. 
 
³A Question of Dangerousness.´ Presented at the Centre for Criminology, 
University of Toronto, March 6, 1981. 
 
³An Interview with Stephen Pfohl, Chair of the Massachusetts Governor¶s 
Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee,´ taped for half-hour public service radio 
broadcast, Steve Dagastino, interviewer, WFTQ, Worcester, MA, August 27, 
1981. 
 
³Death, Difference and Desire: the Sociology of George Bataille.´ University 
Lecture Series, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, March 27, 1986. 
 
³Sociological Fictions: Issues in a Poststructuralist Epistemology for the Social 
Sciences.´ Presented at the School of Justice Studies, Arizona State University, 
Tempe, Arizona, April 25, 1986. 
 
³Prime-time Piracy,´ mixed media text with video and slide projections. 
Presented at Prime-time Panic Conference at Boston College, April 16, 1988. 
 
³Sociology and Social Criticism.´ Presented to 1988 Assembly of AKD 
Sociology Honors Society, University of Southern Maine, Portland, Maine, April 
13, 1988. 
 
³Death of an Author: Positivism, Pornography and Photo-Realism,´ mixed media 
text with video, slides and sound. Presented at WZBC Cafe, Boston College, 
February 11, 1988. 
 
³Death at the Parasite Cafe: Sociology and the Postmodern,´ mixed media text 
with video, slide, sound. Presented for University Lecture Series, Central 
Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, MI., March 21, 1989. 
 
³Drugs, Politics and American Culture.´ a radio-theater presentation, with A. 
Herman, J. Orr, M. Driscoll, C. Favretta, J. Mendoza, S. Kulick and J. Granger. 
WZBC, Newton, MA, Sept. 6, 1989, 8:00-10:00 p.m. 
 
"Counter-Situations and Texts,´ a 76-unit Visual Document on display at Institute 
for Contemporary Art, Boston. October 20, 1989-January 7, 1990. Produced in 
collaboration with Sit-com International for ICA show, On the Passage of a Few 
People Through a Rather Brief Moment in Time: The Situational International, 
1957-

"Venus in Microsoft," mixed media text with video, slides and sound. Invited 
presentation to Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis, University of 
Amsterdam, December 4, 1996. 
"Memories of Overdevelopment: Cybernetics and Ultramodern Capital,´ mixed 
media text with video, slides and sound. Invited presentation at Hampshire 
College, Social Science Lecture Series, November 19, 1997. 
³The Methods of Social Theory: Power and Practice,´ invited lecture presented to 
Department of Sociology, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, 
Tennessee, April 8, 1998. 
"Memories of Overdevelopment: Cybernetics and Ultramodern Capital,´ mixed 
media text with video, slides and sound. Middle Tennessee State University, 
Murfreesboro, Tennessee, April 9, 1998. 
"Memories of Overdevelopment: Cybernetic Social Control and Ultramodern 
Power," a mixed media text with video, slides, and sound. Sponsored by School 
of Justice Studies and Department of Women's Studies, Arizona State University, 
Tempe, AZ, November 5, 1999. 
"Memories of Overdevelopment: Cybernetic Social Control and Ultramodern 
Power," a mixed media text with video, slides, and sound. Sponsored by Global 
Justice Project, Boston College, November 17, 1999. 
³Data Banked Bodies: Global Technologies of Power,´ mixed media lecture with 
text, videos and slides. Presented at Pacific Centre for Technology and Culture, 
University of Victoria, British Columbia, October 22, 2004. 
³New Information Technologies and Cybernetic Social Control,´ 2005 Kercher 
Symposium Lecture, Western Michigan University, February 7, 2005. 
³Feedback, Fear and Fascination: Cybernetic Social Control and Global Capitalist 
Power,´ Sociology Department Seminar "ᄦˤფ鍠ocial Control,´ⴹ㤮PowereeFe,20( )-9(a)4([( )] TJ
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College

"Teaching Critical Social Science: Cultivating Social Justice," invited lecture for 
Seminar for Catholic Educational Leaders, Boston College School of Theology 
and Ministry, October 29, 2009. 
"Digital Magic, Cybernetic Sorcery: On the Politics of Fascination and Fear," 
presentation to Sociology Department Seminar Series, Boston College, November 
10, 2009.

7. Social Science Judge, Green Academy Exposition, Boston Public Schools, 
Roxbury Massachusetts, 2017, 2018, 2021, 2022, 2023. 
 
University/Department Service Experiences 
 
1. Member, Special Graduate Programs Committee, Co-Developer of Graduate 
Field Research Sequence, Department of Sociology, Boston College, 1977-79. 
 
2. Departmental American Studies Representative, Boston College, 1978-79, 
1980-81. 
 
3. Faculty Participant, Andover Teaching Weekend-Seminar, Boston College, 
November, 1978. 
 
4. Faculty Participant, Inter-cultural Awareness Forum, Boston College, 
September, 1980. 
 
5. Co-Developer of Graduate Sequence in Crime, Social Justice and Social 
Control, Department of Sociology, Boston College, 1980-84. 
 
6. Member, Departmental Ph.D. Examining Committee, Department of 
Sociology, Boston College, 1979, 1981-86, 1989-90, 1991-92, 1993-1994, (Chair) 
1995-1996. 
 
7. Member, Boston College Affirmative Action Committee, Chair, Gender 
Relations Task Force, 1983-1985. 
 
8. Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Sociology, Boston College, 1986-
87. 
 
9. Member, Graduate Studies Committee, 1989-91; 1997-98; 2005-08, 2010-
2011: Undergraduate Studies Committee, 1994-1996; 2009-2010.

16. Member, Boston College Faculty for Justice, 2015-2024. 
Professional Service 
1. Co-Chair, Program Committee, 1982 Meetings of the Society for the Study of 
Social Problems, San Francisco. 
2. Chair, Psychiatric Sociology Division, the Society for the Study of Social 
Problems, 1983-85. 
3. Member, Board of Directors, the Society for the Social Problems, 1986-1992. 
4. President, Society for the Study of Social Problems, 1991-92. 
5. Editorial and Publications Committee, Society for the Study of Social 
Problems, 1999-2002. 
6. Co-Chair, Program Committee, Society for the Study of Social Problems, 
2003-2004. 
7. External Reviewer, Sociology Department, Loyola University, Chicago, 
Spring Semester 2003. 8. Chair, Lee Founders Award Committee, Society for the Study of Social 
Problems, 2009-2010. 9. External Reviewer, for Naomi Joy Stekelenburg, With Caution and Curiosity: 
Reading Disgust and the Psychophysiological Body in the Libertine Fiction of the 
Marquis de Sade, Ph.D. Dissertation, University of South Coast, June 1015. 
10. External Reviewer for Sociology Department review, University Auckland, 
New Zealand, November 4-6, 2015. 
11. Chair, Lee Founders Award Committee, Society for the Study of Social 
Problems, 2022-2023.