

2005 No Limits Speakers

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Speakers for the University of Nebraska Women's Studies No Limits 2005

March 4 and 5, 2005

University of Nebraska at Kearney

Expert Witness Work on Battering and Its Effects as Feminist Activism

Ann Goetting

Professor Department of Sociology

Western Kentucky University

As a feminist sociology professor and a researcher with specializations in family studies and criminology in general and domestic abuse specifically, expert witness work on behalf of battered women has evolved naturally from my research, teaching and community work related to families, crime, and domestic abuse. Dr. Goetting was able to read, teach, and research about domestic abuse - the politically motivated terrorism of women and children held hostage by batterers in our patriarchal social order - for only so long before she was compelled to act. She considered her expert witness work on battering and its effects as a form of feminist activism that follows naturally from the expertise she has gained as a researcher, teacher, and author of domestic violence. It is creative applied feminist sociology. As an introduction to this presentation she will discuss and analyze the personal and professional antecedents with her passions and skills for this expert witness work. Partly it is a productive outlet for the rage and sense of injustice she carries with her from her own victimization of child abuse and, later, sexual harassment, she is hoping that professional women in the audience will relate to these experiences and see this expert witness work as a potential outlet for them.

Ann Goetting is a Professor of Sociology at Western Kentucky University. Her publications in scholarly journals span a wide range of topics within the areas of family and criminology. She is coeditor (with Sarah Fenstermaker) of *Individual Voices, Collective Visions: Fifty Years of Women in Sociology* (Temple University Press, 1995) and author of *Homicide in Families and Other Special Populations* (Springer, 1995) and *Getting Out: Life Stories of Women Who Left Abusive Men* (Columbia University Press, 1999). She is a feminist activist, focusing primarily on expert witnessing for battered women who kill their abusers and also on animal rescue.



Understanding Intersections: Race, Class, Gender and the Sex Question

Dr. Margaret Andersen

Professor Department of Sociology and Women's Studies

University of Delaware

Dr. Margaret Andersen will give a talk called "Understanding Intersections: Race, Class, Gender and the Sex Question" UNK has been awarded \$750.00 to cover airfare and ground transportation from the SWS [Distinguished Feminist Lecturer](#). The Feminist Lectureship was established to provide a forum for feminist scholarship on college campuses that are rural, isolated or not located in or near major metropolitan centers; and each year, the prominent feminist sociologist who is selected delivers a lecture to two such campuses.



Dr. Andersen, who joined the University of Delaware Department of Sociology in 1974, currently holds a joint appointment as a professor of sociology and women's studies. In 1980, she received a UD excellence-in-teaching award. Andersen's areas of specialization include the sociology of sex and gender/ women's studies, race and ethnic relations and sociological theory. She is the author of four books: *Thinking about Women: Sociological Perspectives on Sex and Gender*; *Race, Class and Gender: An Anthology*, coedited with Patricia Hill Collins; *Social Problems*, coauthored with Frank Scarpitti and Laura O'Toole; and the forthcoming *Sociology: Understanding a Diverse Society*, coauthored with Howard F. Taylor. In addition, she has published more than 20 articles in scholarly journals. Recently elected president of the Eastern Sociological Society, Andersen has held several posts in that organization and was recognized with its I. Peter Gellman Award in 1988. She recently served on the council of the American Sociological Association and also is a member of Sociologists for Women in Society, the Society for the Study of Social Problems and the Association of Black Sociologists. Andersen recently completed a five-year term as editor of *Gender & Society* and currently serves on the editorial boards of *Race and Society* and *Women's Review of Books*.

Updated by Diane Kholos Wysocki 11/05