

Steve Derné

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Ph.D. 1988, Sociology, University of California, Berkeley
M.A. 1984, Sociology, University of California, Berkeley
B.A. 1982 (Phi Beta Kappa), Political Science, University of California, Berkeley

Books:

Sociology of Well-Being: Lessons from India. New Delhi: Sage, 2017

Globalization on the Ground: Media and the Transformation of Culture, Class, and Gender in India. New Delhi: Sage, 2008.

Movies, Masculinity, and Modernity: An Ethnography of Men's Filmgoing in India. Westport CT: Greenwood Press, 2000.

Culture in Action: Family Life, Emotion, and Male Dominance in Banaras, India. Albany: SUNY Press, 1995.

Current Projects:

Eat, Walk, Love, See: A Tantric's Approach to Technology. This book contends that what we think of as technology has intensified persistent values in American culture (such as control, calculation, materialism, generality, always-on-ness, elsewhere-ness, velocity, and directedness) and explores Tantra and meditation as alternative technologies that bolster different values (wildness, meandering, enchantment, particularity, spiritualness, slowness, ambiguity, presence and discovery). This book contends that dynamics of online culture push against wonder that enriches life, and that Tantra has a theory of *adbhuta* – wonder – as a primary emotion.

Sociology of Surprise, Wonder, and Enchantment: Lessons from India. Since Weber, sociologists have been concerned with *disenchantment*. Rather than understanding wonder by assuming its *absence*, this study seeks to build a positive understanding of wonder based on interviews with Indians about their experiences with enchantment, wonder and surprise.

Future Project:

Sociology of Wander: Lessons from India. Jeff Ferrell seeks to identify insights of those cast adrift in the modern economy. Yet Ferrell uses his own analysis, more than insights of those who wander, perhaps because he focuses more on those forced into drift than those who choose to drift. This study seeks to identify the insights of those who choose to drift. I would analyze accounts of sadhus (religious itinerants), Indians on pilgrimage, and Indians who renounce household duties for a life of wander in old age. I would also analyze interview questions about the lessons of journeying or wandering that I asked as part of the well-being study in 2007 and 2011 and of wandering as an entertainment that I asked in interviews about family life that I conducted in 1986-1987. I would explore experiences of travelers to India using documentary evidence and wanderers at local hilltops and abandoned buildings in Western New York based on ethnography

Articles and Book Chapters:

“Meditative Inquiry as Alternative Technology.” Forthcoming in *The Transformative Potential of Meditative Inquiry: Perspectives and Practices for a Holistic Way of Teaching, Learning, and Living* (ed. Ashwani Kumar). Routledge.

“Sociology of Wonder: An Empirical Study.” (This study is based on interviews with 30 Americans.) Under submission.

“Defining *Khushhali*: Well-Being in Interaction.” *Economic and Political Weekly*, 20 February 2016, vol. 51, no. 8.

“Transformations of Culture, Class, and Gender in India since Economic Liberalization.” Pp. 11-24 in *Contentious Connections: Social Imagination in Globalizing South Asia*. (Eds. Sirpa Tenhunen and Klaus Karttunen.) Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Press, 2014.

“Shiva Lives in Rochester: A Jogging Professor of Sociology Experiences the Power of Shiva atop Pinnacle Hill in New York.” *Economic and Political Weekly* (Mumbai), 16 November 2013 vol. xlvi, nos. 45 and 46, pp. 84-85

“Structural Changes Rather than the Influence of Media: 20 Years of Economic Liberalization in India” (with Narendra Sethi and Meenu Sharma). Pp. 143-165 in *Consumer Culture, Modernity and Identity* (Nita Mathur, ed.) New Delhi: Sage, 2013. [Marathi translation in preparation].

"Well-Being: Lessons from India." Pp. 127-146 in *Pursuits of Happiness: Well-Being in Anthropological Perspective* (Eds. Gordon Mathews and Carolina Izquierdo). Oxford: Berghahn Books, 2009.

“Secular Ritual as Rite of Passage: Movie-going in India.” Pp. 59-68 in *Growing up in a Globalized World: An International Reader* (ed. Vinod Chandra.) New Delhi: Macmillan, 2009.

Articles and Book Chapters (continued):

"Globalizing Gender Culture: Transnational Cultural Flows and the Intensification of Male Dominance in India." Pp. 121-137 in *Gender and Globalization in Asia and the Pacific: Method, Practice Theory* (eds. Kathy E. Ferguson and Monique Mironesco.) Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2008.

"Male Hindi Filmgoers' Gaze: An Ethnographic Interpretation" (With Lisa Jadwin). Pp. 46-62 in *Urban Women in Contemporary India: A Reader*, ed. Rehana Ghadially, New Delhi: Sage, 2007, pp. 46-62. [Originally appeared in *Contributions to Indian Sociology* 34: 2 (2000), 243-269.]

"Globalization and the Making of a Transnational Middle Class: Implications for Class Analysis" Pp. 177-186 in *Critical Globalization Studies* (eds. William I. Robinson and Richard Applebaum). New York: Routledge, 2005.

"The (Limited) Effect of Cultural Globalization in India: Implications for Culture Theory." *Poetics: Journal of Empirical Research on Culture, The Media and the Arts* 33 (2005) 33-47. (Special issue on "Cultural Sociology at the Crossroads of the Discipline," edited by Lyn Spillman and Mark Jacobs).

"Emotions and Collaborative Learning: A Durkheimian Interpretation of Scheff's Theory of Creativity" (with Lisa Jadwin) *Studies in Symbolic Interaction*, 28 (2005), 311-325.

"Globalization and Masculine Space in India and Fiji." Pp. 86-96 in *Spaces of Masculinity* (eds. Bettina vanHoven and Kathrin Hoerschelmann.) New York: Routledge, 2005.

"Arnold Schwarzenegger, Ally McBeal, and Arranged Marriages: Globalization's Effect on Ordinary People in India." *Contexts* 2:1 (2003), 12-18. [Reprinted in *Globalization: The Transformation of Social Worlds* (eds. D. Stanley Eitzen Maxine Baca Zinn), Wadsworth, 2006, pp. 146-153; excerpted in *Sociology* (ed. Richard T. Schaefer) McGraw Hill, 10th edition, 2007, pp. 205-206]. [Translated by Xavier Molénat as "Cinéma, séries télé et mariages arrangés en Inde" *Magazine Sciences Humaines* no. 170, April 2006, pp. 50-53.]

"Culture, Family Structure and Psyche in Hindu India: The 'Fit' and the 'Inconsistencies.'" Pp. 88-114 in *Childhood, Family and Sociocultural Change in India: Reinterpreting the Inner World* (ed. Dinesh Sharma). Delhi: Oxford UP, 2003. [Originally pub. *International J of Group Tensions* 29:3/4 (Winter 2000), 323-348.]

"Globalization and the Reconstitution of Local Gender Arrangements." *Men and Masculinities* 5: 2 (October 2002), 144-164.

"The Indian Women's Movement and Feminist Theory: An Assessment of MacKinnon's Model." *Man in India* 81: 3/4 (2001), 251-262.

Articles and Book Chapters (continued):

"Men's Sexuality and Women's Subordination in Indian Nationalisms." Pp. 237-258 in *Gender Ironies of Nationalism: Sexing the Nation* (ed. Tamar Mayer). London and New York: Routledge, 2000.

"Handling Ambivalence Toward 'Western' Ways: Transnational Cultural Flows and Men's Identity in India" *Studies in Symbolic Interaction* 22 (1999), 17-45.

"Making Sex Violent: Love As Force in Recent Hindi Films." *Violence Against Women* 5 (May 1999), 548-574.

"Feeling Water: Notes on the Sensory Construction of Time and Space in Banaras." *Man in India* 78:1&2 (1998), 1-7.

"Popular Culture and Emotional Experiences: Rituals of Filmgoing and the Reception of Emotion Culture." Pp. 171-197 in *Social Perspectives on Emotion* (volume 3). (Carolyn Ellis and Michael G. Flaherty, eds.) Greenwich, CT: JAI Press, 1995.

"Market Forces at Work: Religious Themes in Commercial Hindi Films." Pp. 191-216 in *Media and the Transformations of Religions in South Asia* (Lawrence A. Babb and Susan S. Wadley, eds.) Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1995.

"Structural Realities, Persistent Dilemmas, and the Construction of Emotional Paradigms: Love in Three Cultures." Pp. 281-308 in *Social Perspectives on Emotion* (vol. 2). (William Wentworth and John Ryan, eds.) Greenwich, CT: JAI Press, 1994.

"Hindu Men Talk About Controlling Women: Cultural Ideas as a Tool of the Powerful." *Sociological Perspectives*, 37:2 (1994), 203-227.

"Cultural Conceptions of Human Motivation and Their Significance for Culture Theory." Pp. 267-287 in *Sociology of Culture: Emerging Theoretical Perspectives* (Diana Crane, ed.) Cambridge, MA: Blackwell, 1994.

"Arranging Marriages: How Fathers' Concerns Limit Women's Educational Achievements." Pp. 83-101 in *Women, Education, and Family Structure in India*. (Carol Chapnick Mukhopadhyay and Susan Seymour, eds.) Boulder: Westview, 1994.

"Violating the Hindu Norm of Husband-Wife Avoidance." *Journal of Comparative Family Studies*, 25:2 (1994), 249-267.

"Equality and Hierarchy Between Adult Brothers: Culture and Sibling Relations in North Indian Urban Joint Families." Pp. 165-189 in *Siblings in South Asia: Brothers and Sisters in Cultural Context* (Charles Nuckolls, ed.) New York: Guilford, 1993.

"Beyond Institutional and Impulsive Conceptions of Self: Family Structure and the Socially Anchored Real Self." *Ethos* 20:3 (1992), 259-288.

Articles and Book Chapters (continued):

"Commonsense Understandings as Cultural Constraint." *Contributions to Indian Sociology* (n.s.) 26:2 (1992), 195-221.

"Purifying Movements and Syncretic Religious Movements: Religious Changes and the 19th Century Munda and Santal Revolts." *Man in India* 71 (1991), 139-150.

"The Kshatriya View of Caste: A Discussion of Raheja's *Poison in the Gift*." *Contributions to Indian Sociology* (n.s.) 24 (1990), 259-263.

"Images of the Fierce Goddess: Psychoanalysis and Religious Symbols - A Response to Kondos." *Contributions to Indian Sociology* (n.s.) 22 (1988), 89-93.

"Religious Movement as Rite of Passage: An Analysis of the Birsa Movement." *Contributions to Indian Sociology* (n.s.) 19 (1985), 251-268.

Selected Invited Lectures:

"Indians' Conceptions of Well-Being: Universals and Variations" Department of Sociology, Delhi University (India), September 2011.

"Transformations of Culture, Class, and Gender in India since Economic Liberalization." Nordic Conference on South Asia, Helsinki (Finland), May 2010 (Keynote Speaker).

"Well-Being: Lessons from India" "Frontiers in Qualitative Sociology: Berkeley Sociologists in the World," conference honoring Arlie Hochschild at the time of her retirement, University of California, Berkeley, October 2006

"Cultural Globalization and Gender Changes in India." Rockefeller conference on Gender and Globalization in Asia and the Pacific, Honolulu, April 2004; Office of Women's Research, University of Hawaii–Manoa, February 2002.

"Globalization and Changing Cultural Orientations of Nonelites in India." Workshop on the Social and Cultural Meaning of Rapid Economic Growth in South Asia and East Asia, University of Iowa, January 2004.

"Globalization and the Reconstitution of Local Gender Arrangements in India and Fiji." International Cultural Studies Program, University of Hawaii, May 2002; Delhi University (India), March 2001; Gender and Globalization series, Global Affairs Institute, Syracuse University, Spring 2000; Globalization and Gender Conference, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, May 1999.

"Handling Ambivalence Toward 'Western' Ways: Hindi Film and Men's Identity." India International Centre, Delhi (India), March 2001.

"Structural Realities and Emotional Paradigms: Joint-Family Living and Indian Notions of Love," Dept. of Sociology, University of the South Pacific (Fiji), August 1998; Committee on Human Development, University of Chicago, October 1992.

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Languages:

Hindi

Honors:

Gender Equality Award, SUNY-Geneseo Womyn's Action Coalition (student organization), 2007

Chancellor's Award for Scholarly and Creative Activity, 2004.

Stirling Award, 1991. The Society for Psychological Anthropology awarded 1991's Stirling Award for the outstanding unpublished paper in psychological anthropology to my "Beyond Institutional and Impulsive Conceptions of Self."

Phi Beta Kappa, 1982.

Fellowships (selected):

SUNY-Geneseo Summer Fellowship, 2019. "Beyond Disenchantment: Studying Wonder in India" I analyzed references to wonder, enchantment and surprise that appear in the 203 interviews about well-being that I conducted in India in 2007 and 2011. I prepared an initial interview schedule about wonder and enchantment.

SUNY-Geneseo Sabbatical, 2014-2015. I completed *Sociology of Well-Being: Lessons from India*. I designed a study of nonordinary experiences in India and identified Indian religious texts' hypotheses about emotion, including wonder.

Fulbright-Hays Faculty Research Abroad Fellowship, August-December 2011, "Well - Being in India." Conducted 116 interviews about well being in Dehra Dun, India. (Research published as *Sociology of Well-Being: Lessons from India*).

SUNY-Geneseo Sabbatical, "Well-Being in India," Fall 2007. Conducted 87 interviews about well-being in Dehra Dun, India. Participant observation at 8 pilgrimage sites in Uttarakhand, India. (Research published as *Sociology of Well-Being: Lessons from India*).

National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute for College Teachers, 2005. "Southeast Asia: Indigenous Impulses and Outside Influences," directed by Barbara Andaya and Leonard Andaya, East-West Center, Honolulu.

Rockefeller Foundation Humanities Fellowship, "Gender and Globalization in Asia and the Pacific," Office of Women's Research, University of Hawaii, January 2002-May 2002. (Research published as *Globalization on the Ground*).

SUNY-Geneseo Sabbatical, "Cultural Globalization and Gender Culture in India," Spring 2001. Conducted 32 interviews with male filmgoers and did 150 hours of participant observation in theatres, replicating fieldwork and interviews I conducted in Dehra Dun in 1991. (Research published as *Globalization on the Ground*).

Fellowships (selected, continued):

Professional Development Fellowship, 1998. Interviewed Indians in Fiji to consider how they balance their identities as Indian and Fiji Islander, traditional and modern as they watch the films which prompt Indian viewers to celebrate their Indianness. (Research published in article in *Men and Masculinities*).

National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar for College Teachers, 1997. "The Politics of Representation: Ethnography, Literature and Film in the Pacific Islands," directed by Geoffrey M. White and Vilsoni Hereniko, East-West Center.

American Institute of Indian Studies Senior Fellowship, June 1991-August 1991. Conducted fieldwork and in-depth interviews with Hindi filmgoers in Dehra Dun, India. (Research published as *Movies, Masculinity and Modernity*.)

Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship (U.S. Department of Education), October 1986-September 1987. Conducted in-depth interviews about women, marriage, and family with upper-caste Hindu men in Varanasi, North India. (Research published as *Culture in Action*).

Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships (Hindi) (U.S. Department of Education), 1985-1986, summer 1985, 1984-1985.

Teaching Experience:

Professor of Sociology, SUNY Geneseo, 2004-present
Associate Professor of Sociology, SUNY - Geneseo, 1999-2004
Assistant Professor of Sociology, SUNY - Geneseo, 1993-1999
Assistant Prof. of Sociology & Intl. Studies, St. John Fisher College, 1992-1993
Visiting Assistant Prof. of Sociology, Hobart & William Smith Colleges, 1991-1992
Visiting Assistant Prof. of Sociology, Univ. of North Carolina, Charlotte, 1990-1991
Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology, Davidson College, 1989-1990.
Instructor, University of California, Berkeley, 1989; Univ. of California, Davis, 1989

Undergraduate Student Research Mentored:

"Sociology of Wonder and Emotions," two sessions of papers by Chloe Wnuk, "The World is Enchanted and Full of Wonder"; Brooke Reich, "Is There Significance in Wonder?"; Amanda Vick, "Within the Known: Wonder That Comes From Understanding"; Ruben Mercado, "Three Phases of Wonder: Possible Within Your Own Home?"; Meagan Odette, "Wonder in the Eye of the Beholder, Rather than the Event"; Samantha Dorn, "Everlasting Memories: Wonder as a Vivid Experience"; Emily Strayhorn, "Mystic Emotions of Nature and Unity in Antarctica", Samantha Rosenberg, "Religious Celebrations: Emotions Through the Eyes of Another." Geneseo Undergraduate Research Conference, April 2020. Vick, Mercado, Odette, and Dorn also presented their papers at the SUNY-wide Undergraduate Research Conference, Syracuse, April 2020.

Undergraduate Student Research Mentored (continued):

“The Effect of Culture on Parenting Styles: Are There Similarities Between Latinx & Working-Class Parenting Styles?” by Elena Camilo, Geneseo Undergraduate Research Conference, April 2020.

“Emotional Highs, Emotional Achievement and Emotional Healing: Sociological Studies of Emotions in Social Movements, Prison Meditation, Horseback Riding, and Regular Religious Practice,” with papers by Alia Aeid, “Does the Threat of Danger Diminish Emotional Achievement in Social Movements,” Emily Sterns, “Meditation Causes Emotional Healing that Changes Prisoners’ Lives,” Christine Grace, “Mystic Experience: Union with the Grounds of Existence through Horseback Riding,” and Mazzarine Desruisseaux, “Experiencing Lasting Emotional High Through Regular Religious Practice.” Geneseo Undergraduate Research Conference, April 2018

“Sociology of Well-Being and of Emotional Achievement,” a session of papers by Carly Richardson, “Crafting: Can it be Emotional Achievement,” Stephanie Gerspacher, “Work and Well-Being: A Complex Relationship,” Vanessa Calle, “Religion and Its Effects on Well-Being,” and Tristan Hynes, “Interactions and Well-Being.” Geneseo Undergraduate Research Conference, April 2017

“Sociology of Emotions,” a session of papers by Dayner Hackshaw, “State Terror: How Totalitarian States Control the Emotions of Citizens,” Shannon Mahoney, “Meditation in a Group: Emotional Effects,” Emma Gerrol, “The Ability of Group Meditation to Facilitate Emotions,” and Giovanna Donahue, “The Difference in Emotional Effects Elicited by Communal Meditation Compared to Solitary Meditation.” Geneseo Undergraduate Research Conference, April 2017

Felicia Ryan, “Near-Death Experience and the Mystic Path.” SUNY Undergraduate Research Conference, April 2016

“Mystic and Peak Experiences: Sociological Perspectives,” a session of papers by Azaria Davis, “The influence of Genre of Music on Deep Listening and Trancing,” Soukee VanOrden, “The Use of Alcohol as a Trigger for Mystical Experience,” Megan Rasquin, “Home Seva and Guru-Led Siddha: Feelings of Love and Unity,” and Felicia Ryan, “Near-Death Experience and the Mystic Path.” Geneseo Undergraduate Research Conference, April 2016

“Sociological Studies of Well Being,” two sessions of papers by Michael Cooke, “Not What, But Why?: The Importance of Emotions in Understanding Subjective Wellbeing,” Rosemary Martilotta, “Does Consumerism Lead to an Increased Sense of Well-Being?,” Jenny Liu “Well-Being: The Past, The Present and The Future,” Lyn Cruz, “The Multiplicity of the Self: The Cause of Ever-Changing Conceptions of Well-Being,” Alex Hipolito, “Differentiation in Sources of Well Being According to Age,” and Rebecca Storke, “Well Being: A Force Found Only Within Oneself or the Product of Material Forces?” Geneseo Undergraduate Research Conference, April 2013.

Undergraduate Student Research Mentored (continued):

Alex Hipolito, "Differentiation in Sources of Well Being According to Age," Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges Northeast Regional Undergraduate Research Conference, North Adams, MA, October 2013.

"Sociological Studies of Emotion," a session of papers by Megan McPhillips, "Emotional Gifts in Romantic Relationships" and Kawai Jana Wong, "Virtual Solidarity Movement: Women's Reproductive Health Rights Advances Due to the New Age of Multi Media." Geneseo Undergraduate Research Conference, April 2013.

Joel Inbody, "Paul Made This Comment: Sociology of Language and Its Religious Application." Geneseo Undergraduate Research Conference, April 2012.

"Sociological Studies in Religion," a session of papers by Katie Dukarm, "Interactions Between the Religious Sphere and the Sphere of the State," Connor Hughson, "The Disenchantment of the World: Can Religion and the Intellectual Sphere Co-exist?," Kimberly Gallucci, "Disaster in Japan Leads to Formation of Religious Convictions," and Ali Rohan, "Religion: A Source of Disunity." Geneseo Undergraduate Research Conference, April 2012.

"Ritual, Religion, and Spirituality: Studies in Transformative Experiences," a session of papers by Joel Inbody, "Somatic Experiences and the Source of Religious Conviction" and Nora McGlynn, "Rituals of Status Reversal in the Antebellum South: the Effectiveness of Rituals in Societies of Acute Social Division." Geneseo Undergraduate Research Conference, April 2011.

Joel Inbody, "Somatic Experiences and the Source of Religious Conviction." Society for the Anthropology of Religion, Santa Fe, April 2011. [A revised version of Inbody's paper appeared in *Sociology of Religion* 76:3, (2015), 337-355].

"Sociological Studies of Well Being," a session of papers by Brooke Adams, "Team...Work? The Effects of Structured Leisure Time on Well Being"; Karen Sperber, "An Interesting Mix:: The Possibility That Well-Being and a Lack of Well-Being Can Be Experienced Simultaneously"; Rachel Greenberg, "Walk Down Memory Lane: Reflexivity as a Component of Well-Being"; and Patrick Maney, "Well-Being and the Sensory Construction of Happiness." Geneseo Undergraduate Research Conference, April 2010.

"Historical Studies in the Sociology of Emotions," a session of papers by Kaylin Wilson, "Parental Control Systems Between Class Lines: The Aristocratic Class and the Emotional Implications of Parenting Techniques"; Yurino Kawashima, "The Conception of Love among American Female Workers in the Sex Industry"; Emily Olson, "Excessive Conformity in Large Groups: An Analysis of Pride and Shame in the Sociology of Emotions"; and Kaitlen Burns, "Self-Perceived Emotional Deviance in Normative and Non-Normative Role Transitions." Geneseo Undergraduate Research Conference, April 2010

Undergraduate Student Research Mentored (continued):

Patrick Maney, "Well-Being and the Sensory Construction of Happiness," senior thesis, 2010 (Advisor)

"Sociological Studies of Well Being," a session of papers by Sarah Olsson "Balance of Individual Striving and Group Support as a Source of Well Being"; Rachel Goodman, "Social Connections and Control: Implications for Well Being"; Amy Callahan, "Achievement in the Familial Sphere as a Source of Well Being"; Darren Barry, "Lack of Life Satisfaction"; and Alyssa Hermann, "Religiosity's Implications for Purpose and Well Being", Geneseo Undergraduate Research Conference, April 2009.

Morgan Reeser, "How People Respond to Unfamiliar Situations," senior thesis, 2006 (Advisor).

Lorien Lake, "The Way We Were: Images over Time." Paper presented at the Annual Meetings of the American Sociological Association, Anaheim, August 2001 (honors program.)

Tara Blair. "Differences in Sibling Motivation." Paper presented at the Annual meetings of the New York State Sociological Association, Rochester, October 1999.

Jessica Good. "Beyond Close Relationships with Family: An Extension of Scheff's Theory." Paper presented at the Annual meetings of the New York State Sociological Association, Rochester, October 1999.

Roger Norland. "Gender Differences in Emotional Labor, Stamina, and Stances Toward Work." Paper presented at SUNY - Geneseo AKD Student Sociology Conference, February 1999.

Erik Lindemann. "Differential Reception." Paper presented at the Annual Meetings of the Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction, San Francisco, August 1998.

Jamye Coates and Rosemarie King, "An Introspective Look at the Role of Romantic Music in Feminist Media Studies." Paper presented at the Annual Meetings of the Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction, San Francisco, August 1998.

Karen Kerness, "Emotions, Community, and Israeli Identity," Honors Thesis, 1996. (Advisor)