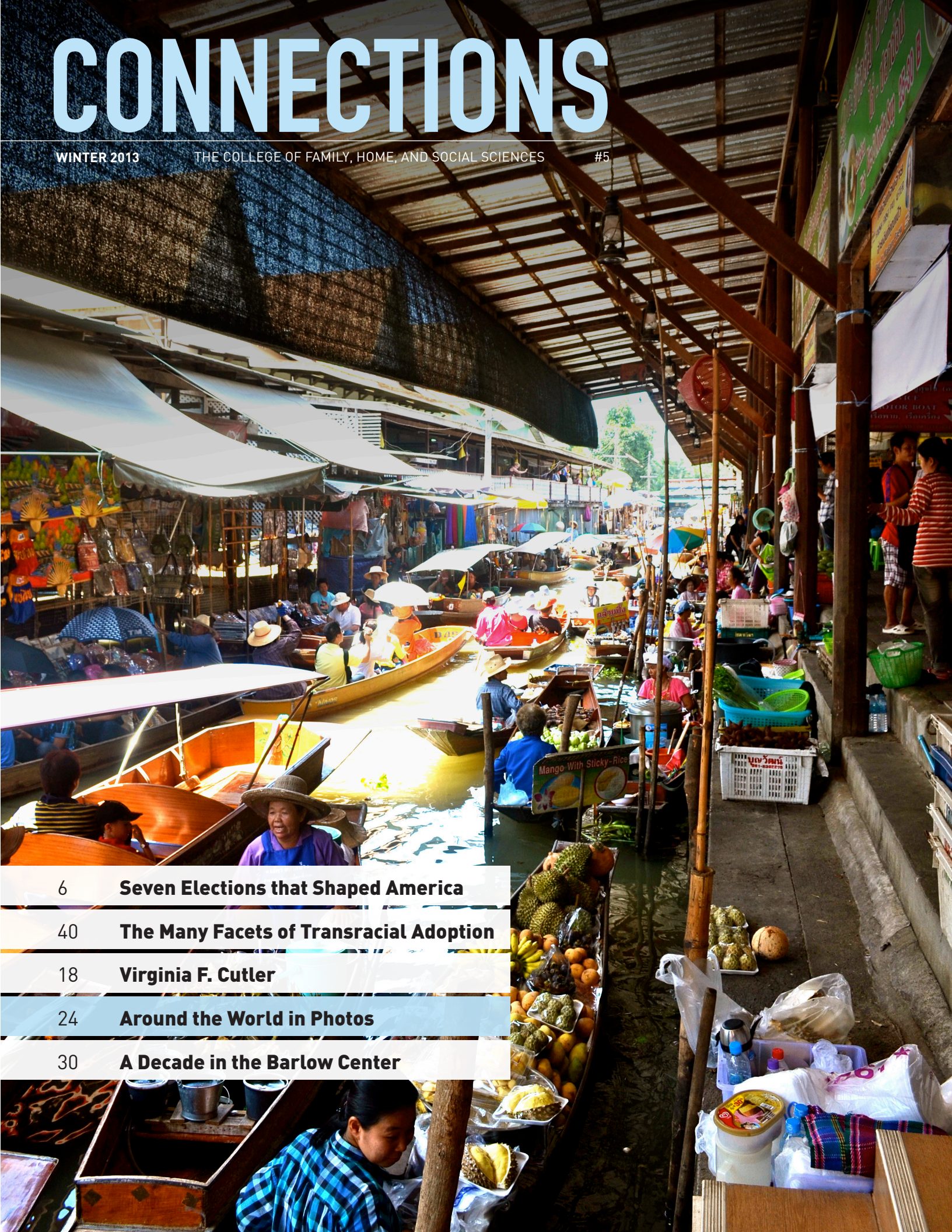
CONNECTIONS

WINTER 2013 THE COLLEGE OF FAMILY, HOME, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES #5



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Dear alumni and friends,

As you begin the New Year, I hope you have time to enjoy this update from the College of Family, Home, and Social Science at Brigham Young University. If you do, you will once again be inspired by the faculty, staff, and students who built the foundation for the current college. For example, see the excellent introduction to Virginia Cutler, former dean of the College of Family Living and the story celebrating the Washington Seminar's 10 years at the Barlow Center. You will also be amazed by the range and depth of scholarship and service that emanates from the college. For example, see the stories about adoption, elections, and family history, along with highlights of several faculty and faculty books. Importantly, you will also see the continuing success of our ever more talented students. We focus all our efforts on helping to create the best learning experience possible for our students and hope that some of the accomplishments highlighted here will give you one brief glimpse into what are literally hundreds of similar stories. As always, we express appreciation for your loyalty and concern for the College and BYU and wish you an excellent New Year.

Best,

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HOW TO:

Family History

A GUIDE

BY KATHERINE BEARD

We've been told by prophets, apostles, bishops, and even our family members to work on and compose our family history—yet it can be a daunting task.

However, it's clear that the benefits of taking this advice far exceed the hassle and hard work associated with genealogical work. Elder Russell M. Nelson has promised that those who do their family history will have greater contentment and satisfaction in their lives.

"When our hearts turn to our ancestors, something changes inside us. We feel part of something greater than ourselves. Our inborn yearnings for family connections are fulfilled when we are linked to our ancestors through sacred ordinances of the temple," he said in an October 2010 Ensign article titled "Prepare for the Blessings of the Temple."

After talking to an assortment of the college's family history experts and reviewing the online family history companion by the college's Center for Family History and Genealogy (CFHG), we've come up with methods and tricks you can follow to do your family history without breaking a sweat.

1. Talk to family members

The best place to start your family history is with your family. Talk to elderly relatives to become familiar with names, dates, and important family events. It's more than likely they will have plenty of knowledge and wisdom to pass on, whether it be about their own lives or previous generations'.

Don't forget to utilize the knowledge of extended family members who may be able to provide useful information. Coordinate which lines have been done and which lines still need work. You can save yourself a lot of time and frustration with a simple phone call or e-mail.

Starting a research log at this point is also important. The CFHG's Family History Companion states, "As individuals begin to collect records and family information, it is important to stay organized. It is easiest to start organizing from the very beginning." Make sure to record every time you ask a family member for information, noting both what was and wasn't found. That way, you avoid asking the same family members for the same documents multiple times.

2. Choose a specific family line to work on

Family history TA Melanie Polski said that when it comes to doing your family history, it's important to determine exactly what you are going to work on. For

"WHEN OUR HEARTS TURN TO OUR ANCESTORS, SOMETHING CHANGES INSIDE US. WE FEEL PART OF SOMETHING GREATER THAN OURSELVES."

example, "If you know that your father hasn't told you anything about if he was baptized or if he was christened…that could be one of the things you want to discover," she said.

3. Search for a record

The CFHG's Family History Companion recommends first checking what has already been compiled against primary source documents, like a birth or death certificate, marriage record, probate record, deed, or census record. Even though compiled records can be helpful, some information can be inaccurate or incomplete.

If no work has been done on the line you're looking for, Polski suggested picking a historical record to hone in on more specific information. There are many types of historical documents to choose from, so it's imperative to pick the record from which you can glean the most relevant information. For example, "If you're looking for a christening record, you wouldn't want to search on the census," Polski said. "The census won't have that kind of information. So being able to know where to look would make a difference."

The actual process of searching for a record normally inspires the most grunts, moans, and frustrated head bangings.

She recommended looking at the FamilySearch website first, where there are plenty of records to browse. If they don't have a record you're looking for, they will direct you to another archival site that can assist you with your search.

Amy Harris, an assistant professor in the History Department, recommended keeping a detailed description of what you find and where you find it. She said that problems arise when you go back to that lineage after some time and can't remember where you left off or where you got the information.

4. When in doubt, explore FamilySearch.org and the BYU Center for Family History and Genealogy's website

Harris said that FamilySearch.org can be your best friend in helping you understand archives and other places to look for historical documents. It can also be a great educational tool for the novice historian.

"On the FamilySearch website there's a whole 'learn' tab, and they've got videos that explain how you actually use original records and how to keep track of your research and anything you could possibly imagine," she said. "FamilySearch.org's learn tab is probably a good place to start because then it will direct you to other places and help you understand how the whole system works."

The BYU Center for Family History and Genealogy also has several tutorials available on their website (familyhistory.byu.edu). The center's Family History Companion is chock-full of information for both those just getting started, as well as for more seasoned researchers. In addition, the center's "Script Tutorials" offer guidance on deciphering manuscripts and other old documents written in English, German, Dutch, Italian, French, Spanish, or Portuguese.

In addition, special projects managed by employees at the CFHG are specifically designed to assist families in learning more about their ancestors. For example, the Immigrant Ancestors Project indexes the emigration records of Europe to assist in identifying ancestors' hometowns and the Merrell Marriage Project indexes two sets of marriage records for the Chester Diocese in England to provide more detailed information about each bride and groom.

One of the center's newest projects, the Nauvoo Community Project, is working to identify the residents of Nauvoo, Illinois from 1839 to 1846 in conjunction with LDS Church Historic Sites. Jill Crandell, the center's director, said, "Wherever possible, each resident will be documented from birth to death in the records of the time. This data is available to all who are interested in the history of the community, as well as descendants seeking information about their families." To search the database, visit Nauvoo.byu.edu. Or if you have material you would like to contribute to the project, contact the center at cfhgoff@byu.edu or (801) 422-1968.

SEVEN ELECTIONS

THAT SHAPED AMERICA

BY: DANIELLE LEAVITT
KATHERINE BEARD
PAIGE MONTGOMERY

January 21, 2013 hailed the second inauguration of President Barack Obama and was the last remnant of another election season gone by. Just as the 2012 election has been singled out as a momentous referendum, America's history reveals a myriad of elections that have molded the nation into what it is today. With insight from several of the college's history, political science, and economics professors, we explore seven of the country's most pivotal elections and how they shaped America.

1789

It was 1789—just thirteen years after the Declaration of Independence set in motion a revolution destined to change the world forever—and early America had some big things to prove. Could a new constitution sit up straight under the weight of being the "highest law in the land?" Could elections run fairly, smoothly, and regularly? Could a democratic leader be elected in such an election? The new America was young and poor, untested and inexperienced, and her first election would either activate or denounce her legitimacy.

The election was held in 1789, just following the ratification of the US Constitution the year before. In comparing this election with elections today, political science associate professor Jeremy Pope described the difference as being like "night and day." He noted, "Elections in the period were so different than they are today. There were really no nominations, and everybody knew who was going to win. So, it was an incredibly boring election by modern media horserace standards." The natural choice was Revolutionary War hero George Washington, who the nation held in such high esteem that there wasn't a name to contend him.

"George Washington was popular in a way that no figures today are popular," said Pope. "He was beloved, and it was a certainty as to who would win the election." Washington won every single electoral vote.

So great was Washington's popularity that along his inaugural tour northward to the capital, every town he passed through held ceremonies in his honor, set off cannons, and called out militia. Throngs of people flooded to the street to catch a glimpse of George Washington. "The most comparable thing at BYU is like when the prophet comes," said Pope. "Let's put it this way: no one will ever be that popular again."

When Washington won, he won by acclamation. Pope noted that Washington wasn't a surprising choice, because everyone knew that the new nation needed Washington and everyone backed him. "Really the only question was who would become vice president," he said.

Though the election events of 1789 were not indicative of any future election—void of conventions, posters, rallies, and suspense—it was a notable election for a couple reasons. First, it set the new country on its course. But the election's deeper significance is that it proved that an election in the new and unproven United States of America could actually happen. "It was important to elect Washington, in part, so that the country could get off to the right start," said Pope. "He would give people—both at home and abroad—the confidence they would need in this new government. I think that's the most important thing: that this precedent be set that they could actually elect a president and create this new nation."

1800

Lest anyone conclude that early American elections were friendly, "kumbaya" political events, let's note that according to Professor Jeremy Pope, just as today, "things could get pretty nasty."

And so it was with the election of 1800, sometimes referred to as the "Revolution of 1800."

Contending against one another were Federalist John Adams, who sat as the current president, and Democratic-Republican Thomas Jefferson, who was the vice president. Despite having contrasting political opinions, they served together in the same administration. This is because the US Constitution, as it then stood, appointed the candidate with a majority of electoral votes president and the runner-up vice president.

However, after bitter campaigning, Vice President Thomas Jefferson defeated President John Adams, marking the first alternation in power since the establishment of the first presidency in 1789. For the first time in the nation's short history, the power shifted from one party to another.

There is significance in the shifting of power, because, according to Pope, in order for a democracy to be healthy and functional, one political party must be able to smoothly relinquish power to the other party. In the election of 1800, the change of party power proved the United States' democratic legitimacy.

Pope used the country of Malawi as an example. A few months ago, Malawi was on the brink of a presidential election. The military did not like the way the election was going, and seized power to assume control. "That's not an uncommon experience in world history, when somebody either comes to power or they fear that somebody else will come to power, and they just decide: 'you know, that whole election thing, I'd rather not have that.'"

Of the election of 1800, Pope noted: "This was the moment that proved that Americans could hold an election and transfer the power between the two political parties—in this case from the Federalists to the Republicans—and everything was basically okay. It demonstrated that it was possible to have peaceful transitions of power."

"THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE ELECTION OF 1860 ARE THE REASONS I MAKE THE CASE THAT IT WAS THE MOST IMPORTANT ELECTION IN AMERICAN HISTORY."

1860

The year 1860 was a volatile time, defined by the contention between the North and South as to whether or not to extend slavery to the new territories, and, if so, under what circumstances. Most Southerners relied on slave labor to maintain the cotton fields, which were the dominant resource of the South, and therefore their primary source of revenue. They could not afford to lose such valuable components to their thriving industry. But the North believed slavery had no business in the "land of the free and home of the brave."

With the debate on slavery in the forefront of the nation's mind, the election of 1860 became the perfect platform for the proposition of a solution. Subsequently, four different candidates arose, offering four different options.

Matt Mason, an associate history professor who specializes in early American history, explained that while "we're used to thinking of presidential elections as a two way presidential contest…these issues surrounding slavery and the territories were so divisive that you had four different platforms that sum up the four different ways of thinking about the future of slavery and the territories."

The Republicans nominated Illinois' senator Abraham Lincoln for his eloquent speeches and his moderate stance on slavery. He proposed a ban on slavery in all of the new territories, while promising not to abolish it in the states.

On the opposite side of the spectrum, the matter of slavery had become so divisive that the Democratic Party split in two. The Southern Democratic Party appointed John C. Breckinridge as their presidential nominee. Most Southerners supported Breckinridge's platform, which was pro-slavery.

The Northern Democratic Party nominated Stephen Douglas. He believed that the people in the new territories should vote on whether or not their state would tolerate slavery—an idea that became known as popular sovereignty.

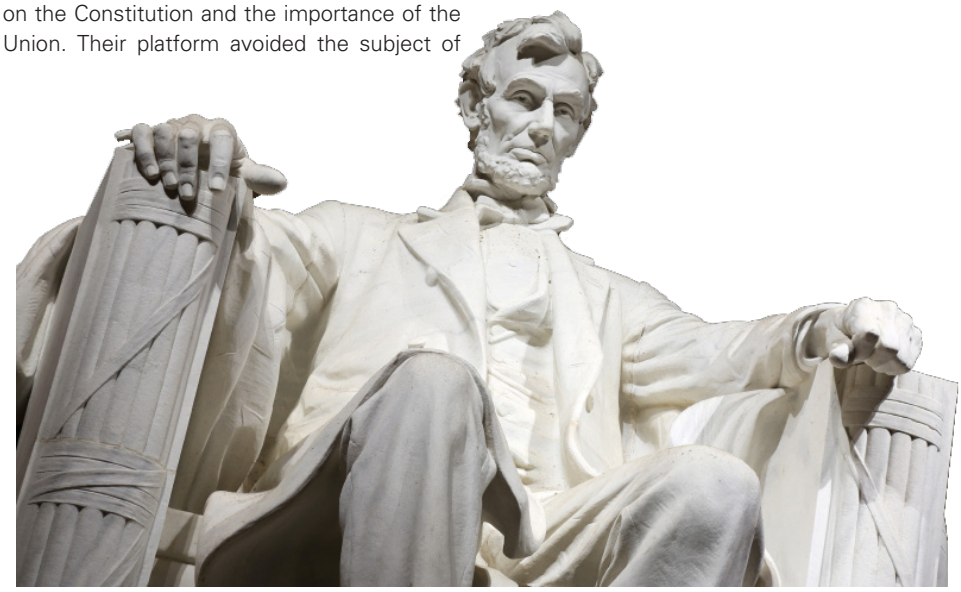
The last presidential nomination was awarded to a man by the name of John Bell. Organized by members of the former Whig Party, the Constitutional Union Party nominated Bell with hopes of securing votes by focusing on the Constitution and the importance of the Union. Their platform avoided the subject of slavery altogether.

The assortment of views added fuel to an already roaring fire of controversy.

After Lincoln won the election, seven states from the South seceded from the Union, leading ultimately to the Civil War.

Mason said that the election of 1860 was one of the most crucial elections in history due to the fact that it triggered the Civil War.

"The consequences of the election of 1860 are the reasons I make the case that it was the most important election in American history," he said. "The Civil War is the central bed of American history because it fundamentally transforms the country."



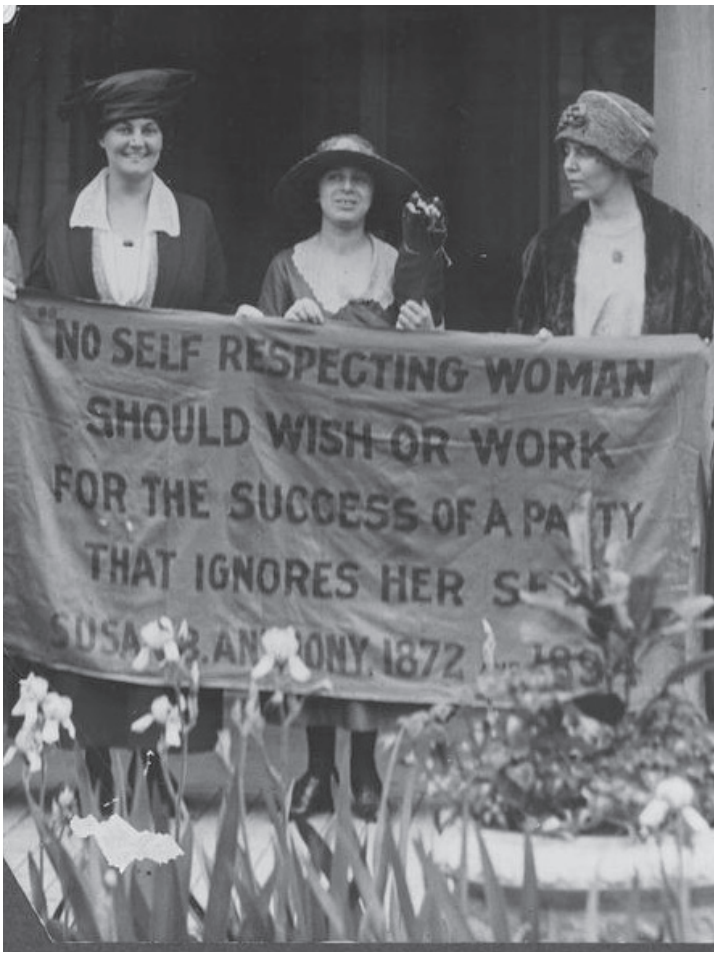
1920

1920 isn't necessarily an election of household conversation. Remember Republican Warren G. Harding and Democrat James M. Cox wrestling for the White House or Harding's landslide win? Not ringing a bell? Let's take another angle. In 1920, it wasn't so much the candidates that would forever change the nation—it was the voters. For the first time in US history, both men and women across the nation marched to the voting booths, ballots in hand, casting a vote that marked a new era of equality.

The fight for women's suffrage—enduring almost seventy years before being realized in the ratification of the nineteenth amendment—was a "really long process," said political science assistant professor Jessica Preece. "And like most big social changes, it takes a long time for the ideas to percolate in society and slowly become acceptable and appropriate."

Assistant history professor Rebecca de Schweinitz noted, "The women's right's movement really emerged in 1848 as an organized movement, and they had a whole list of grievances and issues they were trying to reform—things like women's property rights, rights to their children, the double moral standard, addressing that women were excluded from certain professions. One of the issues was women's suffrage."

Traditional Victorian ideals—which asserted that women stay home while men do the "dirty work" of politics and business—were challenged by the women's rights movement. Suffragists confronted the Victorian argument with the idea that women have special qualities that are different from men and that politics would be better off with female input and influence.



"Rather than drawing on ideas of equality, women suffragists emphasized their claims to true womanhood, which helped make the woman's movement appealing to a wider audience," said de Schweinitz. "They stressed the compatibility of suffrage with femininity, insisting that women would be good 'social housekeepers.' And women, they suggested, because of their high moral values, wouldn't stand for political corruption."

Stressing difference, rather than equality, they put motherhood at the center of their demands for the vote, arguing that women needed the vote to protect their children. They also insisted that women belonged in politics since government was taking over many of the functions once addressed primarily in the private sphere—things like health, education, and sanitation.

According to Preece, suffragists asserted that "politics have gotten so messy. Wouldn't politics be better if women could be involved?"

Preece continued, "You can dispute whether or not it's an accurate idea…but that argument actually held sway, because it resonated culturally with people."

De Schweinitz also argued that suffragists used gender differences to support their argument, making the case for women's political rights in order to make their homes better.

In the wake of World War I, women increasingly emerged into the public sphere inside the war effort as they took jobs once reserved for men. Women left aspects of their "domestic shelter," and, as Preece said, "There was this shattering of the way things always have been. I think that allowed for people to begin to think about the world differently; it was a catalyst for change in thinking."

When the 19th amendment was finally ratified on August 18, 1920, it was after a long, hard, cumulative effort of thousands of women who had been involved in the movement for decades. "Women were slowly becoming more involved in the public sphere, and there was generational turnover, and people just became a little more comfortable with the idea of women being in politics," said Preece. "There was a change in the definition of fairness. Historically, it's meant different things to different generations. There was a cultural shift in attitudes about fairness and seeing all people as entitled to similar rights and privileges."

However, because female turnout in the 1920 election was low—and because women's votes didn't revolutionize American politics—de Schweinitz noted that some assert that women's suffrage didn't really matter. "There are a couple problems with that thinking," she said. "First of all, that's only looking at national politics and commenting on what happens with the outcome of presidential elections, when, for most Americans, local and state politics matter more. When you look at elections that happen on the local and state level, you do see that women's suffrage matters."

In fact, though the inclusion of women in the 1920 election didn't bring about any immediate policy changes, the election's implications are far-reaching. "What we see happening is in the wake of women having the right to vote is that women's issues get addressed by state legislatures and they get funding for those programs," said de Schweinitz. "For example, the age of consent gets lowered, educational reforms get enacted, there are child welfare policies that get passed, and they give funding to those policies. It's pretty striking."

With their vote, women "made good on their claims that they will clean up politics and make it more democratic," said de Schweinitz. "For instance, they make voter registration more accessible and more transparent, and polling places get moved to respectable public spaces like schools, which cuts down on voter intimidation at the polls."

Even beyond policy, Preece said that the most important revolution brought about by women's suffrage was the social symbolism. "Now, men and women can be equal partners in the governance of our nation. I think that that means a lot to both men and women. It teaches that women can be involved in politics, that they're capable of it, that their voice matters."

1932

They called them Hoovervilles—haphazard shanties sagging wearily in the fire-kindling grass and dust. These makeshift communities cropped up from coast to coast as dirt-encrusted tributes to the toll of the Great Depression. The occupants—men, women, and children—were united by a desperate struggle. A struggle, at its most basic level, against failure: failure to put a meal on the table, failure to have a table around which to sit, failure to maintain these and other human dignities. In 1932 these failures were attributed to the man whose name they bore: President Herbert J. Hoover. As Hoover's first term came to a close, a political rival from the Democratic Party shook up his bid for re-election and as a result, dynamically altered the United States' economic landscape.

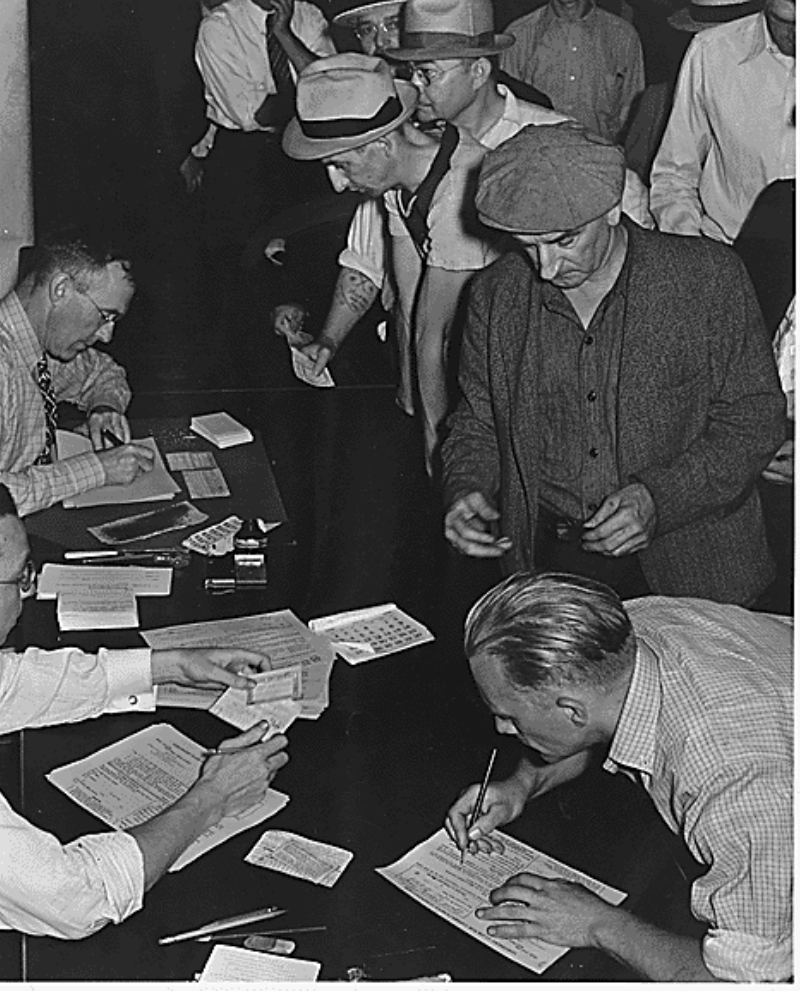
Three years had passed since the infamous stock market crash of 1929, the incident that would mark the beginning of the Great Depression. However, according to assistant economics professor Brigham Frandsen, it was the monetary policy quickly following the crash that entrenched the United States in an economic crisis. "At a time when the markets needed liquidity and funds for lending and borrowing, monetary policy was tight and credit dried up," he said. "Firms were not able to invest and hire new workers which lead to a downward spiral."

This ineffective monetary policy is often attributed to President Hoover's "rugged individualism"—his firmly held ideology that crises could be solved through private aid, and not through aggressive government intervention in the economy. As the impact of the Depression deepened and overwhelmed local efforts, Hoover eventually relented and implemented some government initiatives. But for most Americans, it was too little too late.

In the 1932 election, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the Democratic nominee, provided a stark contrast to Hoover, both in personality and policy. He projected energy and inspired hope through his commitment to a "new deal" for Americans and was swept into office by a landslide vote.

Facing closing banks, failing businesses and mass unemployment, the new president put his promises into action, driving legislation through Congress and introducing massive government spending. According to Frandsen, Roosevelt's approach reflected the leading economic thinking of the time. "People attributed the Depression to an inexplicable reduction in aggregate demand," Frandsen said. "The way to fix a drop in demand is to increase demand, whether through consumers, investors or the government. Because the consumers and investors were no longer able to supply the necessary demand, the government had to make up for it. As far as they understood, it was simple arithmetic."

Although Roosevelt is credited with providing relief for the struggling nation, the debate still continues as to whether the fiscal stimulus effectively ended the economic depression. As assistant economics professor



Joseph McMurray said, "While it may look like the government is spending money and adding money to the system, in reality the government doesn't produce anything, it only takes from something else. It's been compared to trying to fill your swimming pool by bucketing water from one end and dumping it in the other."

In the end, it's difficult to speculate about the effect a different economic approach would have had. "The problem is that with history, we can only see what happened, we can't see what didn't happen," McMurray said. "We saw that the country eventually came out of the recession. Would we have come out faster with more or less stimulus? We can forever argue over that."

According to Frandsen, we will never know because the start of World War II came directly after, which immediately bolstered the United States' GDP.

Regardless of the immediate success of Roosevelt's fiscal stimulus, many pieces of his New Deal legislation effectively addressed Americans' concerns in the 1930s and are still prevalent today. One example is the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) which was founded following widespread runs on banks. "The FDIC, in effect, assured people that whether or not others were withdrawing their money from the banks, their accounts were insured and therefore secure," McMurray said.

Social Security, another result of the New Deal, continues to be on the forefront of political debates today. "The implementation of Social Security actually started in motion the problems today," Frandsen said. "We're faced with gross underfunding which stems from the free windfall the first cohort of beneficiary retirees received at the expense of the workers. "

Hoovervilles have long since sunk into the dust, forgotten skeletons of desperate, dark times. The 1932 election of President Roosevelt ushered in an era of new ideas, new policies, and for many, new reasons to hope. Although it has not been definitively shown that his methods facilitated a full recovery from the Great Depression, they did restore a measure of Americans' trust in the economy and set in place institutions and policies, such as the FDIC and Social Security, which are still present in America today.

"HOOVERVILLES HAVE LONG SINCE SUNK INTO THE DUST, FORGOTTEN SKELETONS OF DESPERATE, DARK TIMES. THE 1932 ELECTION OF PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT USHERED IN AN ERA OF NEW IDEAS, NEW POLICIES, AND FOR MANY, NEW REASONS TO HOPE."

His assassination rattled the nation. On November 22, 1963, a date burned in the minds of many Americans, President John Fitzgerald Kennedy was shot and killed. With one year left in Kennedy's term, Vice President Lyndon Baines Johnson assumed the presidency, taking the reins of the government of a country in distress. Johnson sought the executive office in his own right the following year—a campaign transformed by Kennedy's death. The results of the 1964 election would deeply impact US domestic and foreign policy, as well as, surprisingly, the character of the Republican Party as we know it today.

The Kennedy legacy illuminated Johnson's campaign, lending success to a man who might have otherwise been relegated to the back of the political stage.

According to Andrew Johns, associate professor of history, "Johnson would almost certainly not have been elected president on his own. He became president and won the election in his own right because his political fortunes were linked to Kennedy."

Also in Johnson's favor was the political positioning of his rival, Barry Goldwater, who was much more conservative than the established Republican Party. In the end, Johnson captured 61 percent of the popular vote, winning by the greatest margin since 1824, and delivering a shocking blow to the GOP in the process.

Johnson's presidency was marked by a flurry of legislation known as the Great Society. "He had this expansive vision of what America could be," Johns said. "He wanted to eradicate poverty and hunger. He wanted everyone to be educated and to have time to pursue their interests and goals, to really benefit from the greatness of America."

The Great Society spanned from the Civil Rights Act and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, to bills aiming to improve the environment, create a national endowment for the arts and humanities, fund public education, and establish public broadcasting. Despite his altruistic motives, Johnson did not sufficiently plan for the execution and perpetuation of these programs. "That's why the Great Society comes up short in so many instances," Johns noted.

In the midst of this outpouring of legislation, a dark cloud—the defining struggle of Johnson's presidency—hung over the United States: the Vietnam War.

In 1964, few Americans could articulate the finer points of the war, and Johnson and Goldwater were careful to avoid the subject during the sensitive election period.

"There's no smoking gun on this, but there is enough circumstantial evidence to suggest that Goldwater and Johnson had a meeting in late July or early August of 1964 where they basically agreed that they wouldn't discuss in depth Vietnam or civil rights," Johns said. According to Johns, this agreement allowed both candidates to avoid dealing with potentially problematic issues.

However, after Johnson took the presidency, the fighting, and therefore the troop deployment, quickly escalated—as did the nation's awareness of the war.

In a massive escalation, Johnson increased the troops in Vietnam from sixteen thousand in 1963, to well over one hundred thousand by 1965. In the following years, "you started to have Americans coming home in body bags in larger and larger numbers," Johns said. "The war was on the front page of the newspaper every day; it was on the nightly newscast. When people started seeing pictures of the war in their living rooms, that's what really raised awareness."

Johns attributed the fact that Johnson's popularity waned rapidly to the so-called "credibility gap."

"You have the administration saying, 'Victory is near' and 'The boys will be home by Christmas,' but you see all of these problems, the war extending, the administration requesting more and more troops. The American public got skeptical."

Anti-war demonstrations raged across the country, the Democratic Party split into feuding factions, and ultimately Johnson resigned from a 1968 bid for reelection.

With all of the conflict surrounding the Vietnam War, it is easy to miss one of the most striking results of the 1964 election: the realignment of the Republican Party. Johnson's defeat of Goldwater struck a heavy blow against the GOP. "There were many pundits and many within the party that believed that the GOP had almost ceased to function as a viable political entity in the United States," said Johns.

The results of the election forced the Republican Party to re-define itself, to commit to a set of ideals. Over time, the party made a marked shift to the right, led by a new cohort of younger and more conservative Republicans. By the end of his career, Goldwater, once thought to be an aggressive conservative, fell to the left of his Republican counterparts. This newfound unity led to the rise of Republicanism, which dominated the White House for the next fifty years.

2008

2008 was a significant year for elections. After all, without the 2008 election hype, the American public would be short at least two and a half reality shows (*Sarah Palin's Alaska* on TLC and Bristol Palin's *Life's a Tripp* on Lifetime, not to forget Bristol's stint on 'Dancing with the Stars'). Even disregarding the popular culture that emerged from the election, 2008 proved a turning point that would forever change America.

One of the most obvious and significant historical moments of 2008 was when the first African American was elected to the highest position in the land.

Kelly Patterson, professor of political science, believes the 2008 election held implications and deep meaning for society as a whole, not just for underrepresented groups.

"In some ways, people saw this as the fulfillment of America's promise that literally anybody regardless of race, creed, color, or gender could become president of the United States," Patterson said. "And a lot of people never thought that they would live to see a political system that produced credible candidates from traditionally underrepresented groups."

Patterson discussed the effect this election could have on the future of America, that is, the creation of a more colorblind and tolerant society than had existed in the past.

"The question then becomes: does a black man becoming president in 2008 make it easier for it to happen in subsequent elections? And the answer to that is yes. Voters learn to be comfortable with these nontraditional groups, and children grow up seeing different individuals in the political arena and they become more comfortable with the idea of different types of candidates and candidates from different groups and religions and regions," Patterson said. "It becomes this socialization process that over a span of time makes it much easier to vote for, or support or think it's normal for candidates to have those qualities."

During the 2008 election the title of "first" didn't solely belong to an African American man. Women also shared the spotlight as they put cracks in the traditional societal perspective of their roles in the world. Sarah Palin ran as the first female Republican vice presidential candidate, while Hillary Clinton was arguably the closest to ever becoming the first woman president.

Another essential aspect of the 2008 election was the abundant use of technology. Never before had a political campaign utilized technology in such vast magnitude as in the 2008 campaign cycle.

According to political science professor David Magleby, the Obama campaign was especially proficient in utilizing social media to mobilize citizens to action.

"Technology had been used in 2000 and 2004 to a lesser extent. But in 2008, Obama's campaign, more than any other, found ways to engage citizens in participation that included contributing money to the campaign, but also volunteering and voting," Magleby said. "It was all part of a massive, viral, coordination communication engagement effort."

Social media alone didn't modify the traditional campaign cycle: with the creation of blogs and online news sites, the 2008 presidential campaign was constantly available to the American public.

"Now campaigns are 24-hour conversations among traditional and non-traditional media sources. Blogs published online, magazines published online, people creating their own digital videos from campaign events and posting them online," said Patterson.

The 2008 election ushered in a new era of racial equality, gender equality, and campaigning that is projected to effect generations of Americans to come. This election introduced a newer, faster way of thinking and mobilizing information, especially regarding campaigning, in such a way that cultivated democracy at its roots, making it easier for different citizens to participate in this republic of freedom and equality.

6 Utahns inducted into hall of fame for lifetime works
By Mary Finch
Deseret News staff writer
Six prominent Utahns were inducted into the Beehive Hall of Fame Saturday in honor of their lifetime accomplishments.
Attending a luncheon in the Marriott Hotel to accept their awards were William F. Christensen, co-founder of Ballet West; Virginia F. Cutler, former distinguished professor at the University of Utah and state mother of the year; Thomas D. Dee II, Ogden businessman and philanthropist; and Alf Engen, well-known ski competitor and instructor.
John A. Widtsoe
John F. Fitzpatrick
DESERET NEWS, SUNDAY, JANUARY 5,
DESERET NEWS AND TELEGRAM, Salt Lake City, Friday, May 27, 1960
Dr. Cutler's
By DOROTHY O. REA
Deseret News Staff Writer
The effectiveness of a distinguished Provo woman is being felt in homes across the country. She is chairman of a panel of experts, who want to know if the homemaker is getting her dollar's worth when she buys a major appliance.
Dr. Virginia Cutler, chairman of the Major Appliance Consumer Action Panel, is also Utah's Mother of the Year for 1972. She is a member of President Nixon's Consumer Advisory Council, and she is dean and professor emeritus (College of Family Living) Brigham Young University.
"When you plan to buy a major appliance for your home don't be in a hurry. Shop for the appliance that fits your need, your budget and your home.
Lake Visit
Cutler Tells Of
onesian Women
graduates in June from the U. of U. College of Medicine.
Are Dedicated
"The women of Indonesia are very dedicated. Many of those I am working with actually fought in guerrilla bands during the revolution," she explained.
"They are anxious to improve conditions for their sex and also for their people." Dr. Cutler remarked. She said she has to travel to five different islands in order to carry out her assignment, which will continue for one more year.
Visiting with Dr. Cutler in Salt Lake is Prattiwi Suharto, daughter of the personal physician to President Sukarno of Indonesia.
Miss Suharto said she misses the climate in her own country and was "much more comfortable" in Cuba and Mexico while touring with President Sukarno, who left San Francisco last Saturday.
Impressed
Here Are Rules On Bride Stories

DARING TO DREAM: Virginia Cutler

BY: PAIGE MONTGOMERY

The College of Family, Home, and Social Sciences has had many leaders transform it into the college it is today. In honor of these men and women, this is the second in a series that shares some of their legacies.

DARING TO DREAM SETS DR. CUTLER'S LIFE APART

"If I were to write my epitaph, it would be: 'She made a profession of homemaking and teaching. She taught the young and old, friends and strangers, at home and abroad.'"

Hazel S. Parkinson, Salt Lake City Tribune

It was a decision that set her on track to becoming one of the most educated and influential women of her time. In 1922, sixteen-year-old Virginia Cutler attended the University of Utah's "high school day," an event for students interested in continuing their education.

She later noted that she might not have attended the event if it hadn't been for the solemn assurance in her patriarchal blessing that she should have a "goodly education."

Virginia arrived at the University of Utah's Home Economics Department just as preparations were underway for an apron design scholarship contest. From only some muslin and a few scraps of fabric for trim, she created an apron worth four years' tuition. "I finished it and lo and behold I got the first prize," she said. "Can you imagine that? But that's what the blessing said—that the way would be opened up to me."

Virginia attended the University of Utah where she earned the first of several degrees in home economics. Though Virginia is most remembered at Brigham Young University for her role as the dean of the College of Family Living beginning in 1961, a pile of carefully folded news clippings tucked away in her biography tell the story of a leader and a visionary whose impact was felt around the world but whose heart was never far from the home.

DR. CUTLER'S "HOME REMEDIES"

"Dr. Virginia Cutler, chairman of the Major Appliance Consumer Action Panel, is also Utah's Mother of the Year for 1972."

Dorothy O. Rea, Deseret News

Robert Garr Cutler caught Virginia's eye through a mutual youth-related church calling. Their friendship deepened, and on October 26, 1928 they announced

their engagement at a family dinner. That same day they obtained a piece of ground on which to build a home and set out to construct a new world together. "We watched every brick go up there into that house," Virginia recalled. "It was the thrill of my life to watch that house develop."

With a foundation of homemaking skills learned from her mother and a degree in home economics, Virginia had developed many of the practical skills required of a wife and mother. But when she learned that she was pregnant with her first child, she knew she had developed the heart required for it too. "Oh, this is seventh heaven," she said. "This is what I am cut out to do—to be a homemaker." A baby boy, Robert Garr, was born into the Cutler family on April 23, 1930.

Filled with such promise and joy, how could she have foreseen the sharp turn her life was about to take? The change was abrupt and gut-wrenching: her husband developed septicemia, fell into a coma, and died within days, on November 15, 1931. "Everything changed when my husband died," she later wrote. "You're different then. You don't have a partner, you're treated differently."

Her parents and in-laws invited her into their homes, but she was determined to remain independent. She obtained a teaching job, made arrangements for the care of her young son, and began to pay off the mortgage on her house.

Despite her resolve, another unexpected condition impacted her ability to provide: within a month of her husband's death, she learned that she was pregnant with their second child. As was the custom in the 1930s, as soon as her pregnancy became apparent, she was dismissed from her teaching position. Ever industrious, she used her new-found freedom to preserve food and prepare for the birth of her child.

Virginia was not left without the means to provide for long. As she recovered in the hospital following the birth of her second son, Ralph Garr, the superintendent of the Granite School District paid her a visit. "We need somebody who has your qualifications to teach at Plymouth Junior High School," he said. "Would you be willing to accept the position?" She was more than willing.

It was in this position that Virginia met a fellow colleague and Stanford graduate who spoke highly of the rigorous programs offered by the university. Keeping her eyes on the promised blessing of a "goodly education," Virginia determined that she would obtain a master's degree from Stanford with the goal of one day becoming a dean of women—a position she felt would fit well with the demands of her family.

IN THE MARKETPLACE TODAY

"Dr. Cutler has long been interested in consumerism, both from a personal and a professional standpoint. "My husband died two years after we were married, so I became the breadwinner for our family. I had to know how to make the best use of my money."

Carma Wadley, Deseret News

It was the early 1930s and though the nation was in a state of economic upheaval, Virginia was not deterred. She paid off her mortgage, sold her chicken coop, painted her car, and left her job in order to pursue a graduate degree at Stanford University.

With two young children and only $300 to her name, she arrived in Palo Alto, California. She secured a small, unheated apartment she was able to afford through the rent payments she received on her home in Salt Lake City. Funds for her education were not so readily obtained; Stanford's tuition for the year was $325 and scholarships had been distributed months before. She did what she could, signing her name on the bottom of a six-page scholarship alternate list and hoping for the best.

Only two weeks later a serendipitous phone call renewed her prospects. It was the registrar's office. She learned that a scholarship had become available, one that was to be awarded to a student from Utah. Once again, the way was opened.

As a newly admitted Stanford student, Virginia followed her desire to become a dean of women and contacted Anastasia Doyle, the Dean of Women at Stanford. Anastasia not only outlined an academic program for Virginia, but also helped her find a part-time job and a nursery school for her boys.

Virginia thrived in California, furthering her professional achievements and ultimately becoming the president of the California Home Economics Association, even as she obtained her master's degree. By the time she was ready to pursue a doctoral degree in home economics at Cornell University, she was able to move her acquired furnishings and grand piano to a new home in Ithaca, New York.

DR. VIRGINIA CUTLER TELLS OF INDONESIAN WOMEN

"Doctor Cutler, on leave from the Department of Home Economics at the University of Utah, has been working in the education division of the International Cooperative Administration in Indonesia."

Qualified with both a master's and a doctorate degree, Virginia returned to the University of Utah as the head of the Home Economics Department in the fall of 1946. Although some members of the faculty resented her immediate assumption of a leadership position, she focused her energy on creating enriching experiences for students, developing new home economics courses, and establishing new community programs.

In 1951 her efforts were recognized, and she was invited to serve on a national committee focused on the development of international home economics. Through this committee, Virginia was called to one of the greatest adventures of her life: an assignment to Thailand and then Indonesia, in what was to become seven years in Asia.

In Indonesia she faced a perplexing dilemma that tested her persistence and power of persuasion. Working with a college that prepared students to teach clothing construction, Virginia initiated a study to determine how long it took to draft, construct, and use a clothing pattern. "It took 26 hours for just a simple…international style dress," she noted with concern. Thus was inspired her mission to create standard patterns that could be efficiently used by many individuals—a project that, at its completion, would result in the development of two new industries in Indonesia.

Where to begin an undertaking of such magnitude? Virginia started by establishing a committee armed with measuring tapes. Their task: to obtain basic measurements from a thousand Indonesian women living on the five major islands. After two months, the data was collected and averaged, and two styles of patterns in five sizes were developed. But instead of nearing the completion of her project, Virginia was faced by a new problem: a printer could not be found for the patterns, and the type of paper required was not available.

Undeterred, Virginia reached out to the United States, and contacted pattern companies to see if they would take on the project. Amidst a plethora of negative responses, she received one affirmative reply from the president of the McCall Pattern Company, whose wife was associated with the United Nations and had advocated Virginia's cause.

Virginia was invited to New York City to meet with the design team and discuss her vision for the project. Not only did the company accept the project, but McCall's made a contribution which allowed the project to be completed for $2,000—the cost of the paper.

Straightaway, Virginia went to the Washington, DC Indonesian desk to request aid for the payment. But despite her stressing the economic impact the patterns would have in the lives of Indonesian women, her request was turned down. So great was Virginia's commitment to the project that she wrote a personal check for $2,000 to the McCall Pattern Company—one that was later reimbursed by US government officials when the success of her project became evident. The patterns were distributed throughout Indonesia, and a woman and her husband started paper production and design and print businesses to support the project's continued growth.

DR. CUTLER QUITS AS U. HOME ECONOMICS HEAD

"The resignation of Dr. Virginia F. Cutler, professor and head of the department of home economics since 1948, was handed to the University Board of Regents Monday."

Virginia's endeavors in Asia were endorsed by a familiar figure: Ernest L. Wilkinson, then president of Brigham Young University. President Wilkinson was impressed by her vision of the importance of home and family and sought her out, hoping to persuade her to join the BYU faculty. This naturally created some concern with the University of Utah President, who advised Virginia to remain at the U of U.

But President Wilkinson was nothing if not persistent. He maintained communication with Virginia throughout her seven years in Asia and connected her with prominent people in Thailand, opening many doors. Finally, as her work concluded in Indonesia, Virginia accepted a position at BYU as the dean of the

College of Family Living in 1961.

Under Virginia's leadership, a number of ideas were implemented to support students in the College of Family Living. She worked hard to cultivate donors to increase the number of student awards and started a program to have the names of each college graduate inscribed on a plaque and mounted on a wall — an honor that was discontinued when graduates started to exceed wall space.

On a broader scale, she initiated Family Perspective, a journal published by the College of Family Living which was circulated until the late 1990s. Additionally, she founded the College of Family Living Faculty Lecture — later endowed and renamed the Virginia F. Cutler Faculty Lecture — which provides the lecturer both honorarium and funding for a graduate assistant. She also established the annual Family Life Conference which continued into the late 70s. "I love BYU. I will support it. I will help it all my life," Virginia later said.

Ruth Brasher, former associate dean of the College of Family, Home, and Social Sciences and department chair of Home Economics Education, recalled Virginia's legacy at BYU: "She enhanced the college, building on what had been established before her arrival. The firm foundation of the College of Family Living made it possible, when the College of Family, Home and Social Sciences was created, for the college to embody a clear focus on the family."

THREE YEARS IN AFRICA

"No office, no staff, no budget, no friends. That was the problem facing Dr. Virginia Cutler, internationally noted authority in economics . . ."

Carol Perkins, Deseret News

Just five years after assuming the of role of dean at BYU, Virginia found herself on the cusp of another adventure. In 1966 she was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to Ghana with the purpose of establishing a Home Science Department at the University of Ghana. After securing a leave-of-absence, she accepted what she later described as "the most challenging assignment of my entire professional career."

Virginia arrived at the University, only to find that there were no identified facilities for courses, no staff or budget, as well as strong opposition to practical education throughout the university system. "What a struggle it was," she said. "It was very difficult because most of the professors were violently opposed to [a home science department] and they would have liked to have had me booted out just as fast as possible."

Despite these internal setbacks, by the time Virginia left Ghana, a thriving home economics department was in place. She secured a financial base through the extension of an agreement with UNICEF, an arrangement with Canada's University of Guelph, and assistance from Canadian Aid. In addition, she initiated a $10,000 endowment for outstanding graduate students and established a two-year diploma program for government personnel working in agriculture, community development, and health.

One of her most memorable contributions to the university was the Fidua, a Ghanian village-type house built in close proximity to the department. Named for the Akan word meaning "the roots of everything you are come from the beauty of the spirit of the home," the Fidua was a "house of ideas," a place to demonstrate alternate household management methods. But in the end, Virginia viewed the acceptance of home science as an academically respectable program for degree-level work as her most meaningful accomplishment.

6 UTAHNS INDUCTED INTO HALL OF FAME FOR LIFETIME WORKS

"Cutler was acclaimed as a woman of spirit, courage, vision integrity, and deep faith"

Mary Finch, Deseret News

Article after article detail Virginia's vast accomplishments from Ghana to Provo, but Ruth Brasher offered a more personal perspective on this contemporary leader. "She could be serious and firm, but things never became so difficult that she couldn't find a little humor," Brasher said with a smile. "One of her good friends said after Virginia passed away that she hoped someone had a recording of her laugh."

Brasher continued, "She was an individual who became a role model for you. Just think what could be accomplished if everyone had her dedication and vision. Giving back, concern for family, children, and home — she was visionary about family centered issues, surely issues that matter most in time and eternity."

"Giving back" would be a consistent theme throughout Virginia's life. Toward the end of her career, she contributed more than $200,000 to philanthropic trusts from her own earnings. The money was distributed into twenty $10,000 trust funds, 18 of which are located at Stanford, Cornell, Brigham Young University, the University of Utah, Utah State University, and University of Ghana, and each was given in the name of an individual who contributed to Virginia's personal and professional growth. "My second fifty years is being devoted to paying back some of the debts incurred during the first fifty," she explained.

Virginia's patriarchal blessing, obtained so many years before, had outlined the purpose for her goodly education: to become a teacher of young and old, friends and strangers, at home and abroad. Throughout her life she sought to fulfill this calling as she dedicated both her personal and professional life to strengthening the home and family. "What if we pondered the question, 'Do I pay as much attention to my patriarchal blessing as Virginia did?'" Brasher said. "It undergirded her whole life. It became a focus and theme from the day she received it. Do our patriarchal blessings serve us as well?"

Virginia passed away on May 20, 1993 at the age of 88. She is remembered as an educator, a philanthropist, an author, a lecturer, and the loving mother of two sons. Of her, Barbara Merrill, a longtime friend and confidante wrote: "I am constantly reminded of the dear feminine giant who trod the continents of this earth, improving the existence of who knows how many of God's children."

A Connections Special Feature

With the kick-off of 2013, we thought we'd pay tribute to the passing of 2012. FHSS students and faculty traveled to various countries on study abroad programs, internships, and research projects. This feature documents a few of their adventures.

THAILAND ···· SETH MEYER

BELINDA RAMIREZ

FLOATING MARKETS ···· THAILAND

In the summer of 2012, assistant anthropology professor Jacob Hickman took nine students to northern Thailand to conduct field research on a variety of topics, including an investigation of Hmong parenting beliefs and practices and a public health research project. Their research and studies included visiting Hmong villages, sites of former refugee camps, agricultural fields, urban Hmong communities in Chiang Mai, and Bangkok.

HMONG FLOWER FRIENDS ···· VIETNAM

PROF. JACOB HICKMAN

THAILAND

SHOOTING THE BREEZE AT A MARKET ON THE THAI-LAO BORDER

BELINDA RAMIREZ

MEXICO

SELINA MILLER / ABIGAIL WELLS

AROUND THE WORLD IN PHOTOS

LIZ McGUIRE

UGANDA

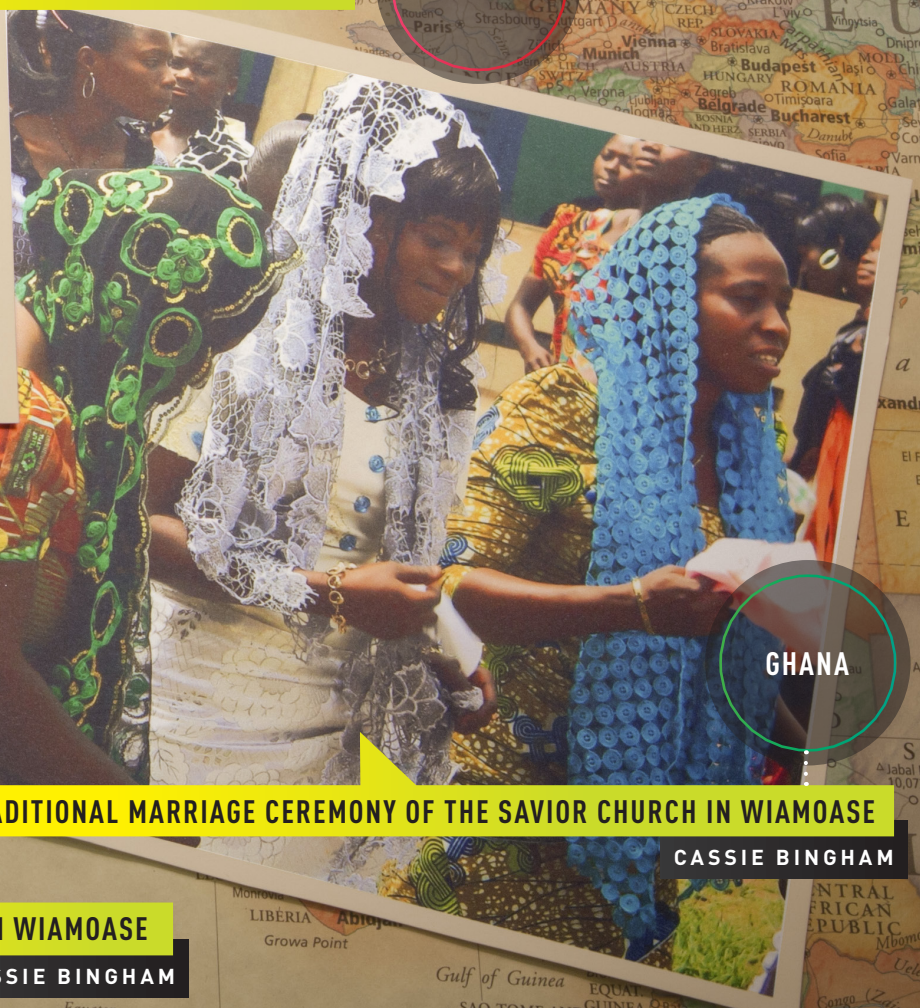
CASSIE BINGHAM

BUYING FABRIC AT THE MARKET IN AGONA

GHANA

INDIA

KYLE NELSON



GHANA

TRADITIONAL MARRIAGE CEREMONY OF THE SAVIOR CHURCH IN WIAMOASE

CASSIE BINGHAM

GHANA

LOCAL SCHOOL CHILDREN IN WIAMOASE

CASSIE BINGHAM

Interns working in a Romanian orphanage explore Transylvania on their day off. Featured is Biserica Neagra, a famous Lutheran cathedral in Braslov.

ROMANIA

KEVIN COLLIER

PROF. DAVID NELSON

ROMANIA

CAMBRIDGE

CARSON BENNETT

UGANDA

LIZ McGUIRE

JENNIFER HURST

ERIK CHAMPENOIS

“As part of my group research project, I interviewed approximately 60 Ugandans, about two-thirds of which were former abductees of the Lord’s Resistance Army. I gained a more direct understanding of the struggles faced by people in northern Uganda, how conflict can affect families and communities, and an appreciation for the resiliency of the human spirit.”

MEXICO

SELINA MILLER


CASSIE BINGHAM
FISHING BOATS AT CAPE COAST
GHANA
Alongside Ivy-league universities such as Harvard and Yale, BYU sends a few of its students to the Pembroke-King's Summer Programme at the University of Cambridge for an intensive study in their field.
CAMBRIDGE
CARSON BENNETT
THAILAND
BELINDA RAMIREZ

LIZ McGUIRE ···· UGANDA

"Being so far away from anything familiar made me realize not how different everything was, but how much sameness there is in the world... the details vary, but at the root, the humanity in each individual shows that we really are connected in fundamental and undeniable ways."

UGANDA ·· AUSTIN BECK

THAILAND ···· PROF. JACOB HICKMAN

DINNER IN THAILAND

UGANDA ···· LIZ McGUIRE

HICKMAN

HMONG AT MARKET

VIETNAM

VIETNAM

OUR GROUP WITH HMONG TOUR GUIDE

DANE ANDERSON

INDIA

GHANA

LOCAL FAMILY IN WIAMOASE

CASSIE BINGHAM

Cassie Bingham completed a field study experience in Wiamoase-Ashanti, a rural village in Ghana, conducting an ethnographic study and qualitative research project that she will use for her senior thesis.

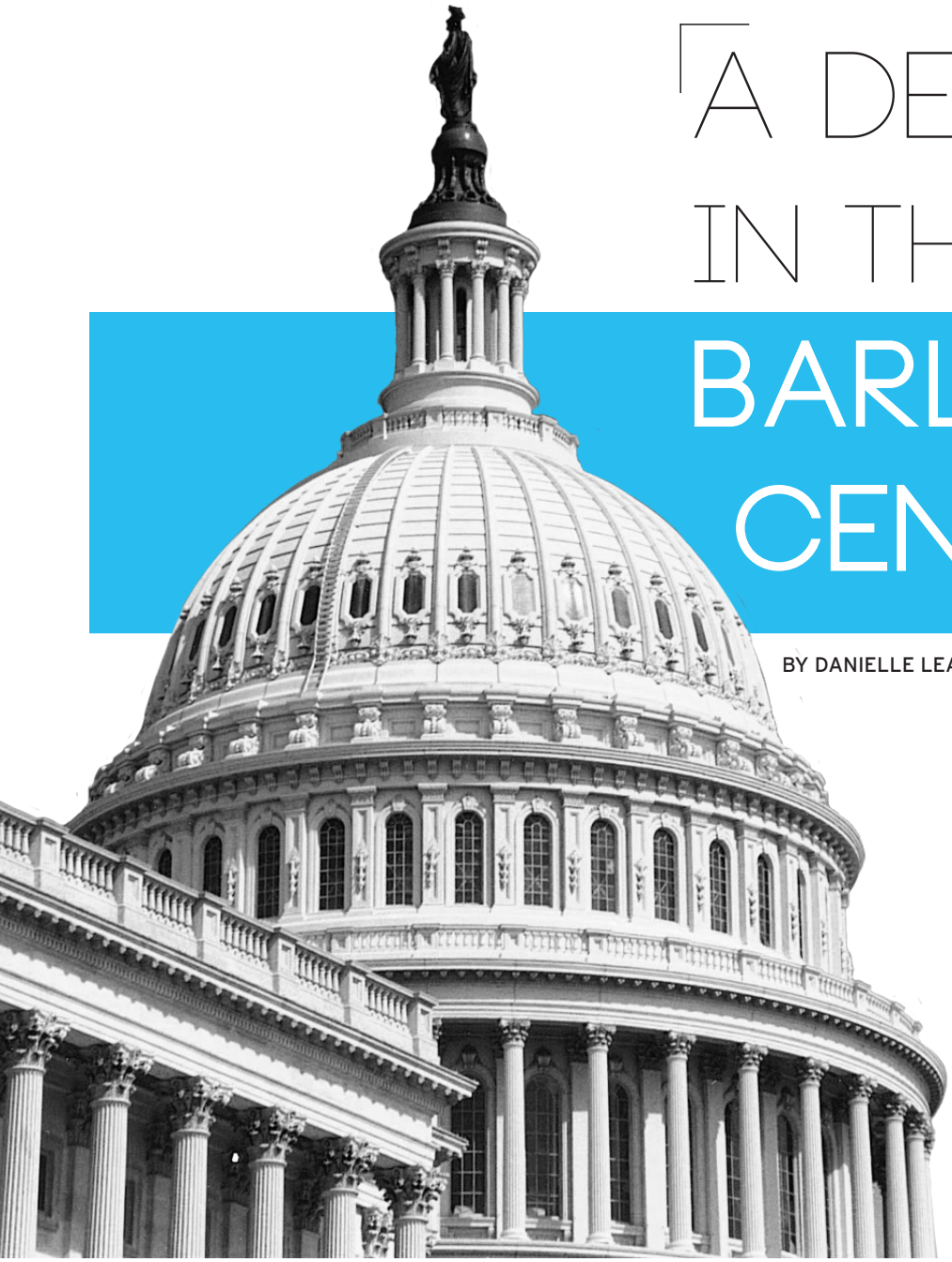
BELINDA RAMIREZ

TRADITIONAL THAI DANCER

THAILAND

GHANA

CASSIE BINGHAM



A DECADE IN THE BARLOW CENTER

BY DANIELLE LEAVITT

Discovered in the 1990s was an old apartment building in downtown District of Columbia. The building fronts Pennsylvania Avenue—sometimes called "America's Main Street"—and a walk to the left or right will land you at the White House, the Washington Monument, or in Georgetown. After a renovation in the early 2000s, the old apartment building had a new face and name: the Milton A. Barlow Center, home to BYU's Washington Seminar students, the LDS Church's Office of Public and International Affairs, and CES offices and institute classrooms.

The search for a building began in the late 80s and continued into the 90s. Ralph Hardy, former area authority seventy and current chairman of the LDS Church's DC Public Affairs Advisory Committee, said, "It seemed to make sense to have a central place here in Washington, DC that could have multi-use, under the egis of BYU, to serve not only its students, but also be a place where everything could be centralized."

After looking at a number of different properties and buildings in the center of Washington, DC, they ended up finding a piece of property right downtown, near Washington Circle in the northwest part of the city.

The building was purchased by the LDS Church, the remodel was designed and zoned, and, with support from generous donors, the renovations went underway. Elder T. LaMar Sleight, former director of the Office of Public and International Affairs and a former area authority seventy, described his first tour through the building before its purchase by the Church: "It was an old building. It had been well used. Some of the bricks were dislodged. Windows were broken. Exposed wires hung from the ceilings. Now the building is more functional, and more attractive, than I thought possible. It is a credit to the architects and to the builders."

Part business, part learning; part elegance, part practical—the Barlow Center is perhaps the definition of multipurpose. "This is a cooperative project with four

[LDS] Church entities," said Washington Seminar Director, Scott Dunaway. "In some ways that makes this unique because you have BYU, the Church's Public Affairs Office, the institute program, and the local congregation—all coming together in this one building to help accomplish the broader mission of the Church and each of the individual missions of those organizations."

At the center's dedication, Elder Merrill J. Bateman, then president of BYU, said: "We are so grateful for the architects and builders who have turned this building into a beautiful place, into a place that is inviting, that has light in it, that will reach out and draw people, that will help people feel comfortable in our presence."

BYU students spending a semester in Washington, DC with the Washington Seminar internship program live in the Barlow Center's dormitories, which accommodate both single and married students.

As the Washington Seminar program has been in place since the mid-seventies, students were previously housed in northern Virginia. "It was expensive and complicated for them to be able to commute into the city every day," said Dunaway. "We also didn't have a place where we could have class instruction or a real identity for the program."

However, with the advent of the Barlow Center, Washington Seminar students were able to live in the literal heart of the city, close to all of the things that make DC a vibrant and exciting place to visit, but for an affordable cost. "That's probably one of the greatest blessings of this building," said Dunaway. "It makes it possible for students to participate who never would be able to otherwise. They live in this great location at a great price, and it enables them to not only enjoy the city, but to have professional experiences in their internships that open up career possibilities and literally are life changing for them."

The location seats students on the front row to world power, right in the mix of all that is thrilling about DC. Susan Rugh, history professor and faculty advisor for Washington Seminar in 2003 and again from 2011 to 2012, said, "It is so close to the metro, and it's so easy for [students] to get to their internships. They live where everything is happening."

Along with close access to internships, historical sites, and cultural events, the center creates a unique community of interns who draw on the vibrancy of the city together. "I think an equal share of my fond memories come from just living with the other students in the Barlow Center," said Alex Egbert, a former Washington Seminar student who interned in Senator Harry Reid's office. "The centrality of the location—just a short walk from the national mall, the shops of Georgetown, George Washington's recreational facilities, parks, and sand volleyball courts along the Potomac—meant we always had something to do."

For many students, the Barlow Center is the catalyst that makes Washington Seminar a reality. BYU Academic Vice President Brent Webb said that BYU's permanent presence in the nation's capital provides students with a unique opportunity to experience firsthand government at work. "This experience is facilitated in a way that would not be possible without the Barlow Center. The Barlow Center enables our students to live, work, and serve where their extraordinary academic preparation and strong character provide exposure to the aims of a BYU education."

The Barlow Center also makes internships in DC possible for married BYU students, who typically can't afford the lofty housing prices of a private apartment in the area. Kylea Knecht, a communications and Washington Seminar alumna who participated in the seminar with her husband, said: "Finding internships and a place to live can be extremely difficult for married couples, but the Barlow Center made it possible for us. I thought that I might have to give up my dream of an internship outside of Utah after I got married, but having a place to live in DC changed everything. Both my husband and I landed great internships in very different fields [engineering and communications, respectively], and we were able to live in our nation's capital."

Greg Williams, a student who interned with the Federal Judicial Center, said: "Washington Seminar would have been unlikely or even impossible if it wasn't for the option to stay at the Barlow Center. It was a huge blessing for my wife and I, and for many reasons, that is why we chose the internship in DC over other options we were considering."

The convenient and modern building facilities and spaces were "so well designed in terms of common spaces and private spaces," said Rugh. "It's clean and comfortable. It's homey."

Egbert said that the facility allowed privacy and alone time if desired, but he also said, "We found plenty of opportunity to debate the issues buzzing in DC and at our internships; it was really fun to wrestle with the opposing viewpoints of the disparate group."

WASHINGTON SEMINAR HAS DEVELOPED INTO A DISTINCTIVE EXPERIENCE THAT ALLOWS FOR BRIEFINGS FROM PROFESSIONALS AND POLITICIANS, AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN AN IDEAL LOCATION, AND ALL THE ESPRIT DE CORPS THAT COMES WITH FORTY COLLEGE INTERNS UNDER THE SAME ROOF.

As an affordable housing alternative, the Barlow Center draws students engaged in extracurricular learning together into a fun and supportive environment. Benjamin Ogles, dean of the College of Family, Home, and Social Sciences at BYU, said: "The shared location allows the faculty member to offer the courses and additional lectures that help students bring together the theories, practices, and experiences afforded in such a unique setting. Bottom line is that the Barlow Center is an awesome location that gives students a one-of-a-kind experience in the nation's capital surrounded by fellow students with faculty instruction and unique opportunities."

For students, one of the most meaningful aspects of the Washington Seminar are the Friday classes, in which seasoned professionals, diplomats, and politicians come to the Barlow Center to meet and talk with students about their experiences in the workforce.

"Every Friday we bring in people who have a wide array of experience—partisan and nonpartisan—and students have the opportunity to meet with them," said Rugh.

Among the presenters have been Daniel Coughlin, chaplin of the US House of Representatives; Jack Gerard, CEO of the American Petroleum Institute; William Kristol, *The Weekly Standard* founder and editor and Fox News commentator; John Bolton, who served as US permanent representative to the United Nations; and Donna Leinwand, USA Today disaster reporter.

THE BARLOW CENTER

"That Friday briefing is the experience that makes Washington Seminar the experience that it is. It allows for networking," said Rugh. "That's better than any textbook."

The building allows for both course work and discussions to help students learn how to be active, engaged civic participants.

"One of the objectives of our program is that students will come away from it wanting to have a lifetime commitment to be engaged in public life in some way—whether it's in their local community or nationally or even internationally," said Dunaway.

Having an identity in the Barlow Center has given Washington Seminar a cohesive character. With the center as its face, the program has established its presence in the city, alongside other universities with similar Washington, DC internship programs. "With the Barlow Center, BYU was able to move into the ranks of schools like Stanford and Cornell and other top-tier, Ivy League universities who all have centers in Washington, DC," said Dunaway.

Washington Seminar has developed into a distinctive experience that allows for briefings from professionals and politicians, affordable housing in an ideal location, and all the esprit de corps that comes with forty college interns under the same roof.

The Barlow Center not only houses the Washington Seminar program, but serves as the headquarters for the LDS Church's Washington DC Office of Public and International Affairs, often hosting honorary guests from around the country and world.

"Working from a dedicated Church building rather than the leased space of an office building is positive for many reasons. In a sense, the building represents the people and the institution of the Church," said Lance Walker, Washington, DC director in the Office of Public and International Affairs. "We hope that—even with a glance—passersby and neighbors get a positive impression of the Church. Visitors in the building will learn about us by the art and photographs on the walls, the obvious care of the building, and especially from the people and their reasons for working or living here. They will know that we value education, spiritual learning, public service, and engagement with people of other nations, faiths, and traditions."

Mauri Earl, who also works in the Office of Public and International Affairs, described the location of the Barlow

Center as sitting along a "corridor of governments." She noted, "I love that we are able to engage in the discussions and dialogues and be present here."

In fulfilling its dedicated purpose, the Barlow Center reaches out to the community. The center facilitates outreach to political and religious leaders, students, the LDS community, and the Washington, DC community. Walker said: "We are an outward looking organization. Conveying awareness of the goodness of the Church is what we do."

The Barlow Center augments those efforts. As people from across the country and world come to Washington—academics, religious leaders, humanitarians, policy makers, official representatives, or individuals in other important roles—it makes a difference to have a presence among those who shape opinions. "We appreciate being able to host meetings or events here because it helps communicate who we are," said Walker.

As a part of the Foggy Bottom neighborhood, one of the oldest neighborhoods in DC, the Barlow Center occupants have established relationships with the community, and, in turn, their communal roots have proliferated with every new connection.

Lisa Farrell, vice president of the Foggy Bottom Neighborhood Association, is responsible for organizing the spring and fall clean ups for the neighborhood parks. She coordinates volunteers and equipment and scheduling, and she recalled meeting Steve and Linda Sowby, senior couple missionaries working at the Barlow Center. "A couple of years ago, Steve and Linda Sowby showed up out of the blue with a dozen or so young men and women to volunteer. My neighbors and I were quite impressed," said Farrell.

They weren't just interested in casually meeting the neighbors, Farrell said—they worked hard. Impressed that Elder Sowby wanted to pitch in, Farrell noted: "It meant a lot to the community that temporary residents would give up a Saturday morning to weed, prune, and sweep up the park."

Having senior couple missionaries, Church Public Affairs employees, and all forty-plus Washington Seminar interns in the Barlow Center—shuffling in and out daily in suits and smiles—is bound to catch people's attention. "People notice," said David Rowberry, the Institute Director at the Barlow Center since 2006. "They notice the kind of people that are there, they notice the lovely building. People go to great lengths to make sure the building reflects the values of the Church. It's a marvelous thing, and it's great to see the young people grow. They understand that they are spotlighted in DC."

"PEOPLE NOTICE. THEY NOTICE THE KIND OF PEOPLE THAT ARE THERE, THEY NOTICE THE LOVELY BUILDING. PEOPLE GO TO GREAT LENGTHS TO MAKE SURE THE BUILDING REFLECTS THE VALUES OF THE CHURCH."

The Washington Seminar interns join up with the Young Single Adult community in Washington, DC, and the Barlow Center is a gathering place. "There's a great YSA community," said Richard Wallace, who has served in a Washington, DC YSA ward bishopric since 2010. "Each semester, several of the interns at the Barlow Center decide to stay in the DC area. These interns have helped build a very strong YSA LDS community in the Washington, DC and Northern Virginia area. The YSA do more to support and sustain each other than ever before."

In considering the last ten years in the Barlow Center, Earl believes that the Barlow Center is fulfilling its purpose as more than just as a gathering place. "Oftentimes the Church is invited to embassy functions and events and uses the Barlow Center as the headquarter base for that," Earl said. "In that way, I feel like the Barlow Center is also a launching place. It's a light that draws people in…and it is a source of light for us to take out. There is a goodness that generates from this space."

Reflecting upon ten years in the building, Hardy said, "I think it's a triumph." He attributes the success to the forerunners of the center, the people whose enthusiasm, direction, and encouragement bolstered the project. They were the "cooks in the kitchen," he calls them. "Milt and Gloria Barlow and their children; President Gordon B. Hinckley, who took a personal interest in the project; the then president of BYU, Rex Lee, and his successor President Bateman; and a lot of other people who worked on it—the architects, the builders, the volunteer missionaries. It's been a real blessing to Brigham Young University. It's been a real blessing to the Church."

In just a decade, the goodness coming from the Barlow Center is fulfilling the dedicatory words of Elder Bateman, who said ten years ago: "We're grateful for the neighbors who will be nearby and pray for them. We pray that they will see us as good neighbors, as good tenants here, that relationships will continue to develop, and that the opportunity to build bridges and build friendships throughout this important community will continue to grow."

Oh, The Places They'll Go!

Alumni in

FOUR CORNERS

BY: DANIELLE LEAVITT

MARGARET WOOLLEY BUSSE

Arriving at BYU as a freshman, Salt Lake City native Margaret Woolley Busse took a seat alongside hundreds of other wide-eyed students in the introductory economics class, Econ 110. Known for its "filtering" nature and ferocious tests, "people either hate it or love it," Busse said.

She loved it.

"It seemed very intuitive to me," she noted. "That's how I was, this is how I think about things. I'm always thinking about things with regards to efficiency, and I loved just how neatly it all works into public policy."

She hit the ground running and completed a double bachelor's degree in political science and economics and a master's degree in public policy in just four years. As a research assistant for former political science professor Gary Bryner, Busse researched various approaches to international development. In the process, she came across the methodology of microfinance.

"At the time, it was very new and unknown, and I thought it was amazing. It really fit with my own desire to be able to help people in impoverished countries in a way that is sustainable for them," she said. After studying abroad in Africa, she wrote her honors and master's theses on microfinance in Zimbabwe.

Upon graduation, she landed a presidential management internship in Washington, DC, which gave her access to various federal jobs with different departments. "I ended up taking a job with the US Treasury Department, and I have to say I was a little bit in over my head," she said with a laugh. "I think a lot of people came with a lot more experience than me, but I learned a lot." She worked with issues in the banking and credit union industry, and helped develop policy for those industries, working out of the main United States Treasury Building.

"But what I was really interested in was microfinance," she said. "And while working at the treasury, I found out about a newly created office of the treasury called the Community Development Financial Institution Fund."

The fund was created by President Clinton to provide low-interest loans and grants to small, community banks in the US. "It was kind of the closest thing to microfinance in the United States," said Busse.

She transferred to that segment of the US Treasury Department and traveled all over the United States visiting different community banks and small microcredit organizations.

"It was a great job," she said. "But one of the things that I noticed was that a lot of the people that were trying to run these things were well intentioned, but they often didn't have the right background to be running a bank. They would have a master's in social work because they came from an I-want-to-help-people background. I realized that I wanted to understand finance more in depth, so I decided, after three years of working in DC, that I wanted to go to business school."

She ended up at Harvard Business School in 1999 and completed an MBA in two years.

After she graduated, she married Franz Busse, who was in the area finishing his PhD. She took a consulting job with the Bridgespan Group, which is a nonprofit advisor for various organizations and philanthropists. They got married and stayed in Boston, where they had their first baby.

Now, the Busses have four kids—aged nine, seven, six, and three—and a baby on the way. "Since I've had kids, I haven't worked full-time. I have just done a lot of different volunteer things," she said. "It's been an interesting nine years now that I haven't been working. It's certainly not the profile for people who graduated from Harvard Business School, and it's certainly not the profile for people to have four or five children either. So it's been kind of an interesting path that I've taken, but I've been really happy that I've taken it."

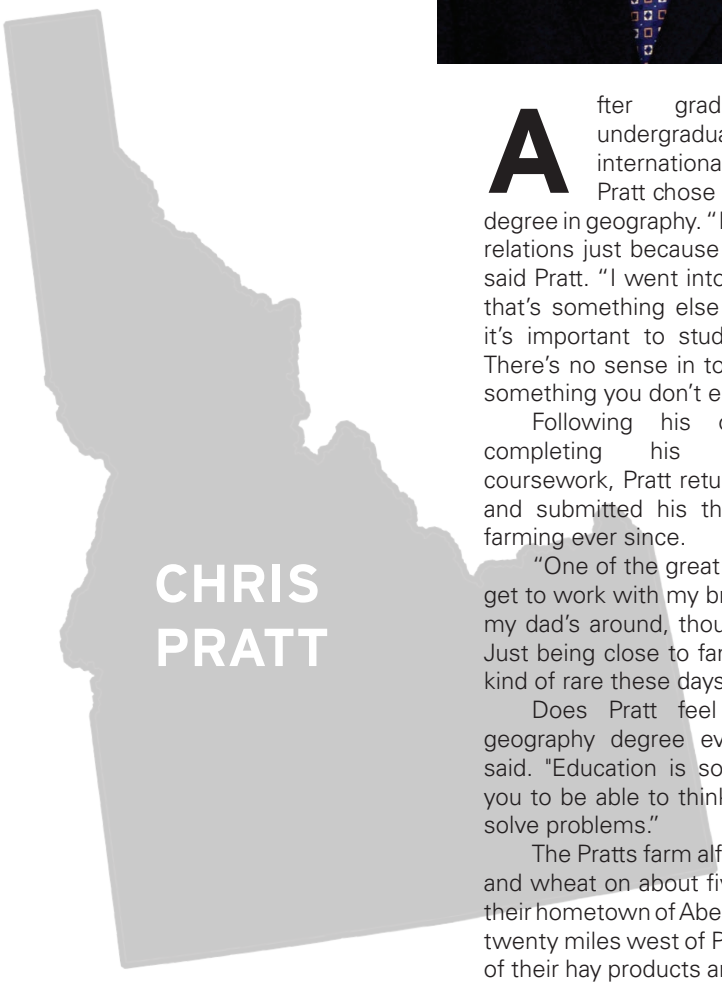
Confident that she can get back into work once she's ready, she has no trouble keeping busy as a mom to five young children, the president of her ward's Relief Society, and a member of Acton, Massachusetts' planning board, where she recently led an effort to create a comprehensive community plan for the next 15 to 20 years.

As her post on the board concludes in about a year, she's not sure where life will lead her next. "I kind of want to move on to another challenge, in a way," she said.

Of her time on the planning board, she added, "It's been a really great leadership, management, and political experience for me. It has turned out to be really enjoyable: it both used and developed my skills, and I got to know lots of different people in town."

And speaking of the town, Busse said, "I love it. I think it's like a utopia." She noted the town's great schools and strong families, and that she loves the eclectic religious and cultural community. "They're people who want to make religion a part of their lives and be good parents. I feel like there's really a great culture for that here. We feel like we fit in really well here, and we get to be the Mormons."

Getting to know so many various people is the best part of getting involved in the community, Busse said. "There are so many opportunities to do that, you basically just have to stand up and say 'I'm here, I want to help.' I think having people that are willing to do that is one of the most important things for a community to have."



CHRIS PRATT

After graduating with an undergraduate degree in international relations, Chris Pratt chose to pursue a master's degree in geography. "I studied international relations just because I'm interested in it," said Pratt. "I went into geography because that's something else I love. I really think it's important to study things you enjoy. There's no sense in torturing yourself with something you don't enjoy doing."

Following his own advice, after completing his master's degree coursework, Pratt returned to Idaho, wrote and submitted his thesis, and has been farming ever since.

"One of the great things I love is that I get to work with my brother every day, and my dad's around, though he's retired now. Just being close to family—it's something kind of rare these days," said Pratt.

Does Pratt feel like he uses his geography degree every day? "Yes," he said. "Education is so invaluable. It helps you to be able to think through things and solve problems."

The Pratts farm alfalfa hay, Timothy hay, and wheat on about five thousand acres in their hometown of Aberdeen, Idaho—about twenty miles west of Pocatello. While much of their hay products are used domestically, they do export to Japan, Korea, and the United Arab Emirates.

They've also developed machinery, such as hay dryers for the hay industry, and Pratt and his partners spend a lot of their day in the office orchestrating the business end of farming, such as sales, marketing, and purchasing. "We try to be innovative," Pratt said.

Pratt is involved in various political arenas that accompany farming: he's on the Farm Service Agency Board for Bingham County in Idaho, which administers all of the farm programs for the federal government; he's on the Idaho Hay Association Board of Directors, which lobbies for and educates hay and forage growers in the state of Idaho; and he's on the local ground water district board, to help oversee fair enforcement of water rights. "I stay pretty busy and involved with things that I think are important to our industry," said Pratt, who has gone as far as Washington, DC to talk about the importance of the hay and forage industry to the economy with senators and congressmen.

But beyond being engaged in his industry, Pratt stresses the importance of being active in the community as well. "I think whatever you're in—it's important to give back and be involved. I try to stay involved on the local boards and with the schools," said Pratt.

He and his wife, Simone, have five children—three daughters aged 20, 17, and 15, and two sons aged 9 and 5—so getting wrapped up in the community comes with the territory. "It's a really great community," said Pratt. "There's a good, small school system. It's a tight-knit community, and I enjoy being involved in the school and all the activities they have here."

The best part of the deal, in Pratt's opinion? "My children come out and they drive the tractors," he said. "I guess the most important thing for my wife and I, as we've talked about this, is that we're here because this is a family operation, and we want to stay close with our children and have the chance to work with them and to teach them how to work."

MARGUERITE McKENNEY CRAIG

Speaking proudly in a beautiful Southern drawl, her red hair framing her smile, Marguerite McKenney Craig proclaimed, "I am a native of Georgia. My great-great-great grandfather was a Revolutionary War soldier for the state of Georgia, so my family's been in Georgia forever." She calls herself a "Georgia-Girl," a title worn like a crown and a sheriff's badge.

She did leave Georgia to attend BYU, however, following in the footsteps of her two older sisters. "I wasn't really sure what I wanted to study when I got here," she said, and recalled sitting down with her roommate and analyzing all of their options. They both chose to study travel and tourism in the Geography Department. "My roommate went on to do a million other things…and I stayed with it."

Growing up in the South, there was no temple east of the Mississippi until the Washington D.C. temple was built in the 70s. So getting in the car and traveling—usually driving to Utah to visit the temple—was a regular family trip. "My dad would hand us the road atlas as say 'okay, get us from Albuquerque to wherever—tell me which way to go,'" Craig said. "He'd let us say: 'okay, we're gonna turn on this road, dad!' and we would find little shortcuts, and sometimes we'd end up on a really bad dirt road, and we'd have to turn around. That was probably what drew me to travel and geography—just knowing about places because of what's around you. I grew up traveling, but not on airplanes; I never even flew on an airplane until I was in college."

She graduated in 1986 and became busy working. She climbed the ranks of the travel agency world—beginning in small, local "ma and pa" travel agencies, moving to regional agencies, and ultimately ending up with AirFrance.

In fact, she and her husband got engaged on the Concord in a flight between New York and Paris going mach 2 at 56,000 feet. "That's when he had the flight attendant bring my ring out with the meal service," she said with a laugh.

But a lot went on between graduation and engagement, as Craig wasn't married until she was 37 years old. "I remember learning in Young Women: 'you're going to graduate from high school, you're going to go to college, you're going to get married in the temple, you're going to have a fabulous life.' I was like: wait a minute! My life didn't go like that! But, I wouldn't change it for anything. It just really worked for me."

She noted the advice given to single adults by the prophet to not put your life on hold, and she didn't. By the time she got married, Craig had an education and a career. She joked: "Gosh, by the time we got married, I had bought my third house!"

With two teenage stepsons, seventeen and eighteen years old, and two children, seven and four years old, Craig

makes a point of traveling with her family as educational supplements and mind-expanding opportunities. This summer, they traveled to Japan to visit family. "My kids are such good little travelers—they don't know anything different," she said. Cooper, her seven-year-old, even noted that his favorite part of being at the airport is going through security. But then again, traveling is a different world when you're seven.

She is still in the travel industry, working for Carlson Wagonlit Travel (CWT)—the largest travel management company in the world—where she is the senior multi-national program manager. "That's a mouthful," she said. "But basically, I manage the relationship between CWT and several corporations. I'm the relationship manager. I do consulting on what's happening with their travel, and I work as a liaison to make sure there's a good relationship between travel managers and our corporation."

Craig says of her job: "I love it. It's always something different. I've always loved to make friends and keep them—so that part's second nature. Because I've worked in all different sizes of agencies, I really like the travel management side of things and working with corporations, because you just get a better pulse of what's going on in corporate America."

True to her blood, she and her husband David settled in Kennesaw, Georgia, where she continues to work at CWT and he is an aircraft mechanic for Delta Air Lines.

The timeline of her life wasn't what she expected or planned on, but she reflected on her experiences by saying: "If somebody would have told me while I was at BYU that I would be able to go all over the world, that I'd be able to educate my kids by taking them places and letting them see what something is, I would have been like, 'really?' I wouldn't have believed it. Today, I feel so blessed for the privileges I've been given."

ED BROWN

Just after he returned home from his mission in Brazil, Ed Brown enrolled in an introductory sociology class at BYU to gain some clarity on what he wanted to "be when he grew up." Nothing was ever quite the same after that class.

Though it's been nearly forty years since he first took a seat in Introduction to Sociology, Brown still says of his choice to pursue a sociology degree: "I think that influenced everything in my whole perspective on life, specifically about the importance of seeing things from others' perspectives. I just don't think I would have been able to see the world in the same light."

He loved everything about his major: "I really am intrigued as to why people do the things they do," said Brown. "And I got a lot out of some of the studies that we looked at—minority studies, gender studies, urban planning. I really wanted to understand the theories as to why people do what they do or why groups of people do what they do. I still, to this day, am intrigued by how cultures have shaped the things people think."

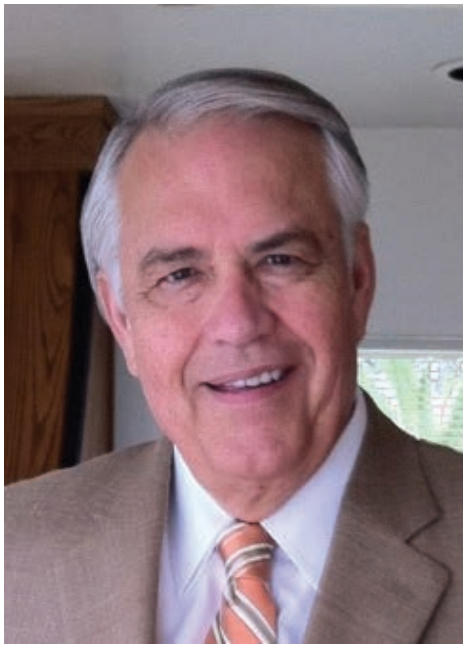
Interested in pursuing either academia or law school, Brown decided on law school after encouragement from his mission president to pursue the law. He and his wife Diane set out for downtown Los Angeles, where Brown attended Loyola Law School. "I thought I was going to practice law in southern California," said Brown, who—along with Diane—is originally from California, "so, I thought it would be better to attend law school there."

Loyola, a Catholic Jesuit university, boasts students of all walks of life, from diverse and varied backgrounds. "When I went to Loyola, I was really pleased to find that we could find really like-minded, religious, moral people who I really identified with," Brown noted.

Thinking he and Diane would set up camp in California and raise their three kids near family, Brown interviewed with a firm near campus for a clerkship while he was in his second year of school. "I got the clerking job, so I could work part-time at the law firm, which was just a couple of miles away from the law school, and then I could study and work at the same time. So, when I finished law school and passed the bar examination, they offered me a position there as an attorney. I literally have worked in the same law firm for 35 years. I've been here since my second year of law school."

Brown's 35 year law practice is eclectic and renowned. Considered a nationwide expert on civil liability by merchants for violent crime on their premises, Brown has represented companies such as La Quinta Inn, Taco Bell, Holiday Inn, Hilton Hotels, Wendy's, Subway, Bennigan's, and Kentucky Fried Chicken. In addition, he has been counsel to a number of major insurance companies in California including State Farm, Allstate, 21st Century, and Royal Globe.

But behind the big-business names,



Brown noted: "Even when you're representing these big corporations, you're always representing individuals. Even though it's a big company, it becomes easy to defend them because they're made up of people as well."

Brown believes that being legally involved in the community has made him more attentive to community issues at large. "I think it gives you a sort of obligation to help develop and remove some of the blocks that prevent progress. It really has affected what I do professionally, but in my personal life, I took a far more empathetic turn than I would have if I had become something else."

In regards to sociology, Brown said: "I really do think that the study of sociology softened me and allowed me to be more concerned about people in various situations; for those who are impoverished, who are underprivileged. In the law, there's a big, important concept in justice in making sure that everybody gets a 'fair shake,' if you will."

With all the bad jokes that lawyers are tagged with, there's something to be said for a lawyer who's out to make sure "everybody gets a fair shake." Contributing to a community, Brown noted, is most about having the ability to understand people who are different than us, learning to respect them, and choosing to see the good in them.

The Many Facets of Transracial ADOPTION

BY: KATHERINE BEARD

A group of siblings charge toward an empty park, as if laying siege to the slides and monkey bars. As mom and dad watch, each youngster proclaims their rightful place upon the playground. While their interactions resemble that of any healthy sibling relationship, with the occasional squabble here and there, the children seem to have one major difference: they look nothing alike. In fact their skin isn't even the same color.

Families across the nation are embracing transracial adoption, also known as interracial adoption. In fact, the 2000 US Census found that of the "1.7 million households with adopted children, about 308,000, or 18%, contained members of a different race."

Transracial adoptions are arranged for a number of different reasons. Cardell Jacobson, a sociology professor at BYU and co-author of the book *White Parents, Black Children: Experiencing Transracial Adoption,* said that in some cases the individual does it for humanitarian purposes. "They see children in poor conditions…so wanting to help people is one reason," he said. "Some just want to have a family and they can't find a child of their own race; and then some want to expand their families."

Jacobson also pointed out that "the number of available children who are the same race as white parents [who want to adopt] has been declining rather dramatically over the last 20 to 30 years." Thus, transracial adoption has become an alternative for those who hope to expand their family.

Jenny Bell Combs is a mother of four, one of whom is an adopted son from South Korea. She said that her family adopted transracially because "we knew there was someone missing from our family—not to save a child, but to add to our family."

However, she also noted that the domestic process for adoption is discouraging in the face of so many open adoptions, where the birth mother and father are involved in the adopted child's life. "The lengthy, public process of adopting in the US was a huge turn off. We couldn't put our children in the middle of that and confuse the future baby," she said.

Another aspect that makes transracial adoption so appealing is its speedy process. "It's actually quicker than waiting for a white, healthy infant, if you're willing to adopt a child of minority ethnicity," said BYU social work professor Jini Roby, who is also a well-known expert on child welfare and has worked with international organizations like UNICEF. Roby also explained that transracial adoptions typically come with post adoption subsidies that are given to the parents for adopting a child of an ethnic minority. "So it's actually less costly to adopt transracially," Roby reported.

Transracial adoption has a turbulent past and remains a controversial topic among many child development and social work experts. In the early 1970s the National Association of Black Social Workers denounced transracial adoption because they felt that it damaged the development of a child's racial identity. But in 1994 a law passed making it illegal to deny or delay the

adoption of a child on account of race, color, or national origin of the child or the adoptive parents. While most unanimously agree on the importance of family in a child's life, some believe there are negative repercussions when a child is raised by a family of another race, color, and culture.

Even now, some experts believe transracial adoption should be a last resort. Roby, who has seen the conditions of children living in orphanages in foreign countries, said that while transracial adoption does afford many of these children opportunities they might not otherwise enjoy, it is important to honor every individual's right to live within the culture they were born into. "This is considered an inherent right for children. Now, that doesn't mean that we should have a child starve in some developing country because they don't have access to the food and things that every human being needs. But I think that going the opposite direction, without considering all

the other options, is a mistake," Roby said.

Roby said that in most developing countries orphanages are seen as "holding tanks" for poor families who don't have the funds or means necessary to take care of their children. These children are known as social orphans because although they still have a family, they are put in orphanages to receive the most basic necessities. In many cases the parents of these children try to work to earn enough in order to bring their children back home.

Roby went on to say, "Automatically assuming that poverty alone is reason enough to separate children from their loved ones is wrong, because we know that there is this natural bond between parents and children, for the most part. And that is the greatest gift that a child has at the time of his or her birth."

So what are ways children can still experience that bond while receiving the care and protection they require? "What about less invasive options, like actually helping the family and strengthen that family so that they can actually take care of themselves," Roby suggested. "I feel that there's a lot of prejudice against the poor in developing countries…that somehow they don't love their children as much as we do or that bond between that parent and that child is not worth saving…I strongly believe that it is."

Major child welfare organizations like UNICEF have also begun to focus their efforts and resources on the reunification and strengthening of families rather than immediately resorting to adoption. The natural relationship between biological family, community, and culture is beginning to be recognized as a paramount influence in development rather than just an added bonus.

The other complication that comes with transracial adoption is the reality that children are seen as exports, and very profitable ones at that. In countries where adoptions by Americans are high—like Guatemala, Ethiopia, and Vietnam—children are viewed as property rather than human beings. Children, just like any other valuable commodity, may be sold, seized, and even stolen. In fact, many American families who have adopted transracially have traced their child back to their birth families and discovered that they were kidnapped, stolen, or bought. "There have been a lot of horrific cases where this kind of tracing has revealed a lot of the business side of inter-country adoptions," Roby said.

However, there is good news. Countries are beginning to see how corrupt the adoption system has become and are attempting to do something about it. In China, Russia, and even Guatemala, transracial adoptions have declined in the interest of cleaning up their adoption agencies. After realizing their children were going into such a questionable market, Roby credits many of these countries for their efforts to upgrade their standards and join The Hague, an international convention dealing with international adoption and child trafficking. "The Hague requires certain procedural protections for birth families and certain adherence to the principle that we look at the natural environment of the child," Roby said. It is their goal to eliminate the illegal and tragic means by which children are obtained and make sure that the child's best interest is observed.

Roby recommended that those who are interested in transracial adoption in hopes of alleviating poverty look into alternative options like "adopting a family." Through some organizations, you can offer some type of monetary assistance to the children of the family you might have adopted, so they don't have to end up in that position in the first place. She explained that most research shows that growing up with one's own biological family is an invaluable benefit. It is for this reason that numerous child development experts believe transracial adoption should be a last resort. "I'm not an advocate of closing inter-country adoptions," Roby said. "I am an advocate for having children grow up in their natural environment and still have the safety and protection and nurturing that they need."

But there is no doubt that transracial adoption also offers a chance at life beyond the scarcity and deficiency that poverty breeds. For those children who have no family, no relatives, and no prospects for local and domestic adoption, transracial adoption is not only a chance at a better life, but at a family. It is all about the best interest of the child. "Adoption is about finding families for children in need of families," Roby said. "It's not about finding children for families who are in need of children."

To find children who are truly in need of families, Roby recommended families go through reputable adoption agencies approved by The Hague. While some adoption agencies will ignore the means of how a child is obtained by an orphanage, "The Hague actually requires agencies to be responsible for what they do in the developing countries," Roby said.

Obtaining a child isn't the only obstacle faced in transracial adoption. Helping the child adjust to his or her new life also requires a little extra effort than the typical adoption. After all, a new family isn't the only change these children experience.

Their geographic location and culture are also new and there are unfamiliar alterations to their lives.

"Most of our identities are built upon our families, our ethnic group, and our geographic fitness with how we look…especially the fit between ourselves and our loved ones," Roby pointed out. "If their [the adopted child's] family doesn't look like them then it's not impossible to feel a sense of bonding and belonging, but it does present a challenge. That's just a natural human reaction. And also, if they are not surrounded by people who look like them then that can also impact their cultural identity. So the racial composition of the community can impact people."

"THE 2000 US CENSUS FOUND THAT OF THE 1.7 MILLION HOUSEHOLDS WITH ADOPTED CHILDREN, ABOUT 308,000, OR 18%, CONTAINED MEMBERS OF A DIFFERENT RACE."

This perception of cultural identity is one of the major challenges that transracial adoptees face. Many times these adoptees not only have trouble identifying with the culture of their adopted family, but the culture and people of their own nation. "Research has shown that even though the outcome in transracial adoptions is usually very good, there is that issue of identity for most adoptees," Roby said.

Transracial families also have to deal with a society not yet fully sensitive to racial issues. Teasing and racial comments made by strangers and peers are commonplace to transracial families in homogenous communities. Combs spoke of her own experience raising a transracial family and said, "We know that skin color doesn't matter in the hereafter, but it does on earth and it can present huge challenges." It is for this reason that she advised parents looking to adopt transracially to examine the diversity of their current communities. A community with a range of races and cultures tends to help the child feel comfortable with their differences in appearance and background.

Jacobson said that the ugly side of transracial adoption becomes apparent when we recognize that while our society has come a long way from inequality, there is still a stigma that exists because of our differences, prejudices, and intolerance. "We interviewed about eighteen parents who had adopted transracially. And then we interviewed about the same number of children who were now adults, who had been adopted transracially as a child," Jacobson said. "Essentially all of them said that by the time the child was five or six they had heard the N word. So race is still there. A lot of people want to say we're a post racial society and that race doesn't matter. But our interviews indicate that it's still there."

But experts and scholars say that "colorblindness" is not the way to accommodate children from other races and ethnicities. After all, ethnicity, race, and culture are what make an individual unique and give them the identity they need and desire. Roby believes that by acknowledging these differences and commending them we acknowledge the identity of the individual and also facilitate acclimation into an accepting environment.

"A lot of adoptive parents say, 'I don't even see your skin color.' Well, we don't want that. We want adoptive parents to say 'I think you're beautiful because of your differences. I celebrate your differences.' And a lot of people understand it exactly the other way around. They want the child to blend in," Roby said. "They want no differences, and in that sense sort of give the subtle idea that what they are is not ok; that those need to be non-issues. But they need to be celebrated issues."

For this harmonious embrace of cultural identity to occur the adoptive family must also accept their new family member's cultural heritage as their own. Roby suggested, "There needs to be attention to not just accommodate the child's culture, but to treat it like a blended family. If a family is adopting a child from India for example, then they need to learn things about the Indian culture themselves and incorporate some of the Indian culture into their own lives." This way the adoptive child develops a harmonious balance between the innate connection to their biological heritage and the inevitable connection to their newly designated culture.

Transracial families must make accommodations and changes so that their new family member adjusts and feels they belong. Jacobson encouraged exposure to the adopted child's religious background, race, history, and culture. He even suggested posting pictures of role models from the adopted child's community. Jacobson interviewed a number of transracial families and gathered information about how they integrated their child's background into their home. "One woman we interviewed had tons of history books about African Americans, and she had Black Art on the walls." said Jacobson. "She emphasized 'sure you're growing up in this white family but here's your ancestry and here's the important issues,."

Roby said, "You don't just send them to a culture camp; you don't just take them to an Indian festival but you learn how to cook Indian food yourself; you develop a cultural appreciation and you become part Indian yourself."

JIM ALLISON

Anthropology

BY DANIELLE LEAVITT

Here's one for you: his time spent in Paris influenced associate anthropology professor Jim Allison to study prehistoric Native American farming cultures.

Allison recalled his time as a missionary in Paris, France: "We did talk to some French people, but Paris is just full of immigrants from all over the world, so I spent an awful lot of time talking to Africans and people from Eastern Europe. We talked to Iranians, and people from all over the Middle East and Asia. To have all of this contact with people from all these different cultures really got me interested in human culture and cultural diversity."

He credits those two years for sparking his interest in anthropology in general—and the archaeology thing, well, "I think that came from combining an interest in culture with just liking to be outdoors," he said.

Most people think of the Near East, Mesoamerica, or Central America as ground zeroes for archaeology. "It's true. There is amazing archaeology and sites and cities there," Allison noted. "But until I actually got involved in doing research, it wasn't clear to me how much really interesting and really cool archaeology there is in Utah, how much there is to learn from it, and how fun it is to work on it. And it's kind of nice once in a while to be able to go excavate and then come home at night."

He started his research when he was a student in 1984. "I worked on a big excavation in Clear Creek Canyon that was related to the construction of Interstate 70, and I also did archaeological field school as a student at a site in southeastern Utah, which is a big Ancestral Pueblo site."

"When you really get into it and study closely what other people do, you start to realize that people, almost always, have really similar aspirations and desires and abilities."

He's been doing it ever since, and now he teaches field school. "Every spring term the department has a field school which is part of the capstone project, and then students do lab class in the fall, where they actually analyze some of the material they recovered from the site. In the winter semester, they put it all together and write a senior thesis. It's basically training the students how to do archaeology, how to be archeologists."

Within his study of prehistoric Native American farming cultures, Allison primarily studies the Fremont and Ancestral Pueblo cultures. "The Fremont culture is a name that archaeologists sort of made up to apply to the farmers in the Eastern Great Basin and the northern part of the Colorado Plateau. That's most of Utah, but the farther south you go into Utah, you get out of Fremont and into Ancestral Pueblo."

Allison's research finds that the early Native American Fremont and Ancestral Pueblo famers were growing corn and squash from about the time of Christ until roughly 1300 AD. He confronts his research with questions related to their presence, how they farmed, and how they lived. "I'm really interested in social organization, how they organized communities. It seems to vary a lot. Sometimes you have individual families scattered out across the landscape, and other times they come together and form compact villages. We find evidence of communal activities, ritual, and we find evidence of trade," he said.

Indications of communal ritual can be identified in the Fremont's architecture: archaeologists find big buildings that obviously required a lot of effort to build. The buildings have features in the floor reminiscent of features that show up in Hopi kivas, even today. "The features in the floor suggest it was the kind of place where you could hold a meeting or ceremony or feast." Allison and other archaeologists are still looking at evidence trying to figure out what exactly they did in those structures.

"I am starting to become really interested in understanding where we live as a place and how people have fit into the environment of Utah and the Desert West over the last couple thousand years," said Allison. "As things change and environments fluctuate, people have had to adapt and change as well."

Allison also noted that while archaeology provides a lot of evidence to help us understand fluctuations in climate that have occurred over the last couple thousand years, we want to understand how those changes have affected people, and how people were able to come in with relatively simple technology and successfully farm in these places for hundreds of years? And then, why did they stop?

Allison said he doesn't necessarily have any answers, but the questions themselves are what drive him to do what he does.

Is it true that studying different cultures helps you understand yourself? Allison noted that there are many aspects of American or Mormon culture that seem normal to us, but when we step back and look at it, we see that there are characteristics that are specifically cultural and not necessarily inherent parts of who we are.

"I think it's really easy for people to look at other people's cultural behavior and say 'oh, that's silly, that's weird,' but when you really get into it and study closely what other people do, you start to realize that people, almost always, have really similar aspirations and desires and abilities."

SAMUEL OTTERSTROM

Geography

BY KATHERINE BEARD

Geography associate professor Samuel Otterstrom's first exposure to the world beyond his own originated with National Geographic magazine.

"My grandma would send us *National Geographic* magazines, so I had this interest in the world when I was young," said Otterstrom. "But when I came here to BYU I started out as a physics major, so [geography] wasn't what I thought I was going to do at first."

Homesickness drew Otterstrom to the map collections in the Harold B Lee Library, where he scoped out the projections and geographic charts of Spokane, Washington—his hometown. His appetite for geography grew as he took his first course on the subject from Professor Lloyd Hudman and began to contemplate work as a city planner for Spokane.

After his mission, Otterstrom returned to BYU with the conclusion that geography was his calling. He double majored in geography and natural resource management and graduated from BYU as magna cum laude.

Otterstrom acquired firsthand experience as a county planner for Okanogan, Washington.

"I was working in subdivision development and doing things such as variances from zoning ordinances that people apply for and shoreline management," he said.

With two years of experience under his belt, Otterstrom headed back to BYU for a master's degree in geography. Following his return to Provo, he had the opportunity to further supplement some of the research he had done as an undergraduate with Professor Richard Jackson.

"International growth of the Church was kind of my thesis topic which was in a way, similar to my undergraduate honors thesis which was on relationship of Church growth in international areas related to changes in economic makeup of the Church," he said.

After completing his master's degree, Otterstrom began looking for a PhD program that fit his interests. Louisiana State University offered an especially strong Latin American Geography field program, which is what initially triggered his interest in the university.

Otterstrom's PhD dissertation was divided into three parts that incorporated city growth and manufacturing related to populating change, as well as an analysis of the frontier.

This dissertation developed a unique conclusion. After examining city regions that have grown and completely changed population concentration, Otterstrom concluded that "the frontier closure ended in 1910 rather than traditional 1890."

Since then, Otterstrom has returned to BYU and is now an associate professor. He teaches a variety of geography classes including Geography of Europe, Geography of Middle and South America, Political Geography, Advanced Urban Dynamics, and Planning, among many others.

Professor Otterstrom's favorite part of teaching at BYU is the students and the variety of courses he teaches.

"The students are bright, they're fun, and they're challenging," he said. "I get to teach a variety of courses. And work on my research. Combine that with good students and it's fantastic."

"Geography study imparts invaluable holistic explanations of the world's workings...that make one more capable to thrive in this rapidly changing world."

When asked what area he most enjoyed studying, he responded "It's hard to say a favorite. I like a lot of different things and that's what I enjoy studying."

Otterstrom has authored a book titled *A Geographical History of the United States City-Systems* in 2004 and coedited a book titled *Geography, History, and the American Political Economy* in 2009.

His 2009 publication is responds to Carville Earle's 2005 book, *The American Way*, through a collection of articles on geography, history, and the American political economy.

"It varies from pieces on political change in Ohio, to what impact the Eerie Canal had on the settlement of the Northeast, to manufacturing change in Connecticut," Otterstrom said. "We attempt to say something that's important about the American past and how political regimes and economic trends and cycles relate to the ongoing development of the country."

One of Otterstrom's more copious accomplishments occurred recently, when his scholarly article was picked up by the prestigious Annals Association of American Geographers. This paper uses genealogical records to model historical migration.

"This is something I'm really excited about and has been very interesting to me because it takes the Church's NewFamilySearch database, that has over 8 hundred million names, and uses that for a data source to look at historical migration patterns," Otterstrom said. This astonishing ability to see physical and cultural patterns on the earth's surface is one of those things that make Otterstrom an exceptional addition to the field of geography.

When asked why he thought studying geography was so essential to the human experience, Otterstrom said: "We are integrally connected to geography by virtue of living on this earth. We must negotiate and comprehend a multitude of physical and human environments, both near and far, that constantly impact us—from local weather conditions that impede travel to international events that cause oil prices to spike. Geography study imparts invaluable holistic explanations of the world's workings and interconnections that make one more capable to thrive in this rapidly changing world."

STEPHEN BAHR

Sociology

BY PAIGE MONTGOMERY

Sociology professor Stephen Bahr has deep roots at BYU; he earned his bachelor's degree in sociology and master's degree in family relations here, and when he left, it wasn't for long. After obtaining a PhD in sociology with emphases in crime and deviance and family sociology from Washington State University and teaching for two years at the University of Texas, he returned to BYU as a member of the faculty. "I've been here for 39 years, but it doesn't seem like that long," he said. Bahr teaches criminology on the undergraduate and graduate levels, as well as beginning sociology and family sociology courses.

More than a lecturer, Bahr is an active and avid researcher. "Throughout my life I've done quite a bit of study on adolescent drug use, as well as divorce—why it occurs and how it impacts adults and children," he said. His interest in sociology is grounded by a fascination with the structures that hold societies together. "It's interesting to look at how groups in society establish rules, and why people break the rules, and what we do to control the rule breakers."

Bahr's most recent research focuses on the factors that determine whether or not people who have been released from jail will be re-arrested. One of the keys, Bahr found, lies with the family.

Family factors influence how successfully former inmates can re-enter society and remain drug free. "When people are in a satisfying marriage, it creates a bond that helps constrain them from committing crime. I remember one person said, 'I can't take drugs anymore because my girlfriend will kick me out.' Someone else said, 'I haven't been able to be with my family for the last two Christmases.' This bond with their family—the desire to be with them—it creates an incentive," Bahr explained.

But just as these familial bonds can be powerful impetuses for change, they can also drag former inmates back to old habits, and ultimately back behind bars. "You certainly have to take into account the type of family situation. Someone else will say 'I can't be around my mother or former spouse because they are using drugs.' Sometimes the family is part of the problem." This issue is particularly troubling when, according to Bahr, we consider the huge increase in the number of people who have been incarcerated over the last 25 years—largely due to the escalation of the war on drugs.

"The question is whether we can do anything to help a significant number of those people so that they won't get re-arrested. What can we do? As a sociologist, that's an interesting question," Bahr said.

Bahr investigated this question by studying the lifestyles of individuals who were released from jail, and by analyzing the efficacy of programs aiming to keep people out of drugs and out of the jails.

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In one study he interviewed a group of fifty recently released prisoners, and tracked their progress over time. His findings were surprising. It was the meaningful, uplifting relationships that made the difference. "If people had better relationships with good friends, they tended to do better. The people who didn't do so well didn't have friendships and were more vulnerable to old friends who would get them into drinking and drugs." Other important factors included full-time employment, and substance abuse classes offered in the prisons.

Bahr also examined the efficacy of the Real Victory program, an innovative approach to keeping juvenile offenders who are on probation on track. A six week program, Real Victory helps youth set goals, and then uses cell phone technology to follow up with them. "Twice a day they are called on a cell phone at prearranged times and they have to answer questions about a particular goal they are working on," Bahr said.

So far, so good: "The initial paper showed that juveniles involved with the program had fewer total arrests. The phone tracking seemed to be something that helped."

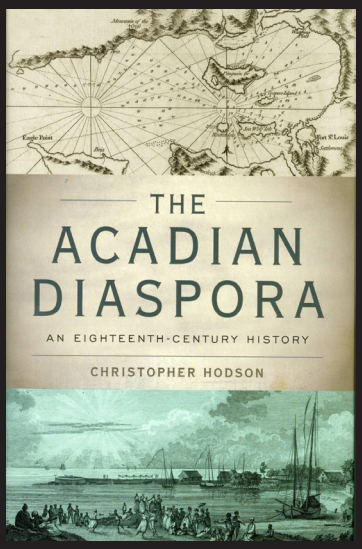
Bahr continues to research prisoner support programs, currently evaluating pretrial services. "When people get arrested, oftentimes they are put in jail for a short period of time until they get their court hearing date. We are doing analysis to see if involving lower-risk offenders in a pretrial program instead of keeping them in jail would save the jail county money and provide them with the needed support."

A former associate dean in the College of Family, Home, and Social Sciences, Bahr's most recent publication is *The Process of Offender Reintegration: Perceptions of What Helps Prisoners Reenter Society* (Ward, Bahr, Davis, 2012).

-THE-
BOOKSHELF

RECENT PUBLICATIONS BY PROFESSORS IN THE COLLEGE OF FAMILY, HOME, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

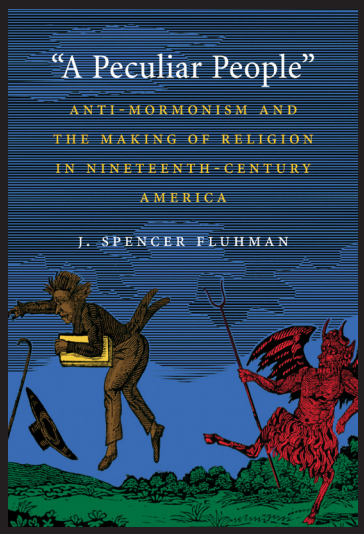
BY: PAIGE MONTGOMERY



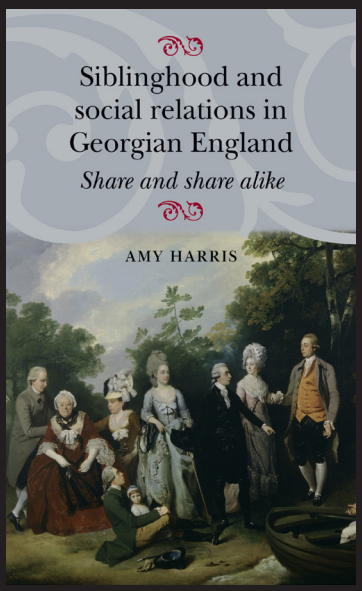
THE ACADIAN DIASPORA
Christopher Hodson (History)

In *The Acadian Diaspora*, BYU assistant professor of history Christopher Hodson explores the effects of one of the "cruelest, most successful military campaigns in North American history." Taking place during the Seven Years' War, this campaign was led by an army of British regulars and Massachusetts volunteers who captured and deported seven thousand Acadians from their homes in what is today Nova Scotia. Acadians, who were French and Catholic, had produced a prosperous community. However, when the Treaty of Utrecht gave Acadia to the British, conflict started to develop. For the next 40 years, the Acadians were governed by a British garrison governor who held them in constant suspicion. "The British were afraid that if the French tried to take back the territory, the Acadians would rise up and assist them," Hodson explained. So spurred the British plan to capture and deport every last Acadian civilian. "In the end, it amounted to about 15,000 people—roughly the contemporary population of Boston," Hodson said. "It was a gut-wrenching experience for the people involved. They were stuffed into the gut holes of converted slave ships and shipped off." But the story of the Acadians was far from over. According to Hodson, *The Acadian Diaspora* follows the process of these deportations, and the politics and economics that guided both the British and the French empires as they tried to resettle the Acadians. "The Acadians changed the way people thought about slavery, colonialism, and where colonies should be situated," Hodson said. Though they were dispersed around the world—from South America, to the Caribbean, the South Atlantic, central France, and the state of Louisiana—Acadian culture globalized rather than dispersed; as the predecessors of the Cajuns, an Anglicization of the word Acadian, their cultural influence is still potent in the southern United States.

"A PECULIAR PEOPLE": ANTI-MORMONISM AND THE MAKING OF RELIGION IN NINETEENTH-CENTURY AMERICA
J. Spencer Fluhman (History)



Was Mormonism the great scandal of nineteenth-century America? Spencer Fluhman, assistant professor in the Department of History makes that case in his recent book, *"A Peculiar People": Anti-Mormonism and the Making of Religion in Nineteenth-Century America*. According to Fluhman, "The book is a history of the first three-quarters of a century of 'Mormonism in the American mind.' How did Americans think about Mormonism? What did they say about it? How did they present it in print?" Fluhman's fascination with the wide array of responses to Mormonism first developed as a young missionary. "I wanted to understand how the Church came to be perceived," he said. Of all of his findings, he was most struck by how the Church became a major controversy in the national consciousness from its beginning. "I came to understand that that said as much about Americans as it did about Mormons. [For Americans] to see such a tiny church as being controversial—that was intriguing to me," Fluhman said. While polygamy was one of the main hot-button issues, Americans also expressed concern over the Church's hierarchical system and claims of new revelation and spiritual experiences. Fluhman believes that much of the conflict between the LDS Church and the state was due to the fact that while the United States' Constitution protects religion, it does not define it. "Mormonism pressed on cultural boundaries and made people wonder what counts as real religion. Does a new religion that seems odd in some ways but recognizable in others 'count?' In other words, can anyone make up a new church? That's what really interests me—how religion is defined in American culture."



SIBLINGHOOD AND SOCIAL RELATIONS IN GEORGIAN ENGLAND: SHARE AND SHARE ALIKE
Amy Harris (History)

When assistant professor of history Amy Harris started researching family relationships, she noticed something was missing. "So much of the writing was about marriage and parenting. It was like people were kids, then they did something ambiguous for a while, and then got married and had their own kids," she said. Seeking evidence of meaningful sibling relationships, Harris traveled to a local archive in England and spent days pouring over diaries, letters, and court records. Three days into her search, she struck gold. "I found a woman's day book, and on every page it was 'my brother that, my sister that.' I looked up all of the documents about that family, and through my continued research, I found that people wrote about brothers and sisters all of the time—it was a part of daily life." The result is Dr. Harris' new book, *Siblinghood and Social Relations in Georgian England: Share and Share Alike*. Even before these discoveries, Harris knew that siblinghood would matter—both demographically and economically. In Georgian England, "parents and spouses didn't live as long, children left home at the age of fifteen and sixteen, and many people never married," Harris said. "I knew siblinghood would be important because it was the only relationship that spanned all of these demographics." Sibling relationships were also economically significant. "There were very few financial institutions that you could manage your money through," Harris said. As a result, "People would borrow and loan money through family members and their credit affected their family members' ability to loan money." If your sibling ran an organized household you would have greater financial and social resources. Throughout *Siblinghood and Social Relations in Georgian England*, Harris explores many other facets of siblinghood: how siblings affected household management; how childhood was lived, experienced and remembered; how goods and services were distributed among family members; and how siblings interacted. In the end, Harris concluded: "Siblings were important for everybody—for their whole life."

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