



# Research Brief

The Commonwealth's Official Source of Population and Economic Statistics

March 14, 2002

## 2002 Spring Lecture Series

MIDDLETOWN, Pa - Please join the Pennsylvania State Data Center for our Spring 2002 Lecture Series. The lectures will be held from noon to 1:00 p.m. at the Penn State Downtown Center, located at 234 North Third Street, directly across from the Capitol Building in downtown Harrisburg.

These lectures are free and open to the public. To ensure adequate seating, we ask that you please pre-register by phoning 717.948.6677 or email [PaSDC-Reserve@psu.edu](mailto:PaSDC-Reserve@psu.edu).

### Thursday, April 4

#### The Beasts and The Children

M.A. DuPont-Morales, Ph.D.

*School of Public Affairs, Penn State Harrisburg*

In the aftermath of 9-11, we initially emphasized the necessity of a dialogue with our children about terrorism in America. America responded with defensive measures and stimulated the creation of an "environment of heightened security" that has affected children in numerous ways. Our children comprehend zero tolerance toward school violence. The current issue is the strategy we select to explain and adapt to our children's vision of the quest for enduring freedom from terrorism.

Dr. DuPont-Morales received her doctorate from Boston's Northeastern University in Law, Policy and Society. She is the Director of the Honors Program and Coordinator of the Criminal Justice Program at Capital College. Her area of research and community outreach is in the study and impact of predatory violence. She is currently teaching "Ground Zero" for the Honors program and is participating in community activities directed toward 9-11.

**Thursday, April 18**

**Your Schools, Your Money**

Sheri Rowe

*Assistant Director of Educational Initiatives, Pennsylvania Department of Education*

The Pennsylvania Department of Education is proud to announce the release of its Your Schools, Your Money initiative at [www.yourschoolsyourmoney.ed.state.pa.us](http://www.yourschoolsyourmoney.ed.state.pa.us). This innovative new project provides information on public school spending for parents, taxpayers, school administrators, and policy-makers in an easy to understand, user-friendly format. It shows related information from other reports provided to the Department in order to provide a more complete picture. It addresses previously unknown areas of costs and also looks at school level rather than district level.

With more than 24 years of experience with state government, Ms. Rowe currently works in the Executive Office for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Education as Assistant Director of the Office of Educational Initiatives. She leads and coordinates major educational initiatives and works closely with the commonwealth's school entities while coordinating numerous other management issues.

**Thursday, May 16**

**Citizens' Attitudes Toward Crime and Justice: Results of the 2001 Penn State Poll**

Barbara Sims, Ph.D.

*School of Public Affairs, Penn State Harrisburg*

The Penn State Poll is an annual survey of Pennsylvanians, 18 years of age and older, conducted by the Center for Survey Research at Penn State Harrisburg. The purpose of this lecture is to describe the purpose and methodology of the Penn State Poll and to present some of the key findings of the 2001 Poll, such as Pennsylvanians' attitudes toward: (1) the death penalty; (2) the purpose of punishment; (3) separate justice systems for special populations; and (4) government's military action in Afghanistan.

Dr. Sims received her Ph.D. in Criminal Justice at Sam Houston State University. A devoted author, reviewer, researcher and lecturer of criminology and related studies, Dr. Sims is currently Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice for Penn State Harrisburg's School of Public Affairs.

The Pennsylvania State Data Center is the commonwealth's official source of population and economic statistics. It is based at Penn State Harrisburg's Institute of State and Regional Affairs. The Pennsylvania State Data Center is part of the U.S. Census Bureau's National State Data Center Program.

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Editors: For additional data, contact the Pennsylvania State Data Center's State Capital Office at 717.772.2710 or for faculty comment on this topic, contact Penn State Harrisburg's Public Information Office at 717.948.6029.

As always, the PaSDC is open for suggestions for its Lecture Series. Please contact us with any ideas you may have at our State Capital Office.

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