2019-20 C. Wright Mills Award for Sociological Imagination
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It is the Committee’s pleasure to announce the recipient of this year's C. Wright Mills Award: Alondra Bravo Marroquin, who authored a poignant, insightful, and highly compelling piece entitled, "The Systemic Abuse of the U.S. Deportation System: Effects of Immigration Detention and Deportation on Latinx Immigrants and Mixed-Status Families."

Abstract
Immigration detention and deportation are slowly becoming disclosed, but the forceful separation of families and inhumane treatment of immigrants is something that has taken place in U.S. history for centuries. The separation of families has been a form of institutionalized racism and systemic abuse throughout years, which have created oppression and negative consequences on people, even today through the U.S. federal deportation system. In this paper, I use in-depth interviews to access the experiences of undocumented people and families to examine the effects they bear, closely aiming at reports of unjust treatment, mental health effects, and consequences on the family unit. Main findings include racism, inhumane treatment of immigrants, and depression.

The Award Committee also recognizes Josh Hanna, who received an honorable mention for his interesting account in his piece entitled, "How Tournament Bass Fishermen Manage their Identities and Emotions?"

Abstract:
Tournament bass fishermen experience an intense amount of stress during competition and must develop ways in which to effectively balance the demands of the sport and their identities and emotions. To understand this, I undertook an ethnographic study of tournament bass fishermen to answer the question: "How do tournament bass fishermen learn to manage their identities and emotions?" The ethnographic study consists of 40 observational hours of fishermen in tournament settings and practice, as well as twelve interviews with tournament bass fishermen of varying ages and skill levels. The conclusions in this paper are a result of the synthesis of available literature, which allowed me to code concepts into presentable theories and original research. I was then able to apply the coded concepts to the world of tournament fishing and in the process gain a deeper understanding of competitive fishermen.

This study found that tournament bass fishermen possess a salient identity as fishermen that motivates them to pursue their competitive passion and aids them in establishing themselves and making difficult sacrifices for the sake of competition. In addition, fishermen manage their stress with a combination of motivational narrative and emotional diligence. A motivational narrative is a technique that fishermen use to move beyond negative experiences, either transforming these into positive ones or creating a
positive environment that lets them look forward past the negative experience. Emotional diligence is the monitoring and shaping of one’s emotions to match the narrative and identity that they portray.