Psychologists for Social Responsibility

If you have any questions please contact Michelle Chen and Cait Sleight:
Cait Sleight – Caitlin.sleight@gmail.com
Michelle Chen- mich.chen48@gmail.com

Introduction
As doctoral students, it is important to be engaged in learning about our role in addressing trauma, human rights, gender-equality, sexuality, global violence, children at risk, and war as clinical psychologists. The opportunity to join Ferkauf’s chapter of Psychologists for Social Responsibility (PsySR) provides doctoral students with an engaged community of members who collaborate in addressing social justice through the ethical use of psychological knowledge, research and practice. PsySR’s mission is to be committed to global well-being, universal human rights, mutual understanding and collaborative partnerships in the pursuit of change.

Structure
Graduate student members will pay annual dues of $20 to the national PsySR organization. Dr. William Saltan will serve as the faculty advisor. He will approve all events hosted by Ferkauf’s PsySR chapter. There will be at least one general interest meeting per semester. Other meetings will be held as necessary (e.g. for event planning).

Potential Events
Ferkauf’s Psy-SR chapter will host events that promote social justice using psychological knowledge. The following are potential event ideas.

● Asylum Seeker Workshop: we will request for Drs. Saltan and Auerbach to host a brief one-day workshop on working with asylum seekers and refugees. As many students may not have had a chance to take their class due to scheduling conflicts, it will be a good opportunity for them to receive exposure.
● Email/Letter to Senator/Newspaper Party: we will write letters to our local representatives and newspapers to raise awareness and advocate for various psychology-related social justice issues.
● Screen or Trip to Documentaries/Films: to raise awareness about social justice issues for Ferkauf students.
● Weekly (or Biweekly) Current Event Alerts: we will send out alerts to members and encourage discussions in an email thread or facebook group thread.
● Tabling and Rallies: we will raise awareness of particular social justice topics in the community.

Potential Collaborators
Ferkauf’s PsySR chapter’s goal is to collaborate with other groups around the New York City area that will help us take small strides forward to taking creative action with other PsySR members with shared interests. We will continue working with Physicians for Human Rights, which Ferkauf is already a part of under the leadership of Drs. Saltan and Auerbach. The PsySR national organization has actions groups for various social justice issues (e.g. racial equality, asylum), for which members can choose to support and follow.
How to Join:
If you are interested in joining PsySR, please e-mail Michelle Chen and Cait Sleight for more information. We are planning on having a general interest meeting in the very near future. We look forward to meeting you!

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