



CONSORTIUM *of* SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATIONS



**Social and behavioral science  
in a year like no other.**

**2020**

**Annual  
Report**

# About COSSA

The Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA) is a nonprofit advocacy organization working to promote sustainable federal funding for and widespread use of social and behavioral science research, as well as federal policies that positively impact the conduct of research. COSSA serves as a united voice for a broad, diverse network of organizations, institutions, communities, and stakeholders who care about a successful and robust social and behavioral science research enterprise. The COSSA membership includes professional and disciplinary associations, scientific societies, research centers and institutes, U.S. colleges and universities, and private sector affiliates.

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**Danielle Staudt**, Population Association of America

*Executive Director and COSSA Secretary*  
**Wendy A. Naus**, COSSA

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# Message from COSSA

Dear Colleagues,

I know I speak for many when I say we can't put 2020 in our rearview mirror soon enough. At the same time, during the past year, COSSA staff and organizational members have found new ways to bring people together and advocate effectively for public investments in social and behavioral science research funding, the quality and integrity of federal statistics, and evidence-based public policy making.

The April Social Science Advocacy event, which had to shift on a dime to the virtual world, helped put a sharper focus on how Congress could use us as a resource, with policy-relevant subject matter expertise across a wide range of timely problem-solving, from overcoming deep-seated systemic social injustices and economic and health inequities made all too apparent by the pandemic, to much needed health systems strengthening.

By the fall, COSSA's post-election input to the transition planning agency review teams was most productive, and we have been heartened to learn through this process how receptive the new administration promises to be in putting the social and behavioral sciences to work.

We are deeply grateful for the work of our staff and organizational members, and extend our best wishes for a healthy 2021, filled with kindness and caring.



**Ed Liebow**  
*Chair, COSSA Board of Directors*



Dear Friends,

There is little new I can say about 2020 and the extraordinary challenges it presented. What I can speak to, though, is the resilience and sense of community felt across the social and behavioral science community, especially in times of crisis.

While often painted with a broad brush, the social and behavioral sciences are incredibly diverse. From sociology, anthropology, and economics, to linguistics, political science, psychology, and public opinion research, our sciences tackle human-centered questions from nearly every angle. But despite our differences, we continue to come to each other's aid.

Whether it was donating scarce PPE resources, strategizing about ways to best support our respective communities, sharing lessons learned from canceled scientific conferences and the unknowns of first-time virtual events, or simply checking in on colleagues, the public health and racial injustice crises of the past year serve as reminders that we all do better when we work together.

We also witnessed this past year increased demand for reliable, science-based solutions to some of the toughest questions. Our community continues to rise to the occasion to explain to policymaking audiences how social and behavioral science research can and already is changing the world for the better.

From my family to yours, I wish you good health, peace, and—hopefully—many reasons to smile in 2021. We're in this together—for that I am eternally grateful.



**Wendy Naus**  
*COSSA Executive Director*



# the COSSA team

Wendy A. Naus | Executive Director

✉ [wnaus@cozza.org](mailto:wnaus@cozza.org)

Wendy Naus became the fourth Executive Director of COSSA in 2014 following a decade of lobbying for the federal research and policy interests of scientific societies and U.S. universities. Over her career, she has worked to shape legislation, programs, and regulations important to the research community and has advocated for increased research funding across federal agencies. In her role at COSSA, Wendy serves as the lead advocate for federal funding and policy that positively impact social and behavioral science research across the federal government, representing the breadth of the social science research enterprise. She is also responsible for the day-to-day operations of COSSA and member engagement. A native of Buffalo, New York, Wendy holds a B.A. in political science and urban studies from Canisius College, graduating magna cum laude from the All-College Honors Program.

Julia Milton | Director of Public Affairs

✉ [jmilton@cozza.org](mailto:jmilton@cozza.org)

Julia Milton has been with COSSA since 2012 and is responsible for overseeing COSSA's communications with its members, stakeholders, policymakers, media, and the public. She is the editor of COSSA's biweekly newsletter and the Why Social Science? blog and manages COSSA's social media channels and website. In addition, Julia leads COSSA's lobbying and advocacy efforts related to the Census and other federal statistical agencies and the evidence-based policymaking movement. Before joining COSSA, Julia was a research and editorial assistant at the George Washington University and worked for a workforce development initiative and a local women's magazine in her home state of New Jersey. She holds a B.A. in government and English from Wesleyan University.

Ben Goodrich | Staff Assistant

✉ [bgoodrich@cozza.org](mailto:bgoodrich@cozza.org)

Ben Goodrich joined the COSSA team in January 2019. He enjoys a wide array of responsibilities including supporting COSSA's federal advocacy efforts, assisting with COSSA's communications materials, and providing administrative support to the Executive Director. Ben joined COSSA following a brief stint with Global Citizen, an international non-profit concerned with poverty alleviation, where he worked as a policy & government affairs assistant. Born and raised in the Upper Midwest, Ben graduated with a B.A. in Political Science and History from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2018.



## INTERNS WANTED!

COSSA welcomes undergraduate interns to join the team throughout the year, especially students from COSSA member institutions. We had the privilege of hosting one intern in 2020 prior to the COVID-19 outbreak:

Winter: Tracey Lan, NYU Shanghai University

To inquire, email

✉ [bgoodrich@cozza.org](mailto:bgoodrich@cozza.org).

## COSSA Gives Back

On August 21, 2020 the COSSA team participated in its annual service outing. In this year of COVID, the team partnered with Letters Against Isolation ([www.lettersagainstisolation.com](http://www.lettersagainstisolation.com)) to hand-make cards and send notes of love and encouragement to seniors isolating in nursing homes. It was a socially distant yet very fulfilling day. COSSA initiated the service outing in 2015 as a way to give back to the DC community.



# 2020 in review

## Social Science in the Time of COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic shone a spotlight on the social and behavioral sciences as policymakers struggled to understand the depths of our quickly-changing ways of life. Since the pandemic's outset, the social and behavioral sciences have been helping to inform policies on everything from social distancing and safe mask usage to vaccine uptake and hesitancy to social inequities exacerbated by the outbreak. Further, the challenges of the past year have underscored the critical importance of COSSA's work and mission: "To promote the value of social and behavioral science research to policymakers and the public with the goal of enhancing federal support."

COSSA's efforts over the past year focused on telling the story of how social and behavioral science can and will continue to help address society's greatest challenges.

Below is a sample of COSSA's activities in 2020 in response to the pandemic.

### Resources for Researchers

COSSA developed a COVID-19 Resources webpage to house and share new developments and materials related to the pandemic and its impacts on the federal research enterprise. The page includes links to federal agency guidance for researchers impacted by the pandemic, funding opportunities related to the outbreak, COVID-19 data sources and repositories, resources developed by COSSA member organizations, and much more. *Visit the webpage at [www.cossa.org/covid-19](http://www.cossa.org/covid-19).*

### Resources for Policymakers

As part of our outreach to Congress, COSSA developed new resources for policymakers, including a collection of websites and data sources for current social science information that can be used by lawmakers to find information they need in real time, and a factsheet with narratives on what social and behavioral science has already told us about the corona virus and relief efforts. *Find these and more at [www.cossa.org/covid-19](http://www.cossa.org/covid-19).*

### COVID-19 and Why Social Science?

COSSA used its Why Social Science? monthly blog to further promote the contributions of social and behavioral science research to

addressing the pandemic. Topics featured in 2020 include understanding the social influences on health-related behavior and dealing with so-called "pandemic fatigue," among others. *Read the posts at [whysocialscience.com](http://whysocialscience.com).*

### COSSA Headlines Webinars Highlight COVID-19 Expertise

COSSA used its monthly members-only webinar series to feature experts studying the varying aspects of the pandemic. Topics included communication strategies in a public health crisis, the psychology of COVID-19, school reopening, and others. *See page 8 for additional details.*

### Research Relief & Supplemental Funding

COSSA worked with partners throughout the scientific and higher education communities to advocate for the needs of the science enterprise in COVID-19 relief legislation. Federal science agencies—notably the National Science Foundation and National Institutes of Health—received supplemental funding in the various emergency bills that were enacted in 2020. However, those funds were intended to support research and other necessary expenses directly related to the pandemic, not to address the needs of researchers whose non-COVID-related work

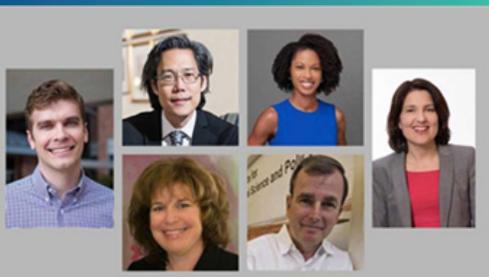
has been sidelined or otherwise affected by lab closures and other impacts. In response to the broader needs of the scientific community, COSSA endorsed the Research Investment to Spark the Economy (RISE) Act (H.R. 7308), which would authorize \$26 billion in relief funding for federal science agencies to support researchers affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The RISE Act was not enacted in the 116th Congress but is expected to be reintroduced in 2021 by the 117th Congress. *See COSSA's coverage at [www.cossa.org/tag/covid-19](http://www.cossa.org/tag/covid-19).*

### Social Science Advocacy Day

In the wake of the pandemic, COSSA's 2020 Social Science Advocacy Day, which transitioned to a virtual event on April 28, was used to share with Members of Congress and their staff the many ways research in the social and behavioral sciences is helping answer some of the most challenging questions related to the outbreak. Advocates from 16 states discussed the role of our sciences in understanding aspects of the pandemic from allocation of PPE and other scarce resources, to virtual learning environments and potential learning loss, to impacts on small business and the economy. *See page 6 for additional details.*

### Responding to COVID-19: Emerging Insights from Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences

On October 9, COSSA partnered with the Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education (DBASSE) at the National Academies, the American Academy of Political and Social Science, the Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences, and SAGE Publishing on a seminar entitled "Responding to COVID-19: Emerging Insights from Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences." The event featured moderated discussions between social scientists engaged in research on the impacts of COVID-19 and policymakers tasked with responding to the pandemic. Topics included vaccine hesitancy in minority communities and the potential implications for a COVID-19 vaccine, the trauma of COVID-19 and the association between stress and media coverage of the pandemic, educational disparities, disruption on food supply chains, impacts on the working lives of people of color and other historically marginalized groups, and understanding the potential transmission networks between nursing homes. More on the event is available at <https://bit.ly/38PX5VE>.



# FUNDING & POLICY

## Science Agencies See Budget Boosts for 2021

Even under the exceptional pressures of the COVID-19 pandemic, budgets for federal science agencies saw modest increases for fiscal year (FY) 2021, which began on October 1, 2020. Notable increases include:

National Science Foundation	+2.5%
National Institutes of Health	+3%
Institute of Education Sciences (U.S. Department of Education)	+3%
International Education and Foreign Language Programs (U.S. Department of Education)	+2.6%
National Institute of Justice	+2.8%
Bureau of Justice Statistics	+4.7%

In addition to boosts in funding, lawmakers took opportunities in the annual appropriations bills to express support for social science activities across the government, including recognition of the contributions of NIH's Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) and the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate (SBE) at NSF. The Trump Administration sought deep cuts for funding accounts across the federal government for FY 2021. The scientific community secured another win with the passage of the FY 2021 bills. *COSSA's full appropriations coverage is available at [www.cossa.org/policy](http://www.cossa.org/policy).*

## NIH, CDC Fund Firearm Violence Research in 2020, Additional Funding Secured for 2021

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) successfully completed their first competitions in 2020 using \$25 million appropriated by Congress to study firearm injury and mortality prevention. Since 1996, federal agencies have been legislatively restricted (through the "Dickey Amendment") from using federal dollars for research

## COVID Complicates the 2020 Census

Counting activities for the 2020 Census kicked off right on schedule on January 21 with a dogsled ride in Toksook Bay, Alaska—marking virtually the last point at which the decennial operation was progressing according to plan. By the time Census Day arrived on April 1, the nation had entered an unprecedented lockdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic, forcing the closure of field offices and changes to the Bureau's operational plans for everything from counting college students to outreach to hard-to-count communities to the strategy for in-person follow up visits to non-responders. These disruptions added further challenges to a decennial census already marred by the battle over the Trump Administration's failed attempt to add a citizenship question to the questionnaire, which had already shaken the trust of hard-to-count immigrant populations. One factor working in the Bureau's favor was that the 2020 Census was the first decennial Census to use the internet as the primary collection mode, with more than half of the U.S. population (53.5

# United States Census 2020

percent) ultimately responding online. However, while the Census operation worked to recover from the disruptions of the early stages of the pandemic, mixed messaging and controversy continued to cause confusion. After initially releasing a plan to extend the overall Census enumeration operation to account for the pandemic-related interruptions, the Trump Administration backtracked over the summer, announcing plans to end the counting effort a month early. COSSA joined hundreds of stakeholders and allies in Congress in advocating for the Bureau to take the time it needed to conduct a complete and accurate count. Once again, the 2020 Census went before the Supreme Court after civil rights organizations sued to force the Bureau to continue counting until its previously announced deadline. While the Supreme Court sided with the Administration, the legal back-and-forth did delay the end of operations for an additional two weeks before enumeration finally ended on October 15, setting up one final fight over how long the Census Bureau would take to produce apportionment and redistricting data. Because Congress failed to act to extend statutory

that may promote gun control policies, which led to a virtual moratorium on all firearm-related research in the years since. While restrictions on gun control research remain, funds can now be used to gain better understanding of the underlying risk factors and variables associated with firearm violence and mortality. In addition, the final FY 2021 appropriations bills (discussed above), included a second year of funding in the amount of \$25 million for continued research on this important topic.

## Foreign Influence and Security of the U.S. Research Enterprise

In January 2020, COSSA released a Hot Topic analysis titled Foreign Interference in the U.S. Research Enterprise & Policy Responses, which digs into broad policy concerns about securing the U.S. research enterprise, foreign influence, racial bias against Chinese and Chinese-American citizens, and a wide range of actions in response to these concerns taken by the White House, federal agencies, and Congress. A second Hot Topic, *Research Security Revisited: COVID-19 & Immigration*, was released in October 2020 outlining ways the pandemic has impacted and in some cases altered federal government discussions around research security and foreign influence. The second publication discusses some of the indirect impacts COVID-19 has had on research security, including the exacerbation of concerns such as discrimination against Chinese citizens, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders, and a chilling effect on international research collaboration. *These and other Hot Topic pieces are available at [www.cossa.org/resources/hot-topics](http://www.cossa.org/resources/hot-topics).*



October 18, 2020  
 Consortium of Social Science Associations  
[www.cossa.org](http://www.cossa.org) | [www.whysocialscience.com](http://www.whysocialscience.com)  
 Twitter: @COSSA\_CSA

**Research Security Revisited: COVID-19 & Immigration**  
Ben Goodrich, Consortium of Social Science Associations

**Summary**

In January 2020, COSSA released a Hot Topic titled "Foreign Interference in the U.S. Research Enterprise & Policy Responses," which reported on the broad policy concerns about securing the U.S. research enterprise, foreign influence, racial bias against Chinese and Chinese-American citizens, and the wide range of actions in response to these concerns taken by the White House, federal agencies, and Congress. Since the publication of that analysis, the sudden and unprecedented global spread of the COVID-19 pandemic in the early months of 2020 has had a significant impact on the public conversations surrounding the security of the U.S. research enterprise. The global community became largely focused on developing vaccines or other treatments for COVID-19, diverting attention away from other science priorities. Furthermore, the pandemic has had other indirect impacts on research security, in some cases exacerbating existing concerns such as discrimination against Chinese citizens, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders, and a chilling effect on international research collaboration.

The following pages revisit the topics discussed earlier in the year and provide updates on activities that have since occurred, including how the global COVID-19 pandemic has affected U.S. research security activities. Readers are encouraged to read the information in the prior report for a more comprehensive look at research security efforts and concerns prior to January 2020.

**An Unprecedented Year**

Against the backdrop of an ongoing global pandemic stemming from the novel coronavirus, efforts to ensure research security quickly began to collide with two other major policy areas: COVID-19 vaccines and immigration. (That see already a complicated topic with several moving parts) had given into a much broader suite of issues, from protection of intellectual property and the international trade to a variety of heightened efforts to restrict travel through U.S. borders and renewed concerns about red-pilling and discrimination. In some cases, conversations about research security policy have been in-fused with other major policy concerns, for example the restrictions on immigration and travel into the U.S. that it is necessary to identify where each issue begins and ends.

**Contents**

An Unprecedented Year: COVID-19 & Research Security Immigration & Research Security

- Travel Bans
- Visa Restrictions
- Federal Agency Activities
- Congressional Activities
- Next Steps
- Previous COSSA Coverage

HOT TOPIC is a series of occasional featured issue briefs offering insights into timely and crosscutting policy developments affecting the social and behavioral science communities. Read them all at [www.cossa.org/resources/hot-topics](http://www.cossa.org/resources/hot-topics)



## Message from COSSA on Police Violence & Racial Injustice

COSSA stands in solidarity with those protesting the abuses of police power and the racist systems that perpetuate this violence. One of the fundamental lessons from the social sciences is that our lives are governed by social systems that were designed to bestow advantages and disadvantages unequally. While the social sciences have helped to illuminate those structures and the inequities and harms they create, the science community has failed to effectively address them within the scientific enterprise itself.

While we cannot undo the horrific injustices of the past, we are committed to eradicating the scourge of white supremacy—both within the sciences themselves and in our own communities. In our collective efforts to confront the daily suffering perpetuated by racism and racist systems, we can bring the strength of the social and behavioral sciences to bear on society’s greatest challenges—to understand and work toward real change.

### #BlackLivesMatter #WhySocialScience

Following the heart-breaking, violent acts against people of color throughout the summer of 2020, COSSA used its voice to share ways social and behavioral science research contributes to advancing critical and difficult conversations around race, law enforcement, and injustice.

Below is a sampling of COSSA’s activities in 2020:

### Ask a Criminologist Webinar: Police and Community Relations in a time of Crisis and Unrest

In October, COSSA and the Crime & Justice Research Alliance (CJRA) hosted the latest in an ongoing series of “Ask a Criminologist” Congressional briefings, which are used to connect leading criminologists with policy makers to address prevalent criminal justice issues. The virtual event, which focused on issues related to policing and community relations in the wake of 2020 protests, featured Dr. Jennifer Cobbina of Michigan State

University, Dr. Rod Brunson of Northeastern University, Dr. Everett Penn of the University of Houston Clear Lake and the Teen and Public Service Center, and Dr. William V. Pelfrey, Jr. of Virginia Commonwealth University. Among the topics discussed were policy implications and merits of calls to “defund the police,” the systemic factors affecting the Black community’s relationship with police departments, the role of the Black Lives Matter movement in shifting the discourse around police reform, and disparities in policing practices between high-income and low-income communities, among others. *The full briefing is available at <https://bit.ly/3eROHtl>.*



### Why Social Science?

COSSA used its Why Social Science? monthly blog to highlight important insights from social and behavioral science research about racism, policing, and equity. Topics featured in 2020 include dismantling systemic racism and teaching nonviolence to law enforcement, among others. *Read the posts at [whysocialscience.com](https://whysocialscience.com).*

## COSSA Membership

COSSA enjoys a robust and diverse membership—a community with a shared commitment to ensuring a secure future for federally-supported social and behavioral science research. Membership in COSSA is institutional and comprised of professional associations, scientific societies, colleges and university, and private sector affiliates. Anyone formally connected to a member organization may sign up to receive COSSA’s members-only resources (see COSSA Resources section).

COSSA’s complete membership list can be found on the back cover of this report and is available online at [www.cossa.org/members](http://www.cossa.org/members).

### COSSA welcomed three new member organizations in 2020:



Learn more about COSSA membership at [www.cossa.org/members/join-cossa](http://www.cossa.org/members/join-cossa).



In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, COSSA's 2020 Social Science Advocacy Day went virtual for the first time. On April 28, about 40 social and behavioral scientists and stakeholders participated in COSSA's sixth annual Social Science Advocacy Day, meeting with Members of Congress and their staff about the many ways social and behavioral science is helping to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. Advocates representing 16 states participated, holding 58 individual meetings with Congressional offices. Materials used to help explain the unique contributions the social and behavioral sciences make to fighting COVID-19 and address other pressing national issues are available on COSSA's Advocacy Resources page.

A full recap of the 2020 Advocacy Day is available at [www.cossa.org/event/2020-advocacy-day](http://www.cossa.org/event/2020-advocacy-day).



*"Last year was my first COSSA Advocacy Day participation and I learned a lot, I also shared my experiences with my students as I had to miss classes. This year they were eager to hear again how advocacy works and were pleased to know several of the staffers in the offices were graduates of my institution. I had a chance to reconnect with staffers through the phone this year whom I met in person at last year's event. I am committed to building these very important connections for the goals of COSSA and my sponsoring organization." - 2020 Advocate*

*"I think if you work in the social sciences, this should be something you take advantage of... these conversations don't happen enough." - 2020 Advocate*



A special thank you to  
**our 2020 sponsors:**



## Advocacy Works

*"When a disaster occurs, being able to collect data, particularly upon social and behavioral responses, in a timely manner is crucial to understanding immediate impacts on communities."*

- Rep. Mikie Sherrill (NJ-11), September 2020

*"Recent disease outbreaks like SARS, MERS, Ebola, and Zika have highlighted the need to use social science to fight deadly disease outbreaks and epidemics. Additional investments in social science research on combatting misinformation during outbreaks could improve prevention and control efforts and strengthen global public health communication."*

- Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson (TX-30), March 2020

*"Integrating social scientists into our outbreak response helps communities accept and adhere to public health measures aimed at limiting the spread of disease."*

- Rep. Ami Bera (CA-7), March 2020

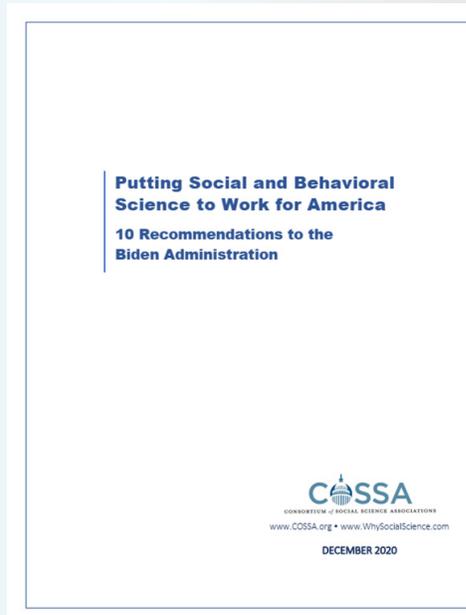


# Putting Social & Behavioral Science to Work for America:

## 10 Recommendations to the Biden Administration

Following the historic 2020 elections, COSSA developed a comprehensive report to the incoming Biden-Harris Administration detailing steps that can be taken to support social and behavioral science research and—more importantly—to utilize insights from our sciences to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic and other challenges confronting our nation. The report, *Putting Social and Behavioral Science to Work for America: 10 Recommendations to the Biden Administration*, was transmitted to the Biden transition team in December 2020.

***The report contains 32 specific actions the incoming Administration can take to support the U.S. research enterprise and use social science research in support of evidence-based policy making across three themes:***



### 1. Restore Trust in Science & Government Data

- Reverse the damaging policies of the last administration and rebuild the scientific enterprise.
- Recommit to the use of well-qualified, independent, unbiased scientific advice in effective policymaking.
- Protect the integrity, stature and independence of the federal statistical system to preserve trust in federal data.

### 2. Champion Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion in Science

- Use social and behavioral science to build a diverse and inclusive U.S. scientific enterprise that reflects the diversity of the American population.
- Facilitate the collection of demographic data that reflects how Americans view themselves.

### 3. Expand the Use of Social and Behavioral Science & Data in Decision-Making

#### ***Responding to COVID-19***

- Apply insights from the social and behavioral sciences to combatting the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### ***Building Scientific Capacity in the Executive Branch***

- Embed social and behavioral science expertise throughout the federal government to inform and strengthen policy decisions.
- Promote strong stewardship of the federal statistical system.

#### ***Enhancing the Scientific & Data Enterprise***

- Champion robust, sustained funding for research agencies and social and behavioral science research programs.
- Strengthen federal statistical and data infrastructure.

## MOMENTUM HSS

COSSA Executive Director Wendy Naus was featured in a 2020 episode of the Momentum HSS podcast, which features conversations with scholars, leaders, and others in the social science and humanities communities. In her conversation with host Darby Orcutt, Naus discusses the state of social science influence in policymaking and shares her ideas for effective science advocacy.

***You can listen to the podcast on the web at <https://soundcloud.com/momentumhss> or find it wherever you get your podcasts.***



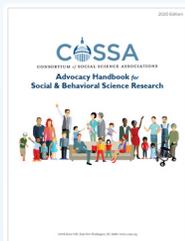
# COSSA Resources

## Timely Analysis & Policy Expertise

COSSA serves as a reliable resource for in-depth analysis of bills, proposed regulations, and other policy developments impacting social and behavioral science research. The team of policy experts boils down often-complicated topics into easy-to-digest briefs, articulating how the issue specifically impacts the social and behavioral science community. *COSSA's ADVOCACY web page ([www.cossa.org/advocacy](http://www.cossa.org/advocacy)) is an excellent source for statements, funding analysis, testimony, and other resources.*

## Advocacy Resources

The COSSA website houses several resources for members wishing to engage in advocacy. There you will find the COSSA Advocacy Handbook, funding- and policy-related talking points, and policy briefs on a variety of topics. You can also find links to Congressional and federal agency websites that are relevant to social science research. *Find this and more at [www.cossa.org/resources](http://www.cossa.org/resources).*



## Grassroots Action Alerts

COSSA issues alerts to members when action is needed on a federal policy issue. Our alert platform allows members to easily write to their elected officials in Congress and tailor the communication to highlight their own expertise and local impacts. COSSA members receive background information and talking points to help them craft their message to lawmakers. *Check out COSSA's TAKE ACTION page at [www.cossa.org/advocacy/take-action](http://www.cossa.org/advocacy/take-action).*



## University Social Science Annual Rankings

COSSA's annual College and University Rankings for Federal Social and Behavioral Science R&D highlights the top university recipients of federal research dollars in the social and behavioral sciences. Based on federally collected data, the COSSA rankings use an inclusive collection of fields to calculate the total federal R&D funding received by universities in the social and behavioral sciences. The 2020 rankings reflect federal expenditures in fiscal year 2018, the most current available data. *View the rankings at [www.cossa.org/resources/sbs-r-d-rankings](http://www.cossa.org/resources/sbs-r-d-rankings).*



## COSSA Washington Update

COSSA's most recognizable public resource is its biweekly newsletter, the COSSA Washington Update. A staple deliverable since COSSA's earliest days, Update provides members and the public with comprehensive coverage of policy developments impacting social and behavioral science research. *Check it out and subscribe for free online at [www.cossa.org/washington-update/archive](http://www.cossa.org/washington-update/archive).*

## State Funding Fact Sheets

COSSA's state funding fact sheets use federally collected data to show how much federal social and behavioral science research funding is awarded to each state annually. In addition to the total dollars, the fact sheets list the primary federal sources of funding (e.g. NSF, NIH, DOD) as well as the leading university recipients in the state. *View the fact sheets online at [www.cossa.org/resources/state-fact-sheets](http://www.cossa.org/resources/state-fact-sheets).*



## COSSA HEADLINES

A monthly look at what's new and noteworthy in social science policy

**COSSA's monthly webinar series continued in 2020 with recaps of the most important social and behavioral science news and "deep dive" discussions on timely topics with featured guests.**

**Recordings and more at [www.cossa.org/resources/headlines](http://www.cossa.org/resources/headlines).**

### COSSA MEMBERS ONLY

## 2020 DEEP DIVES

- January | 2019 Policy Wrap-Up and a Look Ahead
- February | The Trump Administration's FY 2021 Budget Request
- March | White House Office of Science and Technology Policy Updates
- April | Communication Strategies in an Emerging Public Health Crisis
- May | A Conversation with an Epidemiologist
- June | A Conversation on Police Violence
- July | The Societal Experts Action Network (SEAN)
- August | The Psychology of COVID-19
- September | Tracking School Reopening Plans
- October | Election Polling
- November | 2020 Election
- December | 2021 Policy Landscape



# WHY SOCIAL SCIENCE?

Launched in 2017, COSSA's Why Social Science? Initiative shares stories about the many ways social and behavioral science helps us understand the world around us and the value it brings to our everyday lives. Check out our guest contributors in 2020. [Read all the blog posts at www.whysocialscience.com](http://www.whysocialscience.com)



## *Because Hurricanes Aren't Going Away Any Time Soon and Schools Must Continue to Function*

Cassandra R. Davis, PhD,  
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

## *Because It Can Become a Tool to Dismantle White Supremacy*

Kenneth Prewitt, PhD, American Academy of Political and Social Science and Columbia

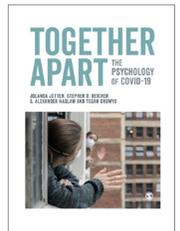


## *Setting the Record Straight: Why would you study companies in Tsarist Russia*

Amanda Gregg, PhD,  
Middlebury College

## *Because Collective Behavior Change is the Only Way We Can Stop the Spread of COVID-19*

Jolanda Jetten, PhD, S. Alexander Haslam, PhD, Tegan Cruwys, PhD, University of Queensland; Stephen D. Reicher, PhD, University of St Andrews



## *Because Money Makes The World Go 'Round*

Bill Maurer, PhD,  
University of California, Irvine

## *Because We're Living Through an "Infodemic"*

Adam Seth Levine, PhD, Cornell University & research4impact

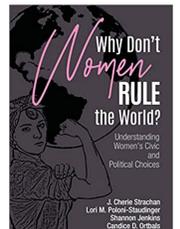


## *Because Institutional Racism Exacerbates our Health and Economic Challenges*

Allison Plyer, ScD, The Data Center of Southeast Louisiana

## *Because Misogyny Is Still Alive and Well and Women Still Don't "Rule" Equally to Men*

Lori M. Poloni-Staudinger, PhD, Northern Arizona University; J. Cherie Strachan, PhD, Central Michigan University; Candice D. Ortvals, PhD, Abilene Christian University; and Shannon Jenkins, PhD, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth



## *Because We Will Need to Do Better in the Next Crisis*

By John Haaga, PhD

## *Because It Can Help Us Cope with Pandemic Fatigue*

Jay Maddock, PhD,  
Texas A&M University



## *Because It Can Teach Police Nonviolence and How to Work with Local Residents*

Kirssa Cline Ryckman, PhD, Jennifer Earl, PhD, Jessica Maves Braithwaite, PhD, University of Arizona; James Nolan, PhD, West Virginia University

## *Because It Can Help Fight Stereotypes in the World of Science*

Kellina Craig-Henderson, PhD, National Science Foundation





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