Problem Solving Workshop

This workshop uses sociological theories to solve real-world problems, and uses attempts to solve real-world problems as a way to advance sociological theories. A strand of literature in the sociology of science suggests that many major advances in scientific theory have occurred as a result of researchers looking for breakthroughs in practical applications. We think a similar relationship of tight integration between basic and applied research may hold for the social sciences. This workshop is thus a space for students to try out ideas that are specifically aimed at solving social problems. The focus is on presenting ideas for research before any actual research is done, as frank discussion of research goals and designs at the start of a project can be crucial.

Josh Basseches and Miri Eliyahu, Student coordinators
joshuabasseches2014@u.northwestern.edu
mireliyahu2014@u.northwestern.edu

Monica Prasad – Faculty coordinator
m-prasad@northwestern.edu