

# POLITICS AND THE LIFE SCIENCES

## Manuscript Submission & Review

The editor welcomes high quality manuscripts from scholars and scientists in any discipline, and on a wide variety of topics that relate to politics and the life sciences, including:

- a broad range of policy subjects, from biomedical policy to biological warfare, from biotechnology to environmental policy;
- a broad range of biobehavioral subjects, both empirical and theoretical.

If a manuscript's subject or approach involves both politics and any of the life sciences, submission to *PLS* is appropriate. Since politics is not necessarily restricted to humans, manuscripts on nonhuman species are also welcome.

Submitted manuscripts are sent to outside referees who are established scholars in relevant fields. Some of the accepted manuscripts are reviewed by peer commentators, and their reactions published together with a response from the article's author(s). Readers' comments are also invited and published selectively in subsequent issues as continuing commentary.

Authors should submit five copies of a manuscript to be considered for publication, typed double-spaced (including a 100-150 word abstract, quotations, notes, and references). A manuscript may be submitted for review using any common format for notes, citations, and references. The final version of an accepted manuscript, however, must follow the journal's style requirements (based on the *Chicago Manual of Style*), and must be submitted on diskette. Manuscripts currently under consideration by other journals should not be submitted.

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All article manuscripts, commentaries, bibliographic information, and news items should be submitted to Gary R. Johnson, Editor, *Politics and the Life Sciences*, Lake Superior State University, 650 West Easterday Ave., Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan 49783-1699, USA (telephone +1-906-635-2757; fax +1-906-635-6693; E-mail: GJOHNSON@LAKERS.LSSU.EDU)

## Book Reviews

Inquiries regarding book reviews on public policy topics should be directed to Andrea L. Bonnicksen, Department of Political Science, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL 60115-2887, USA (telephone +1-815-753-7040; E-mail: ALBCORN@NIU.EDU).

Inquiries regarding book reviews on biobehavioral topics should be directed to Joseph Losco, Department of Political Science, Ball State University, Muncie, IN 47306-0515, USA (telephone +1-765-285-8982; E-mail: 00JALOSCO@BSUVC.BSU.EDU).

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## Abridged Abstracts; for full abstracts, see individual articles

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### **Is Humanity Destined to Self-Destruct?**

Lynton Keith Caldwell (Indiana University, USA)  
Pages 3-14

Facing threats to its long-term survival, humanity is challenged to learn how to build a sustainable future. A successful effort will require a concerted and cooperative effort among all fields of knowledge. This article identifies some of the trends that threaten humanity's future and suggests four lines of action.

### **The Human Genome Diversity Project: Ethical Problems and Solutions**

David B. Resnik (East Carolina University, USA)  
Pages 15-23

Scientists plan to collect samples from all isolated or culturally unique human populations that desire to participate. Opponents have argued that the HGDP smacks of racism, commercialism, exploitation, and cultural imperialism, and have also found fault with the informed consent process proposed by its organizers. The essay argues that the project should be implemented and should be funded, provided that researchers and organizers take steps to address the issues it raises.

### **Marine Biotechnology: A Proposal for Regulatory Reform**

Peter J. Balint (University of Maryland, USA)  
Pages 25-30

Biotechnology companies are developing genetically engineered fish, shellfish, and microorganisms to supplement conventional marine aquaculture and aid in the bioremediation of polluted coastal waters. Regulatory authority is poorly defined and ill prepared, and the science base presently available is not adequate to support credible ecological risk assessment.

### **Vigorous Shaking of Political Prisoners as a Means of Interrogation: Physical, Affective, and Neuropsychological Sequelae**

Norm O'Rourke (University of Ottawa, Canada)  
Pages 31-36

Torture is crude and widespread, but information and confessions are commonly extracted from political prisoners with few signs of physical trauma. There are good reasons to believe that vigorous shaking can induce whiplash-related injuries. Although global intellect may appear unaffected, subtler emotional and cognitive dysfunction can create lasting impairment. It is a dangerous and potentially lethal mode of interrogation.

### **A Political Ecology Perspective on Environmental Change in Malawi with the Blantyre Fuelwood Project Area as a Case Study**

Ezekiel Kalipeni (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA) Deborah Feder (Pennsylvania State University, USA)  
Pages 37-54

Nonparticipatory, "top-down" government programs disempowered Malawi's peoples and allowed the environment to degrade. The result has been local opposition to government programs, passive resistance, and deteriorating environmental conditions. The article critiques Malawi's forestry policies since colonial times, analyzes the political ecology of the Blantyre Fuelwood Project, and concludes with the hope that newly implemented "bottom-up" programs that incorporate local communities will make Malawi's environment more sustainable.