Looking Back:
How Jane Addams Challenged the Frontiers of Public Administration, Sociology, Social Work, Peace Studies and Philosophy – and why it matters today

Patricia M. Shields
Texas State University

PA Theory Network Conference
Laramie WY
June 1 - 4
• Who is Jane Addams
• How her contribution lost
• Pioneering Efforts
  • Social work
  • Sociology
  • Philosophy
  • Public Administration
  • Peace
• Restoring legacy

1860-1935

Funeral
Leader Settlement Movement

1880s – 1920s

Problems of Industrialization & Urbanization

Poverty

Health – Sanitation

Health – Industrial accidents

Education

Inspired by trip to England’s Toynbee Hall

Top Down model of reform
Ideas emerged from
This experience

Immigrant Community
Lab – conflict resolution

Bottoms up model of reform

Hull House – Settlement Workers gathering 1920
drama classes, 
day care programs, 
a coffee house-theater, 
an art and labor museum, 
Sunday concerts, 
a choir, 
over 25 clubs, 
meeting rooms for organized labor, and 
cooperative apartments for young women 
College Extension courses 
Voter Registration 

first in Chicago to establish a public 
bath, 
gymnasium, 
kitchen, 
playground, 
swimming pool.
• Child labor laws
• Playgrounds
• Juvenile Courts

• Street Cleaning/garbage collection
• Water/Sewer
• Healthier workplace
• NAACP founder
She nominated Roosevelt for the Progressive party presidential candidate.

Wilson nominated her for Nobel prize

She and Hoover worked on post WWI humanitarian efforts
Noted Speaker - Author
Nobel Peace Prize
1931

Founder
Woman’s Peace Party established
– Jane Addams Leader

• Women have an instinctive and rational opposition to war

• Women & Children suffer but not at table

• Linked to Suffrage Movement

Aug. 1914

Women’s Peace March
Women’s Peace Conference in The Hague
Recovering Jane Addams

1889
Celebrated

1915
Demeaned
Traitor
Communist
Silly old woman

1931

1935
DOJ Surveillance

Philosophy
Peace
Sociology
Public Administration
Social Work
1. One of the first people to move to a new area.
2. The pioneer inhabits new space and “settles” it
3. Create new set of ideas/methods where others follow

She is a pioneer in all three senses.
JANE ADDAMS COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK

Advancing the mission of social work on behalf of the poor, the oppressed, racial and ethnic minorities, and other at-risk urban populations.
From Jan. 1998 NASW NEWS

The life and work of Jane Addams (1860-1935), founder of Hull House and Nobel Peace Prize winner, demonstrated the ethics and values that became the basis of the 100-year-old social work profession.

Addams established both Hull House and the American settlement house movement in 1889 on Chicago’s West Side after being inspired by her visit to the world’s first settlement house, London’s Toynbee Hall.
• Sole Focus Social Work
• Social Work Education
• Focus on Case Work
• Professionalization of SW
• Not a reformer (against Suffrage)

Mary Richmond

• Focus on Social Reform
• Tradition of activism
• Focus on Peace

Jane Addams
Jane Addams and the Men of the Chicago School, 1892-1918

Mary Jo Deegan

Sociology

1988

Mary Jo Deegan
1892

5 articles
Presentations
1908

Sophonisba Breckinridge

Edith Abbott

Grace Abbott
Pragmatism and Feminism

Charlene Haddock Seigfried

1996

Charlene Haddock Seigfried

Philosophy
Founder Classical American Pragmatism

John Dewey  
Co-founded NAACP

George Herbert Mead

Jane Addams

William James

W. E. B. Du Bois  
Co-founded NAACP

Feminine Standpoint
Social Claim

- Sympathetic Knowledge (vs rigid moralisms)
- Lateral Progress
- Feminine Standpoint
Public Administration

Cam Stivers

2000
Practicing Public Administrator
• Nonprofit (Executive Director)
• Garbage Inspector

Municipal Housekeeping

Social Welfare Policy

PA Theory
Pragmatism & Public Administration

Social Equity/ Social Justice (Peace)

Ethics of Care
"Peace Research: Just the Study of War"*
Positive Peace

• Nonviolent and creative conflict transformation.
• Uneven long run focus.
• The fabric of the kind of society to which we aspire.
• Integrity, wholeness and well-being that arise from justice.
• Humanity toward others.
• Openness to a widely conceived social claim.
PeaceWeaving

– building the fabric of peace by emphasizing relationships. These positive relationships are built by working on practical problems, engaging people widely with sympathetic understanding while recognizing that progress is measure by the welfare of the vulnerable. (Shields & Soeters, 2015)
Need to:
Recover a legacy
Needlessly tarnished
By World War I