

1 **SOUTHERN SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY**
2 **CONSTITUTION**

3 (Revised. Approved December 1998, December 2012, September 2018)

4 **ARTICLE I - NAME**

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7 **Section 1.** This organization shall be known as the Southern Sociological Society.
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9 **ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES**

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11 **Section 1.** The Society seeks to promote the development of sociology as a profession and
12 scientific discipline by the maintenance of high academic professional and ethical
13 standards, and by encouraging (a) effective teaching of sociology, (b) valid and reliable
14 methods and research in the study of human society, (c) diffusion of sociological
15 knowledge and its application to societal problems, (d) cooperation with related
16 disciplines and groups, (e) recruitment and training of sociologists, and (f) development of
17 sociology programs in educational and other agencies.
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19 **Section 2.** Notwithstanding any of the purposes or objectives stated herein, the Society is
20 organized exclusively for educational purposes and will not engage in any activities which
21 are not contemplated by the provisions of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue
22 Code. The Society is not organized for profit, and no part of its net earnings shall inure to
23 the benefit of its members, officers, directors, or other private persons, except that the
24 organization be authorized to pay reasonable compensation for services.
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26 **Section 3.** In the event of dissolution of the Society, any net assets shall be distributed to
27 one or more organizations which have established appropriate exempt status under
28 Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, contributions to which are deductible, or
29 to a State or local government for public purposes.
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31 **ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP**

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33 **Section 1.** Membership shall be open to any person interested in the objectives of the
34 Society. The forms and conditions of membership are set forth in the Bylaws.
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36 **ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS**

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38 **Section 1.** The officers of the Society shall be a President, a Vice President, an Executive
39 Officer, a Recording Secretary a President-Elect, and a Vice President-Elect.
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41 **Section 2.** The President-Elect and the Vice President-Elect shall be elected annually by
42 the voting membership and after serving a one-year term become President and Vice
43 President, respectively, for a one-year term. An Executive Officer and a Recording
44 Secretary shall be appointed by the Executive Committee for a five-year term, which may
45 be extended annually thereafter. These appointments are subject to annual performance
46 review by the Executive Committee. The selection of persons to fill these appointed
47 offices is the responsibility of the Executive Committee.

48 **ARTICLE V - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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50 **Section 1.** The governing body of the Society shall be the Executive Committee. The
51 authority to interpret the Constitution and Bylaws rests in this Committee. It shall be
52 responsible for the formulation of policy and have charge of the general and fiscal affairs
53 of the Society; shall fill all vacancies not otherwise provided for, such appointees to hold
54 office until the installation of new officers at the next Annual Meeting; shall call regular
55 and special meetings of the Society; shall appoint such committees as are deemed
56 necessary to carry out the functions and achieve the objectives of the Society.

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58 **Section 2.** The Executive Committee shall consist of (a) the officers of the Society, (b)
59 the Past President of the Society for one year after the expiration of their term of office,
60 and (c) six members elected for three-year terms, two of which expire each year.

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63 **Section 3.** Members may not simultaneously hold two offices on the Executive
64 Committee, nor may an elected member of a standing committee concurrently serve on the
65 Executive Committee.

66 **ARTICLE VI - MEETINGS**

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69 **Section 1.** The Society shall hold an Annual Meeting for the transaction of business,
70 presentation of papers, and general discussion of sociological topics. The Executive
71 Committee may authorize additional meetings and may cancel or postpone the Annual
72 Meeting if it deems that there is sufficient justification.

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74 **Section 2.** The Executive Committee shall schedule and announce times and places of the
75 Annual Meetings at least three years in advance. These meetings shall be held at times and
76 places convenient to as many members as possible and where all accommodations are
77 open to all members of the Society. Notice of additional meetings or of changes in the
78 time and place of meetings shall be sent to all members as far in advance as possible.

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80 **Section 3.** The Executive Committee shall meet at least once during the Annual Meeting,
81 at a time and place announced to the Members, and shall be available to receive oral or
82 written communications from members.

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84 **Section 4.** At least one Business Session, scheduled at a time not in conflict with other
85 sessions, shall be held during the Annual Meetings, for the discussion of the business of
86 the Society, including the presentation of reports and communications to inform the
87 membership on matters of interest to the Society, and to permit response from the officials
88 to questions and suggestions from membership.

89 **ARTICLE VII - PUBLICATIONS**

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92 **Section 1.** The Publications Committee shall consist of six members elected by the voting
93 membership of the Society for a term of three years with two members' terms expiring each
94 year. The Executive Officer of the Society, the Editor(s) of *Social Currents*, the Editor(s) of

95 *The Southern Sociologist*, and the Webmaster shall be non-voting ex-officio members of the
96 Publications Committee. The Past President shall be a voting ex-officio member of the
97 Committee. A Chair and a Chair-Elect of the Publications Committee shall be selected by
98 voting members of the Committee and shall each serve a one-year term.
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100 **Section 2.** The Publications Committee will advise and make recommendations to the
101 Executive Committee on all matters relating to publication policies of the Society and be
102 responsible for executing such policies as the Executive Committee may establish within their
103 Constitutional authority. The editor or editors of a publication are to be absent from the final
104 deliberations and voting on issues pertaining to that publication.
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106 **Section 3.** The Executive Committee, with the advice of the Publications Committee, may
107 authorize regular or occasional publications, designating which shall go to members as part of
108 their privilege of membership.
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110 **Section 4.** The Executive Committee, with the advice of the Publications Committee, may
111 authorize and approve the appointment of an editor or editors of publications and an editorial
112 board or boards, if deemed necessary.
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114 **ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENTS**

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116 **Section 1.** The Constitution may be amended or a new Constitution adopted by a two-
117 thirds vote of the eligible voters voting in a ballot.
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119 **Section 2.** A proposed change shall be sent to the members for a vote when (a) initiated or
120 endorsed by the Executive Committee, (b) submitted in a petition by forty voting members, or
121 (c) endorsed by a majority vote at a Business Session in the Annual Meeting, provided at least
122 seventy-five voting members are present.