

Save the Dates: November 5-8, 2008

Peabody Little Rock Hotel, Little Rock, Arkansas



National Council on Family Relations

70th Annual Conference



Lenses on Family



Plenaries for Professionals

Is Child Well-being in the United States Improving or Declining?

Paul R. Amato, Distinguished Professor of Sociology, the Pennsylvania State University

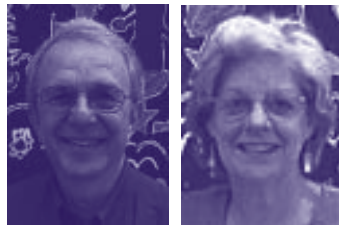


Amato

Observers disagree over whether children's well-being is improving or declining in the United States. Broad statements about children's well-being are problematic, however, because well-being is a multidimensional construct, and not all indicators have changed in the same direction. This presentation reviews evidence on various aspects of children's well-being (such as health, academic achievement, and poverty) and describes structural and policy factors that are linked with shifts in these outcomes.

Intervention Studies: Fostering Parental Couple Relationships

Philip & Carolyn Cowan, Professors Emeriti of Psychology, University of California, Berkeley



Philip & Carolyn Cowan

The Cowans will be reporting on more than a decade of intervention studies on parental relationships with young children, particularly in times of transition. Their recent studies contrast the impact of couples' groups and fathers' groups and how interventions encourage low income fathers to become and stay involved with their young children.

Economics of Care: Unpaid Caring Work and Paid Caring Work in the United States

Nancy Folbre, Professor of Economics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst



Folbre

How much time and money do Americans devote to the process of raising the next generation of workers and taxpayers? Dr. Folbre will answer this question, emphasizing the economic value of family work and insisting on the need to improve measures of economic efficiency and welfare. Professor Folbre is an economist specializing in research on the interface between political economy and feminist theory, caring labor, and the evolution of social institutions governing public support for childrearing.

Who is NCFR?

The National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) is the premier professional association for the multidisciplinary study of families. NCFR is highly-regarded as an authority for information on a broad range of family issues such as marriage, divorce, parenting, cross-cultural families, family health, family therapy, work-life, family stress, gender roles, family violence, child development, adolescence and aging. NCFR publishes two internationally acclaimed scholarly journals – the *Journal of Marriage and Family* and *Family Relations: Interdisciplinary Journal of Applied Family Studies*. NCFR will launch its third journal, the *Journal of Family Theory & Review*, in 2009. This annual conference draws attendees from all over the world and from every discipline related to family studies.

Asian-American Migration: Redefining Identity, Family and Country

Yen Le Espiritu, Professor of Ethnic Studies, University of California, San Diego



Espiritu

Although contemporary United States family arrangements are diverse and fluid, American society continues to idealize the traditional nuclear family, which features a breadwinner husband-father and a stay-at-home wife-mother. This naturalized family structure distorts and devalues the variety of means by which women, men, and children organize their family life. Focusing on Asian immigrant families, this presentation critically surveys the various family arrangements that Asian immigrants have assembled in response to global structures of inequality.

Special Sessions

Globalization and Academe: Teaching and Research Opportunities Abroad

Presenters: **Karen Blaisure, Cheryl Cheek, Carol A. Darling, Elisabeth F. Maring, Christine A. Fruhauf, Linda Haas, Shirley M.H. Hanson, Erin Kostina-Ritchey, Eileen Trzcinski, Stephan M. Wilson, and Steven K. Wisensale**

In this session, we have assembled a group of scholars who have incorporated international experiences into their careers. Through Fulbright scholarships and other fellowships and grants, NCFR scholars are touching the world. In roundtable discussions, hear about their journeys and find out how you can weave international studies into your professional life.

(Supported by the International and Family Science Sections)

The Academic Portfolio: A New and More Effective Way to Document Teaching

Peter Seldin, J. Elizabeth Miller and Lynda Henley Walters

Peter Seldin is Distinguished Professor of Management, Pace University, **J. Elizabeth Miller** is Associate Professor of Family and Child Studies, Northern Illinois University, **Lynda Henley Walters** is Emeritus Professor of Child and Family Development, University of Georgia



Miller



Seldin

This workshop focuses squarely on academic portfolios, which may prove to be the most innovative and promising faculty evaluation and development technique in years. This session is designed for faculty members, department chairs, deans, and members of promotion and tenure committees. It identifies key issues, red flag warnings, and benchmarks for success. It describes the what, why, and how to develop academic portfolios. It includes an extensively tested step-by-step approach to creating a portfolio and covers twenty-one possible portfolio items on teaching, research, scholarship, and service.

(Supported by Students/New Professionals and the Family Science Section)



Ongoing Evaluation of Building Strong Families Programs

Robin Dion and Alan Hershey,
Mathematica Policy Research, Inc., Princeton, NJ

More than 5,000 low-income, romantically involved, unmarried couples with children have voluntarily enrolled in Building Strong Families (BSF), a demonstration of relationship education programs. BSF's rigorous evaluation is testing whether interventions can help such parents strengthen their relationships and, if they choose to wed, achieve their aspirations for a healthy marriage. Researchers from Mathematica Policy Research, Inc. will discuss findings from the baseline survey, focus groups, and program participation data.

(Sponsors: Research and Theory and Family Policy Sections)

Writing Successful Qualitative Research Proposals

Margarete Sandelowski, PhD, RN, FAAN

Dr. Sandelowski is the Cary C. Boshamer Professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Nursing. This hands-on workshop will take participants through the process of how to write high-quality Qualitative Research proposals for the purposes of Institution Review Boards, dissertations, and funding requests.

(Sponsors: Students/New Professionals, Feminism and Family Studies, Research and Theory, Family and Health, Family Policy, and Religion and Family Life Sections and Theory Construction and Research Methodology Workshop)



Sandelowski

Networks of Care in and Outside Family Class, Neighborhood and Gender

Karen V. Hansen, Professor of Sociology,
Brandeis University, Waltham, Massachusetts

Putting children's care at the center reveals how the concept of "family" and family responsibilities can be expanded and how neighborhood and social class affect adults' time and activities. Professor Hansen investigates the lives of working families and the networks they construct to help them care for their school-age children. In this session, she will discuss the crisis of care, and the shortage of responsible adults with sufficient time to attend to the needs of their kin.



Hansen

Evaluation of Child and Family Policies

Using Federal Data to Compare States' "Best Practices" in Adoptions Out of Foster Care, **Preston Britner**; *Career Start: An Evaluation of a Middle School Student Engagement Strategy*, **Dennis K. Orthner**; one more invited speaker to be announced.

(Supported by Family Policy Section)

Evidence-based Practice: Linking Research and Practice

Gary L. Bowen, Kenan Distinguished Professor of Social Work, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and NCFR President-elect



Bowen

This session will define Evidence-based Practice (EBP), its history and development, and its current application in family science and social work, including pros and cons. Panel members will discuss the application of EBP to areas of central concern to NCFR members: youth development, school success, family life education (marital and family enrichment), and training of family life and social work professionals.

(Supported by Family Policy, Family Therapy, Research and Theory, and Family and Health Sections)

Service Learning in Family Studies

Panel: **Janet Eyler**, Professor, Vanderbilt University, **Jacki Fitzpatrick, Elizabeth Sharp**, both professors at Texas Tech University



Eyler



Sharp

An expert panel will discuss the principles of service learning and will provide frameworks for evaluating the experience and information about designing meaningful service learning activities for Family Studies students.

(Sponsors: Family Science and Education and Enrichment Section)

Research Methods Update: The Interdependence of Family Members: Approaches in Multilevel Modeling

Aline Sayer, JuliAnna Smith, Jade Logan, from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst



Sayer



Smith



Logan

One of the most fascinating aspects of studying families is attempting to understand the impact of the strong interdependence between family members on well-being, relationship quality and other outcomes of interest. Unfortunately, many commonly used statistical methods such as analysis of variance (ANOVA) and ordinary least squares (OLS) regression assume that the outcomes being examined are statistically independent of each other. As a result, hypothesis tests based on these approaches will be inaccurate when examining outcomes for individuals who are nested within families. This workshop will provide several statistical models useful for the analysis of dyadic data including the longitudinal multivariate outcomes model for distinguishable dyads. The presenters will walk the participants through the steps required to properly structure data and then to fit these models to data using the HLM6 software package.

(Supported by Research and Theory Section)

Continuing Education Hours

The National Council on Family Relations is approved by the American Psychological Association, National Board of Certified Counselors, National Association of Social Workers (Metro Washington Chapter) and for the NCFR Certified Family Life Educator credential to offer continuing education hours for psychologists, therapists, family life educators, counselors, social workers and other family professionals. NCFR maintains responsibility for the program. For complete conference information check NCFR's website: <http://www.ncfr.org/conf/current/annual.asp>



Focus on Poverty Research: The National Poverty Centers

Pamela A. Monroe, Professor, School of Social Work, Louisiana State University

The purpose of this session is to further the knowledge of federally supported Poverty Centers and the resources available to scholars through the Centers, by listening to and interacting with a panel of leader-representatives from each of the Centers.

(Supported by the Family Policy Section)



Monroe

Oppression: Family Therapist/Practitioner Awareness and Sensitivity

Kenneth V. Hardy, Professor of Couple and Family Therapy at Drexel University, College of Nursing & Health Professions.

Dr. Hardy, internationally known for his work with diverse and oppressed families, will examine the complex interplay between race, reality, and our relationships. Therapists and other practitioners who work with members of racially oppressed groups are often challenged by the presence of invisible wounds. These wounds are the culmination of ongoing experiences with injustice, degradation, and discrimination. Lack of awareness and sensitivity to the wounds of oppression can impede practitioners' work with oppressed clients. Innocent acts of insensitivity are often unspoken, unacknowledged, micro-acts that contribute to the premature termination of intervention and the perceptions that oppressed people are resistant to help.

This special session will examine the anatomy of racial oppression and its impact on the life experience of those targeted. It will explore



Hardy

the multitudinous ways in which therapy and other family work potentially replicates acts of oppression for clients whose life experiences have been maligned by prejudice and discrimination. Strategies for uncovering and addressing the invisible wounds of oppression will be discussed. Participants also will be encouraged to explore the ways in which their personal experiences with oppression both enrich and constrain their work as family therapists and practitioners. Strategies for conducting effective cross racial dialogues, and for promoting an authentic climate of inclusion will also be discussed.

(Sponsor: Family Therapy Section; Co-sponsors: Family Policy, Ethnic Minorities and Feminism and Family Studies Sections and the Asian-American Families Focus Group)

Innovative Family Life Education

H. Wallace Goddard, Family Life Specialist and Professor, Family and Consumer Sciences, University of Arkansas and **Charles Smith**, Professor and Extension Specialist, School of Family Studies and Human Services, Kansas State University



Goddard



Smith

Traditional methods for providing family life education just aren't enough anymore. Family life educators are challenged to find new strategies and avenues of communication to reach their audiences. This session will explore some of these new educational approaches and engage participants in a discussion of how to implement them in their work.

(Sponsor: Education and Enrichment Section;
Co-sponsor: CFLE Advisory Board)

Award Presentations and Addresses

By the 2008 Ernest Burgess Award & Margaret Arcus Award Winners

Special Events

President's Welcoming Reception

President **Maxine Hammonds-Smith** invites all conference attendees to enjoy the annual President's Reception to be held Wednesday evening at the beautiful Arkansas Governor's Mansion. NCFR past Presidents will be honored. Greet old friends and meet new friends from all over the globe.

(Sponsored by the publisher of NCFR's scholarly journals, Wiley-Blackwell)



Launching the Journal of Family Theory & Review and Celebrating NCFR's Institutional Identity at the William J. Clinton Presidential Library

Join us as we celebrate the arrival of NCFR's newest scholarly journal and the results of our year-long Institutional Identity Project. This Reception will be held at the Clinton Presidential Library on Thursday evening from 6:00-7:30 pm. Following the Reception, attendees will be able to tour the Library. Thanks to Wiley Blackwell Publishing for sponsoring this event and to the University of Arkansas, School of Human Environmental Sciences and the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences for sponsoring the Library Tour. You must register in advance for the library tour when you register for the Conference.

NCFR 70th Anniversary Celebration

All attendees are invited to a Birthday party for NCFR, sponsored by the Students/New Professionals. Experience a night of Ozark Culture at this special event, with Bluegrass music, dance lessons, folk art, and more. Relax and reminisce with colleagues at the Peabody Hotel on Friday evening.

Come a Day Early!

Tuesday, November 4 is Election Day! The United States will be choosing its next President. We are planning a special election event; we're reserving a large room and a big screen television to gather with colleagues and watch the election returns come in.

Tuesday's Pre-conference Workshops

The Theory Construction and Research Methodology Workshop offers a unique opportunity where scholars present and discuss their ideas and research in a highly constructive and informal format designed to enhance works in progress, and to advance the development of theory and methods in family research and practice. Find out more about this popular workshop at: <http://www.ncfr.org/conf/TCRM.asp>

"See the World" Through NCFR's Pre-Conference Learning Experience at Heifer International

Here's another reason to come to the Little Rock conference a day early - to experience the world via Heifer International. Join NCFR colleagues on this day-long learning experience at Heifer International (HI). Tour their headquarters and learn about HI's approach to alleviating global hunger through their "passing on the gifts" approach to international development and resource sustainability. Space is limited, so please sign up with your conference registration.

The Conference Hotel and Sites of Little Rock

Conference Headquarters

The Peabody Hotel, 3 Statehouse Plaza, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 (501-375-5000) is the headquarters hotel for the 2008 NCFR Annual Conference. The Peabody Hotels are home to a charming waterfowl tradition that began back in the 1930s. Each day, several ducks waddle through the lobby and make their way to the lobby's central fountain. In fact, NCFR President **Maxine Hammonds-Smith** will be the honorary Duckmaster on Wednesday, November 5 at 5:00 pm just prior to going to the Reception at the Governor's Mansion. (At the time this is going to press, there is a YouTube video of the "March of the Ducks" on the internet at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p10YyBuzicQ>) Located in the heart of the bustling downtown River Market District, The Peabody Little Rock offers luxurious guest rooms, elegant ballrooms and meeting spaces, and world-class restaurants. The Peabody is located near Little Rock's best attractions:

- Less than a mile from the William J. Clinton Presidential Library and less than 15 minutes from Little Rock International Airport
- Easily accessible by foot, trolley, or a short drive to nearby attractions, including the Statehouse Museum, Alltel Arena, the Museum of Discovery, Arkansas Repertory Theatre, Arkansas Arts Center and the Robinson Center

Little Rock Attractions

During the time of the Conference the average high temperature in Little Rock is 62 degrees, and the average low is 43 degrees. Little Rock boasts a population of about 182,000 and is a thriving metropolis with an expanded convention center and anchoring hotel, the Peabody Little Rock, one of only three Peabody hotels in the nation. Developments in the city's downtown include River Market District, an entertainment area with several loft apartments in renovated historic buildings, museums, art galleries, restaurants and shops

See Civil Rights History: Visit the 1927 Gothic-Style Central High School which received international attention during the Civil Rights Movement and also the museum in the restored service station across the street. Tour the "All the World is Watching Us" exhibit which tells the story of the Little Rock Nine – the students who made civil rights history when they entered Central High in September 1957.

CAPITALIZE ON YOUR VISIT! Stop at the State Capitol. Modeled after the nation's Capitol, the building features Arkansas granite and bronze doors and chandeliers crafted by Tiffany's of New York. Tour the Capitol grounds and see the bronze statues of the Little Rock Nine. Call to schedule a guided tour.



The Old State House – is the oldest standing state capitol building west of the Mississippi River, and today houses a museum of Arkansas history. Bill Clinton announced his campaign for presidency and celebrated his victory here, both in 1992 and in 1996. It's next door to the Peabody Hotel.

Enjoy the Art of it All! The Arkansas Arts Center in MacArthur Park near the River Market District has a few special offerings of its own. The recently expanded museum includes a world-renowned art collection, Children's Theatre, Museum School, Arkansas Arts Center Administrative Offices, and Best Impressions Restaurant

Experience for yourself the longest pedestrian and bicycle bridge in the world – the Big Dam Bridge. The 4,226-foot bridge, elevated up to 90 feet above the Arkansas River, links 25 miles of bike-hike trails in the cities of Little Rock and North Little Rock, as well as connecting two recreation areas – Murray Park and Cooks Landing.

Find Inspiration in the Shadow of a Bridge! Stroll through River Front Park and let your mind and soul become enriched by the many works of art placed along the path to the Clinton Presidential Center and Park. These sculptures illustrate our common values and the wonderful quality of life to be found in Arkansas.

Go green! No matter where you are in Little Rock you're only minutes from the wide open spaces of a city park. Little Rock is nestled among a profusion of green open spaces and natural areas set aside for recreational, educational, ecological and aesthetic benefits for the people who live or visit here to enjoy at their leisure.

Travel Discounts

Airlines no longer offer group contracts for conventions. If you use **The Travel Concern**, a travel agency out of Minneapolis, they will seek to find you the lowest airfare. (Fees apply.) Access their website at the NCFR Website: <http://thetravelconcern.travelasp.com/> or call 800-373-4100 or 612-331-4100.

Register Early!

Register early and save. If you become a member, you'll save more on registration fees. Go to http://www.ncfr.org/pdf/conf/Register_Print_Form.pdf to print out a form and mail or fax. Online registration is available at <https://secure.ncfr.com/registration2008.html>

Full Conference Registration:

	By July 31	Aug. 1-Oct. 17	On-site
<input type="checkbox"/> NCFR Member	\$260	\$290	\$320
<input type="checkbox"/> *NCFR Student Member	\$ 75	\$ 75	\$ 75
<input type="checkbox"/> NCFR Emeritus Member	\$125	\$125	\$135
<input type="checkbox"/> Second Member of Family	\$215	\$245	\$255
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-member Professional	\$375	\$410	\$435
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-member Student	\$145	\$145	\$155

Single Day Registration:

	By July 31	Aug. 1-Oct. 17	On-site
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Day Professional	\$195	\$195	\$215
<input type="checkbox"/> * Full Day Full-time Student	\$ 65	\$ 65	\$ 65

* Students must send proof of student status with the registration.

There are additional fees for Tuesday workshops. Prices will be listed as they become available.

Check the NCFR Website for late-breaking news and registration information!

<http://www.ncfr.org/conf/current/annual.asp>

Linking family research, education and practice

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Join the World's Top Family Researchers and Practitioners; Come to the NCFR Conference

- **The Conference offers high-quality sessions.** This year there are four outstanding plenary sessions to help us look through diverse family lenses. In addition, there are 13 special sessions presented by recognized leaders in the field.
- **The Conference provides extraordinary networking opportunities.** NCFR is known as a friendly organization for everyone – professionals and students.
- **Join us in celebrating NCFR's 70th Birthday and a bright and promising future.**
- **The NCFR Job Fair provides an opportunity for employers to interview with prospective candidates at the conference.**

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Pre-conference Workshops November 4