

Report

September 2003

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Family Focus on...

Marriage

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"Marriage is a great institution," Mae West once said, adding "but I'm not ready for an institution."

Unlike West, many people today feel that the institution of marriage should be promoted for the sake of our children and our nation. But others believe that marriage by itself isn't enough: the relationship must also be healthy and fulfilling.

In this issue, we explore marriage promotion and enrichment, cross-cultural perspectives, moments of marital stress, and what some see as a move away from marriage. As always, we welcome your comments.

Next Issue:

Religion

Come to Vancouver

Be Actively Involved in the Discussion of the Hot Topics in the News

The 2003 NCFR Conference will soon be here. If you are trying to decide whether to come to the conference - we encourage you to say, "Yes." NCFR conferences have always had themes on "hot" issues, but this year's theme and conference is particularly relevant.

Over the last few months the topic of "Marriage" has been in the news - especially when the courts in Ontario determined that same sex marriage is legal. The



Cindy Winter, CMP, Conference Coordinator and Paul Amato, 2003 Conference Program Chair



general feeling is that this ruling will follow throughout all of Canada. This has created much debate in both Canada and the U.S. What better timing for the NCFR Conference to be involved in these discussions. Look at the breadth of topics on the subject of marriage at the plenaries, RUPS, and special sessions that are planned:

- **Andrew Cherlin**, noted Johns Hopkins Professor, author, and speaker kicks off

the program by assessing the current state of marriage in North America, and projecting some possible scenarios for marriage over the next few decades.

- **John Gottman**, Founder and director of the Gottman Institute, Seattle and award winning author will describe the limitations of current marital therapy, summarize some new findings based on his observational research, and outline new directions for marital therapy based on empirical theory.
- **Ingrid Arnet Connidis**, Professor of Sociology at the Univ. of Western Ontario, London, Canada, and known for her work on aging and family relationships, addresses intimate relationships in later life. She will explore shifting views about forms of and entitlement to intimate unions as people age and form new relationships.
- **Thomas Bradbury**, Professor of Clinical Psychology at the Univ. of California, Los Angeles, award winning author, and researcher on marriage development, will describe how knowledge gained from longitudinal research can be used to prevent adverse marital outcomes, and help us understand how marriages change over time. New directions in marriage research will be explored.

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- Panelists **Larry Kurdek, Danielle Julien, and Charlotte J. Patterson**, will review the research on long-term gay/lesbian relationships, consider the impact these long-term relationships have on the development and well-being of their children, and assess the impact of recent legal/political decisions in the U.S./Canadian on the debate over gay and lesbian marriages.
- Friday's Plenary Panel – **Ronald Mincy, R.S. Oropesa, Masako Ishii-Kuntz, and Phyllis J. Johnson** will focus on variations in marriage across various racial/ethnic groups in the U.S. and Canada. They will describe how family structures and processes differ between groups, delineate their

specific strengths and challenges, and reflect on probable futures for marriages within these ethnic/racial communities.

- **A Special Workshop by the "Points of Light Foundation"** led by **Christopher Cihlar**, and **Bandana Shrestha**, will help participants develop an understanding of how agencies can build and maintain effective partnerships with low-income communities and how volunteering can help strengthen families and transform their neighborhoods.
- **Ronald Mincy**, endowed chair Professor of Social Policy and Social Work, Columbia Univ., will address "Fragile Families: Extending American Models of Family Formation" at the Friday Research Update for Practitioners. He will present an update on emerging findings for the Fragile Families study; describe the challenges faced by parents and children in these families, and give implications for research, policy, and practice.
- Saturday's Plenary session is a panel addressing *Cohabitation and Marriage in Western Countries*. Panelists: **Celine LeBourdais, Judith A. Seltzer, Jan Trost**, will focus on non-marital cohabitation and its relationship to marriage. Historical and contemporary trends in cohabitation in the U.S., Canada, England, and Sweden will be described. Panelists will discuss whether cohabitation is replacing marriage or is a new step in the union formation process leading to marriage.
- **Stephanie Coontz, Theodora Ooms, and Ted Huston**, will discuss diverse viewpoints on the future of marriage in an open-ended format to allow these prominent experts to comment on conference materials presented earlier. Placing current trends in marriage in a historical context, they will consider whether marriage is resilient or is declining as an institution.
- **Robin Dion, Matt Stagner, Mike Fishman and Brendan Kelly** will discuss Federal evaluation research on Healthy Marriages.

A second "hot" topic in the news is about Work-Life Issues

Over the last few weeks "work" and "family" are in the news as Congress is looking

at the whole issue of "overtime pay" for workers. This plus other topics such as how workers feel about their jobs are important. **Dr. Linda Duxbury** from Carleton Univ. in Ontario is the keynote speaker for the **Work-Life Summit**. Dr. Duxbury and her colleagues published a report: *Voices of Canadians: Seeking Work-Life Balance* that was released across Canada. Dr. Duxbury is analyzing the BC data, and compiling a new report for the Summit. This will be released to the press immediately following her talk. The talk will establish the agenda for the day as Summit participants identify what has been done in BC, who are the key players, and make plans for the future in moving ahead with improved work-life policies and culture.

All eyes have been on Vancouver as it was selected to be the site of the 2010 Winter Olympics

Come early or stay late and go up to Whistler - site of the skiing events in Vancouver. Get a preview of the beautiful sites around Vancouver and Whistler. You can have the best of both worlds - ski in Whistler in November - but it will be very mild weather - with no snow in Vancouver that is down in the valley and protected by the ocean.

2004 is the celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the United Nations Year of the Family

NCFR is inaugurating a year-long emphasis on this important activity. NCFR has many activities planned for the IYF.

You won't want to miss the special Presidential Forum that NCFR President **Carol Darling** has put together on **International Initiatives in Family Life Education**. Various countries beyond the U.S. have developed extensive programs in family life education, passed legislation to support family life education, proposed marriage/couples/parent education, and/or focused on issues of concern to families. However, there is little information and communication about the progress of these initiatives worldwide. The purpose of this forum will be to learn about the status of family life education and family policy within our global community in order to facilitate an international information exchange and support network for countries dealing with similar issues. Presenters will

Report

of The National Council on Family Relations

Mission Statement for the Report:

REPORT, the quarterly newsletter of the National Council on Family Relations, strives to provide timely, useful information to help members succeed in their roles as researchers, educators, and practitioners. Articles address family field issues, programs and trends, including association news.

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President's Report

Honoring Our Valued Members

NCFR is fortunate to have committed and talented members that range from students/new professionals to multi-year members. In fact, many members are still active in NCFR long after their retirement. Their continuing commitment represents the "heart and soul" of our organization. Several of us joined NCFR while we were in graduate school and have continued to thrive in the supportive environment of our national and international colleagues. It is this multifaceted and intergenerational interaction of members that adds to our strength and vitality. Since we value the loyalty and contributions of our members, we have chosen to recognize and honor them in various ways, including the following:

- **Legacy Circle:** Those NCFR members who have been a member for 25 years or more are designated as Legacy Circle Members. Each year at the annual meeting, Legacy Circle Members are invited to a special reception in their honor. The list of Legacy Circle Members is noted on our website under "Honored Members."
- **Fellowship Status:** Fellowship status in NCFR is an honor awarded to a select number of NCFR members who have made outstanding and enduring contributions to the field of the family in the areas of scholarship, teaching, outreach, or professional service, including service to NCFR. By definition, outstanding contributions are those that have had a broad impact on the field and are enduring over time. These contributions occur infrequently. No more than 1% of the number of members in NCFR will be awarded fellowship status in any one year. The list of NCFR Fellows is indicated on our website under "Honored Members."
- **Certified Family Life Educators:** NCFR sponsors the only national program to certify family life educators. The CFLE program recognizes those professionals who have course-work and professional experience in family life educa-

tion including formal teaching, community education, curriculum and resource development, health care, military family support, counseling, and ministry. Those members who are Certified Family Life Educators are recognized on NCFR's website under the CFLE Program.

We have several awards that have been created to honor our members. These awards not only recognize some of our distinguished members, but also the accomplishments of developing and experienced scholars. The criteria for these awards can be found on our website along with a list of previous recipients. While these awards have been endowed, the sponsors of these awards would welcome additional contributions, as well as nominations of potential recipients.

- **Margaret E. Arcus Outstanding Family Life Educator Award** is given to honor the remarkable contribution made to family life education by

Margaret E. Arcus, University of British Columbia, during a long and productive career. Sponsored by the Education and Enrichment Section, this "new" award is designed to foster the tradition of excellence and scholarship in family life education by recognizing family life education scholars and practitioners who 1) advance the field of family life education through significant contributions and 2) increase the visibility and credibility of family life education scholarship and practice.

- **Jessie Bernard Awards** are presented in memory of Jessie Bernard, former NCFR Board Member and pioneer in the field of Feminist Family Studies. These awards are sponsored by the Feminism and Family Studies Section to recognize 1) a graduate student/new professional who has demonstrated excellence in research and potential contribution to feminist scholarship

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be from Taiwan, Korea, Finland, and Canada.

The **NCFR International Section** is planning an all-day tour of Vancouver area Family Service Agencies on Tuesday, Nov. 18. You will be interested in seeing how these agencies work with various ethnic groups in the area.

In addition to this, we discovered in preparing the printed program that there are presenters from more than 20 countries. This is highly significant.

YOU will be missed if you aren't at the Conference

We have given you just a few brief summaries of only the special sessions - but this is just a sample of the more than 500 papers, symposia, workshops, posters, and roundtables that are open to you for what promises to be an exceptional learning, networking opportunity in Vancouver.

Many attendees have stated that NCFR is the friendliest professional conference

in which they have participated. Everyone is valued, and we miss those who are not able to attend. If you have not ever been to a conference we encourage you to try it this year. It will be an enriching professional experience for you. You will learn from the presenters and be armed to go back and become actively involved with helping families in your community.

The Annual Conference printed program was mailed in early August. If you haven't received your copy yet, please call or e-mail the office, and we will make sure that you get one. We look forward to seeing each of you in Vancouver at the Conference

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and 2) a graduate student/new professional who has published or is about to publish a paper using feminist frameworks and methodologies in research.

- **Ernest Burgess Award** is in memory of Ernest W. Burgess, University of Chicago, NCFR co-founder and fourth NCFR president. Dr. Burgess was a pioneer in his contributions to marriage and family research in America. This award is sponsored by the Research and Theory Section to recognize outstanding scholarly achievement during the course of a career in the study of families.
- **Mary Jo Czaplewski Fellowship** is given in honor of NCFR's third Executive Director, Mary Jo Czaplewski, CFLE. This fellowship is given to fund additional training in administration for a NCFR member who is making a mid-career change to Administration.
- **Rueben Hill Award** is given to honor Rueben Hill, Professor of Sociology, University of Minnesota. This award is sponsored by the Research and Theory Section and is presented to the authors of the best research article for the year prior to the award.
- **Ruth Hathaway Jewson Award** is in honor of Ruth Hathaway Jewson, NCFR's second Executive Director. This award is given to fund the best Family Studies Dissertation proposal submitted by a doctoral candidate.
- **John L. McAdoo Dissertation Award** is a tribute honoring the scholarship and leadership of John L. McAdoo, Professor of Family and Child Ecology at Michigan State University and a founding member of NCFR's Ethnic Minorities Section. This award provides support for the completion of an approved doctoral dissertation with a focus on issues related to families of color.
- **Marie Peters Award** is in honor of Marie F. Peters, who was a former NCFR

Board member and Ethnic Minorities Section Chair. This award, presented by the Ethnic Minorities Section, recognizes distinguished scholars, researchers, and practitioners who have made a significant contribution in the area of ethnic minority families.

- **Anselm Strauss Award for Qualitative Research** is given to honor Anselm Strauss, whose life work was to develop and practice qualitative methodologies. This award, which is presented by the Qualitative Family Research Network, a focus group of the Research and Theory Section, recognizes outstanding qualitative family research.
- **Jan Trost Award** is given in honor of Jan Trost, Uppsala University, Sweden, one of the founding members of the International Section and a past Section Chair. This award, which is sponsored by the International Section, recognizes outstanding contributions in comparative family studies.
- **Student Award** is given to a NCFR graduate student member, who has demonstrated excellence as a student with high potential for contribution to the field of family studies.

Student Council on Family Relations at TSU Consults with NCFR to build Tobacco Education Prevention Programs

Under the auspice of Texas Southern University Tobacco Education Program (TSUTEP) the Student Council on Family Relations has assumed a major role in addressing the Texas State goals: 1) Prevention – prevent youth tobacco use; 2) Cessation– increase cessation among youth and adults; 3) Secondhand smoke - eliminate exposure to second hand smoke; and 4) Disparities – reduce tobacco use in diverse & special populations.

The Student Council of Family Relations major initiative for the past year has been to provide the leadership for the TSUTEP Collegiate Project for students ranging in ages 18 to 24 using a family oriented approach. Therefore, most of the Council's activities have addressed cessation whose campaign is "Worth It!" The concept of "Worth It!" is that the use of tobacco is not worth it when considering health hazards. The success of Texas Southern University Student Council on Family Relations (TSUSCFR) has resulted from consulting with the National Council on Family Relations as well as collaborating and partnering with other student organizations and established community organizations and

agencies. The collective talents of these groups led to the NCFR production of a CD entitled "Thirteen," an educational tool to educate youth and their families on tobacco prevention. The CD with its refrain that 1 out of 13 tobacco users will lose their lives due to tobacco use has been tested with several groups, and the evaluation results are quite favorable.

TSUSCFR is now working on another initiative similar to the Collegiate Project. Joining TSUSCFR in this partnership are two Texas Cooperative Extension Programs: Texas A & M University System in Fort Bend County and Prairie View A & M University in Waller County. These organizations have a history of sustainability in communities. With a focus on the prevention goal, TSUSCFR will also partner with the 4-H Clubs, Summer Food Service Programs, Boys and Girls Clubs, Girls Scouts of America, YMCAs, local school districts, Head Start programs, churches and other community organizations.

*Né Cole Moore, President
Texas Southern University Student Council
on Family Relations*

In our continuing effort to honor our valued members, we are examining new options, such as recognition for retired CFLEs. In addition, a new award is being established to honor Harold and Margaret Feldman and their long-term efforts to promote public policy.

CFLE Emeritus: NCFR is considering developing an Emeritus Category for Certified Family Life Educators. CFLE Emeritus status would provide recognition to persons who are Certified Family Life Educators at the time of their retirement and who have made outstanding and enduring contributions to the field of family life education in the areas of scholarship, teaching, outreach or professional service, including service to the CFLE program. While CFLEs may be retired from their professional positions, they may continue to provide family life education on an infrequent or casual basis. They may wish to maintain their connection with the CFLE program and receive recognition for their years of service to the family life education profession. Emeritus status candidates

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Executive Review

Planned Giving: Leave a Lasting Legacy to NCFR

This summer, I attended a seminar on planned giving. Like many middle-income Americans, I give to the United Way, my high school, the two universities that I graduated from, political candidates, and causes, such as the Clean Water Action Committee. But aside from this, I've never really thought much about philanthropy or planned giving until recently. In this, I'm not unusual. Most of us contribute to religious and educational institutions, nonprofit organizations, or professional associations for which we've volunteered or whose missions we believe in. But few of us have considered leaving a financial legacy after our death.

Thinking about philanthropy

What stimulated my thinking in this area was that some of our members have expressed an interest in designating NCFR as a beneficiary in their wills. In addition, we are, as an association, considering a funding strategy in support of the Harold and Margaret Feldman Public Policy Center (see President Carol Darling's column on this page.)

The seminar, sponsored by the Minnesota Community Foundation, provided an overview for entry-level charitable gift planners. It covered such topics as:

- an overview of funds development
- the development process
- tax fundamentals
- a review of assets best suited for planned gifts after death
- the elements of a successful planned-giving program

I also learned that more than 70 percent of Americans contribute to nonprofit groups throughout their lifetime, but only about 11 percent continue this support through a gift in their will or estate plan. That made me wonder why people who believed in and financially supported an organization's mission during their lifetime would stop giving to that organization after death!

Retirement plans are untapped

One of the leading untapped resources in a planned-giving strategy is an individual's retirement plan, more specifically, an individual's 403(b), 401(k) or IRA plan. This means that many middle-income Americans like you or me have the resources to have a great asset for estate-giving following our death!

First, let's define these terms. The 403(b) is a tax-deferred retirement plan available to employees of educational institutions and other nonprofit organizations including NCFR. Contributions and investment earnings in a 403(b) grow tax-deferred until withdrawal at retirement, at which time they are taxed as ordinary income. Plan participants include teachers, school administrators, school personnel, nurses,

doctors, professors, researchers, librarians, and ministers. A 403(b) plan can provide a healthy supplement to the modest pension received by employees of educational institutions and nonprofit organizations.

The 401(k) is a tax-deferred retirement plan for private-sector employees. The main difference between a 401(k) and a 403(b) is eligibility. A 401(k) can be established just for administrative staff, or can be narrowly defined for one group, such as the cafeteria workers. A 403(b) on the other hand requires universal availability.

Many employers match employee contributions to 401(k) and 403(b) plans. In some nonprofits and educational institutions, the 403(b) plan is the only

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would be reviewed by a special review committee. Watch the next CFLE Report column and/or the NCFR website for further information about this new recognition, or contact Dawn Cassidy at dawn@ncfr.org.

Harold and Margaret Feldman Public Policy Center, Washington, DC: Over most of their lives Harold and Margaret Feldman have been social and political activists in support of public policy issues affecting families, communities, and the nation. Throughout their careers, the Feldmans have been strong supporters of NCFR and "doing policy" in support of families. After the passing of Harold and since 1987, Margaret has been NCFR's Washington Representative and continues to write and speak out on behalf of families and on family-relevant issues and policies. In recognition of the seminal work in the public policy arena of Harold and Margaret Feldman, NCFR is creating the Harold and Margaret Feldman Public Policy Center Fund. In the words of Margaret Feldman, "NCFR needs to continue to support the increasing trend in NCFR for its members to

play an active role in public policy." The Fund will be used to support the Harold and Margaret Feldman Public Policy Center in Washington, DC and will be the operational arm of NCFR's public policy activities. The Fund's goal over the next three years is one million dollars.

We have many competent scholars and professionals in NCFR; however, at times there are no nominees for the awards mentioned above. Please support your fellow colleagues and students and if they are eligible, nominate or encourage them to apply for these awards. It would also be helpful if you could attend the award ceremony to support your award-winning students, former students, colleagues, and mentors. Remember the award recipients for 2003 will be recognized at the beginning of the Presidential Forum during the Annual Conference in Vancouver on Saturday, November 22, 2003 at 2:00 p.m. NCFR members are the "best," so let's give honor to whom honor is due.

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Family Policy



Report From Washington

Funding for Family Research at NICHD

At a meeting of the NICHD Advisory Board, which I attended as an observer, I picked up a new "Report to the NACHHD Council, June 2003" from the Demographic and Behavioral Sciences Branch of NICHD (DBSB). The Report contains excellent and exciting reports of research and trends. One figure especially caught my eye: "DBSB Project Fundings by Project Area for Fiscal Years 1994, 1998, and 2002." The figure showed that funding for Family/Household research had gone from \$8.2 million for 1994, to \$12.2 million in '98 and to \$26.0 million in 2002. Family research showed the greatest increase and the highest total of any of the areas. E-mail for copies to walmanj@mail.nih.gov and give your mailing address. Many NCFR members obtain grants from these funds. I was pleased to note that this Re-

port listed *Journal of Marriage and Family* and *Journal of Family Issues* among the DBSB activities "Outside the Government."

Racial and Ethnic Data

A major interest of NICHD is the study of disparities based on race and ethnicity and of course, social class. Recently the American Sociological Association joined with three other organizations to present a Capitol Hill briefing on the importance of collecting racial and ethnic data. Although there is widespread consensus that racial categories do not represent real differences, it was agreed that it is important to continue to collect these data since as a social construct racial categories continue to influence societal decisions regarding employment, health care, loans, residential, educational and other opportunities.

NICHD is funding numerous studies to find ways in which policy and care are

influenced by racial and ethnic differences. The June 2003 *Report* documents a number of these studies and the hope is that when differences are shown, the follow up research will be on how to translate this knowledge into effective means of eliminating or diminishing the disparities.

Fogarty International Center

I only became aware of the Fogarty International Center after several years here in Washington. It is a 35 year old Center in NIH which, according to a summary in a recent COSSA Washington Update, "conducts and supports research in biology and medicine dedicated to bridging the gap in public health between the developed and developing worlds." The Center recently held an anniversary symposium at which prominent scholars discussed the correlation between development and public health and why global health is an international concern. The recent SARS epidemic is a great case in point.

The Center is a "vital mechanism," according to Elias Zerhouni, Director of NIH, because it "promotes scientific research and training internationally." Research was cited as being a "significant instrument in eliminating disparities in health among nations." Lack of a healthy population is a drain on public resources and prevents economic development.

The Grand Challenge

Maybe you were as delighted as I was to read that the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, working together with NIH, has instituted the "Grand Challenge" to the scientific community to develop the research which will address the most critical health problems in the developing world. As stated in a recent COSSA UPDATE, "The initiative will address the health conditions that cause the greatest morbidity and mortality in the developing world, thus accounting for the enormous health disparities between the developing and developed world." This sounds like a worthy partner to the Fogarty Center's mission which will

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retirement plan. When this is the case, the employer match can be quite generous, especially when it is compared to the matches available in most private-sector 401(k) plans.

The IRA stands for Individual Retirement Account. An IRA is a self-managed, personal savings plan that provides income tax advantages to individuals saving money for retirement purposes. The contributions, as well as the earnings and gains from these contributions, accumulate tax-free until you withdraw the money from the account. In addition, when a person changes jobs, she or he can transfer money from an employer-sponsored retirement plan, such as a 401(k), into what's called a Rollover IRA.

You don't have to be Bill Gates!

What's the implication of all this for NCFR members and charitable giving through your estate? Well, if you're like me, you would like to believe that money in your retirement plan would be sufficient to carry you through retirement

with some leftover. You can leave what is leftover to your children, but unlike other assets you leave to them, they will have to pay taxes on this one – ordinary income tax! On the other hand, if you leave the residual amount to a favorite charity or organization like NCFR's Harold and Margaret Feldman Public Policy Center or other favorites within NCFR, NCFR will pay no tax on your gift! So part or the entire residual amount in your 401(k), 403 (b), or IRA plan is a wonderful, tax-wise asset to use for giving from your estate. That's how a middle-income person like you or me can become philanthropists and create a lasting legacy. We don't have to be multimillionaires like Bill Gates to help change the world! Look for more information about planned giving to NCFR over the next few months.

As always, I appreciate your comments and feedback.

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CFLE Directions

New NCFR Publication from the CFLE Department



If you haven't had a chance yet, check out NCFR's newest publication *Family Life Education: Integrating Theory and Practice*. Edited by David J. Bredehoft, Ph.D., CFLE and Michael J. Walcheski, Ph.D., CFLE of Concordia University, the book is perfect as a supplemental textbook or as a professional resource. It merges seminal literature in family life education (*the University and College Curriculum Guidelines*,

Family Life Education Life Span Framework, Tools for Ethical Thinking and Practice, etc.) with fresh and contemporary perspectives on current practice in family life education. Authors include William D. Allen, Karen Blaisure, Karen Bogenschneider, Jean Illsley Clarke, Carol Darling, William Doherty, Arminta Jacobson, Shelley MacDermid, David Olson, Glen Palm, Kathryn Rettig, Christa Treichel and many others. A complete Table of Con-

tents can be viewed on the NCFR website at http://www.ncfr.org/cfle/new_file_publication.htm.

Because we are a small publisher we aren't able to provide free review copies, but we do have the following policy in place to provide you with a review option. You may order a review copy through Deanna at 888-781-9331 x 14 or deanna@ncfr.org. You may keep the review copy for up to 60 days. If the book is not returned to the NCFR office within 60 days, an invoice will be sent. If the person receiving the review copy orders 10 or more books, they may keep the review copy at no charge. Orders originating from university and college book stores will be billed at the NCFR member rate in an effort to make the book more affordable to students.

Family Life Education: Integrating Theory and Practice is available to NCFR members for \$19.95 and to non-members for \$23.95. (Include \$4 per copy for shipping & handling). Check with the NCFR office on shipping charges for multiple orders.

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provide a major inflow of funds to further their joint mission.

I applaud this model to the 'world of the rich' which the Bill and Melinda Foundation provides. I think I would feel differently about the Enron and other highly compensated CEOs if they were to take on the disparities within our own country as their project and find ways to study and ameliorate the disparities within our own country. Perhaps they could support a progressive income tax!

Where We Live Can Affect Our Lives

I frequently quote from the newsletter, *Facts of Life*, an Issue Briefing for Health Reporters, (Center for the Advancement of Health/www.cfah.org). The June 2003 issue reported research results about how housing affects our health and well being. I was astonished to learn that "37% of children in inner cities reacted to cockroach allergen and 50% of their bedrooms had dust with high levels of cockroach allergen, which is associated with hospitalizations and medical visits for asthma." Other results from studies are given which show how paying attention to disparities in our own country could bring about better health.

Census Data on Same Sex Couples

An Urban Institute panel at one of their monthly luncheons discussed the 2000 Census analysis of unmarried partners, regardless of sexual orientation. Gay

rights groups consider a person living with someone of the same sex who checked off unmarried partner to be homosexual. Data revealed that there were 594,000 households headed by same-sex partners, about 1 percent of the nearly 60 million households in the U.S. led by couples. Census data on unmarried partners: <http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www2003/cb03cn05.html>

The most interesting discussion at this event was the finding that gay tolerant societies prosper economically. Richard Florida reported that "major areas with relatively few gay couples tend to be slow or no-growth places. Pittsburgh and Buffalo which have low percentages of gay couples were two of only three major regions to lose population from 1990-2000." Innovation and overall regional economic vitality also are closely associated with the presence of gays and other indicators of tolerance and diversity such as the percentage of immigrants and the level of racial and ethnic integration. Gays are being sought by cities for their contribution to economic development. (www.usatoday.com/news/opinion/editorials/2003-04-30-florida_x.html)

Today's message: Diversity, not disparity, is the key to national well-being.

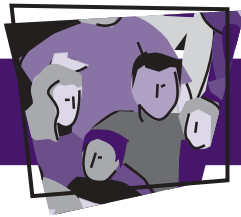
Margaret Feldman
NCFR Policy Representative
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FLE Poster Contest

Be sure to include the FLE Poster Contest in your fall class or staff training. I wrote about this exciting contest to help increase the value and visibility of family life education as a profession in the June CFLE Report article. More information can be found on the NCFR website

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The *Journal of Teaching in Marriage and Family* is issuing two calls for manuscripts for special issues. The call for manuscripts related to "Teaching About International Families" can be seen in more detail at <http://www3.wcu.edu/~lroberts/Internationalcall.html>. The call for manuscripts related to "Teaching Family Policy and Family Law" can be seen in more detail at <http://www3.wcu.edu/~lroberts/PolicyLawCall.html>. Deadlines are October 15, 2003, and April 15, 2004, respectively.



Members in the News

Obituary

In June, NCFR received news that Dr. Barbara Chandler passed away in January 2003. Barbara had been an active NCFR member since 1952 and was involved with Military Families and attended policy meetings in Washington.

Spotlight on S/NP Professional Activities: Dr. Jennifer Parker

Dr. Jennifer Parker received her Ph.D. in Human Development with concentrations in Family Studies and Counseling from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in May 2000. She first became involved with NCFR as a doctoral student at Virginia Tech and presented several

papers at NCFR conferences. She was elected to serve as the Student/New Professional Representative to the Program Committee and has planned the S/NP program for the 2002 conference in Houston and is currently working on the program for 2003 in Vancouver.

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at http://www.ncfr.org/about_us/n_news_announcements.asp?newsid=463 including a lesson plan for incorporating the contest into your curriculum. This contest will be a great way to help students and professionals really think about the purpose and goal of family life education!

NCFR has a Great Opportunity for a Graduate Student to Help with an Important CFLE Project

NCFR is seeking a graduate student (Master's or Ph.D.) in a family program

to help with a very important project regarding the clarification of family life education.

One of the biggest struggles we face in the family life education profession is the need to clarify what family life education is all about. What makes some work family life education and other work not? What are the defining characteristics? We want to work with a graduate student to help us clarify this important issue. Please share the following information with the appropriate people, schools, departments, etc.

Background: The National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) is an international organization linking family research with education and practice. NCFR sponsors the only national program to certify family life educators. Family life education provides skills and knowledge to enrich individual and family life. It includes knowledge about how families work; the inter-relationship of the family and society; human growth and development throughout the life span; both the physiological and psychological aspects of human sexuality; the impact of money and time management on daily life; the importance and value of education for parenting; the effects of policy and legislation on families; ethical considerations in professional conduct; and a solid understanding and knowledge of how to teach and/or develop curriculum for what are often sensitive and personal issues.

There are currently over 1300 Certified Family Life Educators working in various capacities in the family field both in the U.S. and internationally.

Scope of Project: NCFR is interested in the development of a document that provides clarification of the profession of Family Life Education (FLE). The document will primarily provide answers to the following questions:

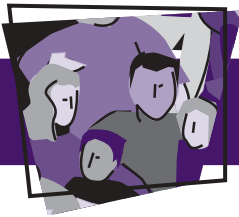
- I. Who is practicing family life education?
- II. In what settings do they work?
- III. What type of work are they doing?
- IV. What are their job titles, job descriptions?

CFLE Directions continued on page 9

CERTIFIED FAMILY LIFE EDUCATORS

Following is a list of Certified Family Life Educators designated since April 15, 2002. (* - Provisional)

Alabama Jeffrey Brown	Michigan Lois Boruszewski * Mary Bukosky * Aimee Carmichael * Glenn Derrick * Angela Guadagnini * Crystal K. Hill * Pamela Hotchkiss * Robert Johnson * Patty Lesch * Margaret Marvin * Katrina Robinson * Juanita Ruiz * Brenda Smielewski * Virginia Steen *	Nebraska Amanda Garrett * Wenli Liu	Pennsylvania Sally McCombie
California Judi Phillips		New Jersey Kimberly Cheetham * Richard Panzer	South Dakota Doniese Wilcox
Florida Anita Pembleton Maggie Riley Maria Roberts		New Mexico Alice Davenport Judith Grassbaugh * Trena Pollard *	Texas Carla Johnson * Linda Steinsultz
Kansas Malcolm Smith		Nevada Deborah Crowe * Ann Rice *	Utah Diana Davis * Sara Mathis *
Kentucky Eunice Beatty		Ohio Jim Baumgardner Patricia London * Abigail Robarge *	Virginia Sharon McGroder
Louisiana Amanda Guillory * Holly Wagner *	Minnesota Derek Gwinn *		Washington Diane Moore
	Missouri Scott Tobias *	Oklahoma Amy Johnston *	Wyoming Mary Brown
			Canada Edwin Wong *



Annual Conference

Vancouver Local Arrangements Committee Welcomes NCFR Delegates, Mounties, Maple Leafs and More...

On July 2, 2003 the International Olympic Committee awarded the 2010 Winter Olympics to the City of Vancouver. The Vancouver Local Arrangements Committee invites delegates to attend the 65th NCFR Annual Conference in our world class city in November 2003. Come and feel the Olympic excitement, and explore our

city while you experience one of the best NCFR programs yet. We will showcase Vancouver, British Columbia and Canada throughout the conference. Some of the highlights include: Linda Reid, Minister of State for Early Childhood Development, the Province of BC, will open the conference; the tradition of "Piping" in special guests is planned; "High Tea"

will be served; a chance to bid on some unique Canadian items at the Silent Auction (proceeds to the Marriage Project); and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police will be on hand in their most recognizable "red serge" uniforms to greet delegates (have your camera ready).

Annual Conference continued on page 10

SPOTLIGHT *continued from page 8*

At this year's conference in Vancouver, S/NPs will have multiple opportunities to network, socialize with other NCFR members and attend a skills exchange session designed to assist S/NPs with professional development. Jennifer is especially excited about a Development Seminar for S/NPs co-sponsored with the Feminism & Family Studies section titled "Passing the Torch: Feminist Mentoring of Graduate Students", which will be presented by an expert panel of prominent feminist researchers. Jennifer is also a member of the Student Award Committee and has the privilege of reviewing the outstanding materials submitted for the NCFR Student Award.

As a Student/New Professional, Jennifer has benefited significantly from the efforts of S/NP representatives. For example, when she began applying for an

academic position, the article "Applying for academic jobs: Advice from Jay Teachman" in the December 1999 *Report* was a valuable resource. Dr. Hillary Rose, a former S/NP representative, wrote the article.

Jennifer is looking forward to "hanging out" with S/NPs in Vancouver. She would like to encourage newcomers to get involved in NCFR and she will be available at the conference to discuss opportunities for involvement. Jennifer reports that becoming involved in NCFR has been her most beneficial and stimulating professional involvement. She finds it incredibly energizing to participate in such a diverse organization and attend conferences with professionals from multiple disciplines spanning a broad scope of knowledge and family research.

When she is not working on the S/NP program, Jennifer is very active as an Assis-

tant Professor of Psychology at the University of South Carolina in Spartanburg. She teaches courses in Developmental Psychology, Adolescent Development, Statistics, Testing and Assessment, and Student Internship Seminars. She advises psychology majors and serves as the current president elect for the USCS chapter of the national honor society Phi Kappa Phi.

Jennifer is also a licensed therapist and works clinically with at-risk youth and families. Her current research involves investigating factors associated with early-onset delinquency. She is evaluating data collected from juvenile males at the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice Residential Evaluation Center. She is additionally in the process of applying for research funding to begin a project in 2004 on family violence and prevention and hopes to have preliminary findings to present at the 2004 conference in Orlando, FL.

If you are interested in submitting proposals for the S/NP program in 2004 or have questions about getting involved in NCFR, please e-mail Dr. Jennifer Parker at jparker@gw.uscs.edu or meet with her at the NCFR Annual Conference in Vancouver.

CFLE DIRECTIONS

continued from page 8

The document should include the background/history of FLE, a needs assessment, and recommendations to increase the visibility of the profession of family life education. Ultimately, this document will be used by NCFR to provide clarification of the work of FLE and to promote CFLE to potential employers. The data would be available to the student for additional publications.

Project Management: Project guidance will be provided by NCFR staff.

Stipend: \$500 is available to student upon completion of the project.

Contact: One qualified student will be selected to complete the project. To be considered submit a resume, a letter of interest, and a letter of support from an advisor or professor by October 15, 2003 to Laura Eiklenborg, Project Manager, National Council on Family Relations 763-781-9331 x. 17 (toll-free 888.781.9331) or laura@ncfr.org.

*Dawn Cassidy, M.Ed., CFLE
NCFR Certification Director
E-mail: dawn@ncfr.org*

If you know of a Student or New Professional who is conducting exciting work (research or applied) in the area of children and families, please contact Adriana Umaña-Taylor (umana@uiuc.edu). Self-nominations are welcome!



Student Award Recipient: Ani Yazedjian

Ani Yazedjian's general research interest is in the construction of identity. More specifically, her work focuses on two substantive

areas: ethnic identity development and adolescence. Her research program began by examining how the Diaspora influences the ethnic identity development of Armenian adolescents. Her findings revealed that the genocide of 1915 and subsequent dispersion of Armenians remain significant markers in the development of an Armenian identity for adolescents living in the U.S. Her work has since expanded to examine the social construction of ethnic identity across multiple groups, to understand the perceived influence of parents and peers, and to elucidate the role of social

institutions, such as the school, in providing a context for adolescent ethnic identity development.

Her dissertation research explored how White, Black, Latino, and Asian adolescents experience their ethnicity in an ethnically diverse urban high school. The project utilized case study methodology, incorporating both qualitative and quantitative methods, an integrated theoretical framework, and multiple informants including adolescents, teachers and school administrators. Specifically, the project included six months of participant observation, a survey distributed to the 231 eleventh graders, four focus groups with thirty-eight adolescents, fifty-two interviews with adolescents, and twenty-six interviews with school personnel. The analyses focused on how ethnic identity is constructed across multiple groups, how perceptions of parents and

peers influence those definitions, and how school policies and practices shape the ways in which both school personnel and adolescents feel that the school addresses issues of ethnicity.

The central findings of the study reveal that the diversity of the school context influences the ways in which adolescents experience their ethnicity. The data reveal that although adolescents feel that issues of ethnicity are addressed at the institutional level, they do not feel that they learn about their ethnic backgrounds in their classrooms. Teachers' narratives confirm adolescents' perceptions and verify that decisions to address ethnicity in the classroom are often left up to the individual. Consequently, those teachers who are not comfortable with the topic do not raise the issue in their classrooms. The data reveal that it

Award continued on page 11

Margaret Arcus Award

The purpose of the Arcus Award for Advances in Family Life Education is to recognize the efforts of family life education scholars and practitioners to advance the field of family life education through research, theory, practice, and training. The award

will be for innovative work that addresses a significant issue in family life education, makes a contribution to the scholarly development of family life education, and in which there is explicit evidence of underlying theory/research in manuscript.

High tea is one of Margaret Arcus' favourite activities. High tea is a British tradition that has been transported to the West Coast of Canada. British high tea traditionally consists of freshly baked scones served with Devonshire cream and preserves or jam, fancy sandwiches, assorted pastries, and of course tea (or coffee).

ANNUAL CONFERENCE *continued from page 9*

Bring your questions to the Tourism Vancouver booth where volunteers will be on hand throughout the conference. Find out about restaurants, tours, and events—reservations can be made on the spot! There is something for every budget. Within blocks of the Hyatt hotel there are art galleries, opera and symphony houses, sports arenas, theatres, several shopping centres and the world renowned Stanley Park. It's safe to walk around Vancouver or taxis and public transportation are readily available. November in Vancouver can be sunny or rainy or cloudy or all of the above—no snow except on our fabulous ski mountains. It can be cool so bring a coat.

The Vancouver Local Arrangements Committee looks forward to hosting you at the 65th Annual NCFR Conference. If you are crossing a border into Canada,

we can't stress enough GET A PASSPORT (you will need proof of citizenship to enter and exit Canada). In addition, if you're arriving at the Vancouver International Airport, you don't need to rent a car to get to the conference site at the Hyatt hotel. There is great shuttle bus and taxi service from the airport. P.S., the Vancouver Airport (YVR) is a tourist attraction as well - the interior of the International Terminal is a gallery of native art including weavings, carvings and totem poles.

We look forward to meeting you at the 65th Annual NCFR Conference in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

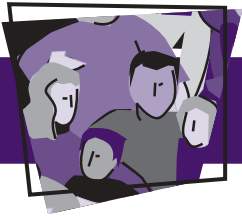
Local Arrangements Committee



The High Tea will be held Thursday, Nov. 20, from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. during the Conference. This activity inaugurates the Award, and proceeds from the Tea will be put in the Award funds. There will be a short program at approximately 5:30 p.m., including vocal selections by Bert Adams, NCFR past president, accompanied by his wife, Diane.

The cost of the tea is \$40 U.S. or \$50 Canadian funds. If you are a Canadian member who would like to pay for the Tea in Canadian funds and would like to receive a tax receipt for \$20 contribution to the Arcus Award, make your check payable to BC Council for Families. U.S. Members will receive a tax receipt for \$20 for the Award. U.S. members make their checks payable to NCFR.

Sheila K. Marshall
University of British Columbia
E-mail: smarshal@interchange.ubc.ca



Section News

Research and Theory Section

NCFR's Research and Theory Section is very excited about the 2003 Vancouver conference. Thanks to a large number of outstanding submissions, we have a very strong conference program, and the setting in beautiful British Columbia will be absolutely great.

The Section experienced a significant increase in all types of submissions, but it was especially heartening to see a big increase in the number of symposium submissions. The large number and high quality of proposals created challenges for the section's panel of over 30 reviewers (their names will appear in the NCFR program). They had to make tough choices, but we will all benefit from the care that went into organizing sessions that pull together researchers from a variety of perspectives around a common theme. To whet your appetites, some of the symposium topics include: "Romantic Unions And Risk Behaviors: Trajectories Across Relationships" (Organizer: Joseph Pleck), "Men as family caregivers" (Orga-

nizer: Robert Milardo), "Happy Marriages, Happy Life? A Multidisciplinary Look At The Positive Influences Of Marriage" (Organizer: Brenda Volling), "The effects of co-parental relationships on non-married teen-aged parenting" (Organizer: Ted Futris), and "The effects of cohabitation on child well-being" (Organizer: Susan Brown).

The Section's business meeting will take place on Friday, November 21, 7 p.m. - 8:15 p.m. Please plan your gourmet excursions into Vancouver accordingly (and remember that the Section traditionally serves dessert at its meetings). The business meeting is open to all, and we especially encourage graduate students and newcomers to NCFR to attend. It's a good way to meet colleagues, to catch up on some of the research-oriented activities of the organization including NCFR's journals and the upcoming second edition of the *Sourcebook of Family Theories and Methods* (which is being edited by Vern Bengtson, Alan Acock, Katherine Allen, Peggye Dilworth-Anderson, and

David Klein), and to congratulate the Section's 2003 award recipients. At the 2003 meeting, we will also pass the leadership baton to the next group of section leaders, chaired by Mike Johnson of Penn State University. I want to thank my team—Mark Benson (Vice-Chair), Heather Helms-Erikson (Secretary-Treasurer), and Susan Takigiku (Student/New Professional)—for their help and support in dealing with the Section's business over the past two years.

Hope to see you in Vancouver!

Ann C. Crouter

Research and Theory Section Chair

E-mail: ac1@psu.edu

AWARD *continued from page 10*

is often those teachers who have undergone a process of ethnic identity exploration and commitment who are most likely to discuss ethnicity in their classrooms. Yet, the study finds that although teachers are not explicitly teaching students about their cultures, they are also not delegitimizing their ethnic group affiliations. Consequently, as a result of their exposure to ethnic diversity and the respect they feel the school demonstrates toward their ethnicities, adolescents express the freedom to explore their ethnic identities within the school context without feeling that their ethnic selves need to be relegated to spheres outside the school setting. The findings from this project are significant because they highlight the practices of an urban high school that is relatively free of ethnic tensions and hostilities and suggest that schools do not have to implement complex programs with which to ad-

dress multiculturalism and diversity in classroom settings.

Ani Yazedjian received a B.A. in Sociology from the University of Florida, Gainesville and an M.S. in Human Development and Family Studies from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She is currently a Doctoral Candidate in the Department of Human and Community Development at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Ani's dissertation was the first step in her larger plan of research. She plans to continue to work toward understanding ethnic identity development during adolescence by broadening the scope of her analyses to include the perspective of not only the adolescent, but also the perspectives of other socializing agents such as family members, peers, and school personnel.

Congratulations Ani!

International Section



By the time you read this article, the program for the 2003 conference will be complete. The International Section will sponsor one symposium, six paper sessions (two sessions co-sponsored with other sections), one poster session, one professional development roundtable, one research roundtable, and two teaching roundtables. In addition, the section is co-sponsoring a special session on intimate relationships in later life. I think the Section will have a very strong presence at the conference.

The papers are organized around specific phases of the family lifecycle (e.g. early marriage) or processes (e.g., lifestyle transitions). The paper sessions will be conducted in the same manner as last year, such that discussants will not provide a formal summary/analysis of the papers. Rather, the discussant will facilitate (and participate in) discussion between the audience members and presenters. For the first time, the posters will be arranged by geographic region. So if someone has an interest in Japanese or Kenyan families, then it might be more convenient to find all of the Section's

International Section continued on page 12

INTERNATIONAL SECTION *continued from page 11*

posters on these topics in a single area. It is my hope that both the paper and poster formats will make it easier for attendees to find the presentations of greatest interest to them.

This year's program showcases the broad scope of international studies conducted by students and scholars. A few presentations focus on multi-nation studies, but the majority of presentations focus on 1-2 cultures. Each presentation will enhance our understanding and appreciation of cultural experiences. Across the presentations, there will be detailed information about individuals/families who either reside or have a cultural background from the following countries:

Australia	India	Romania
Austria	Indonesia	Russia
Bosnia	Iran	Singapore
Canada	Israel	Spain
China	Japan	Sweden
Colombia	Kazakhstan	Taiwan
Ecuador	Kenya	Thailand
Estonia	Korea	Turkey
Germany	Palestine	United Arab Emirates
		United States of America

Given this diversity, I think the program provides an interesting opportunity to learn about dimensions of family/relationship dynamics around the globe. I wish to thank all of you contributed proposals – your participation made such a fine program possible.

As the 2003 program is finalized, I am working with Jay Teachman, 2004 Program Chair, to discuss ways in which the International Section might be included in the next conference. I am also working with Michael Benjamin, Executive Director, to discuss plans for NCFR's celebration of the United Nations' 10th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family. If you have any comments/questions about the role of the International Section in these events, please contact me at the e-mail address listed below. Thank you for your interest and support for the section.

Jacki Fitzpatrick
International Section Chair
E-mail: Jacki.Fitzpatrick@ttu.edu

Family Policy Section

This year's annual meeting in Vancouver should prove to be a great opportunity for networking and exchanging ideas. I'm pleased to report the Family Policy section is offering a strong set of symposia, paper sessions, round tables and posters that address policy-related issues in the United States, Canada, and Europe. Section-sponsored symposia will focus on the implications of work and marriage policies for individual and family well-being, the strengths and challenges of low-income families, policies that support family relationships in the United Kingdom, barriers to healthy marriage for unwed parents, and building "family" into work-family facilitation.

When you have an opportunity, check the preliminary program posted on the NCFR website. You will be impressed with the quality and quantity of presentations you will have to choose from during the conference. Our Section's sessions span the conference beginning with roundtable and paper sessions on Wednesday afternoon and culminating with the Family Policy Section Meeting on Saturday evening. For those of you with an interest in Adoption, Work and Families, Prevention and Family Support, or Rural Families and Communities,

plan to attend the focus group meetings, scheduled during early morning or later evening slots throughout the week.

Your colleagues, whose papers were selected for presentation this year, identified some exciting learning objectives for their sessions. I thought I would summarize a few of anticipated outcomes to whet your appetite for the synergistic opportunities that await you in November. By attending these sessions you will be provided with recent findings, presented with case studies, gain insights about policies and practices from a variety of countries and contexts, enhance your understanding of factors influencing decisions, gain appreciation for diversity, and you will have many opportunities to ponder implications and explore strategies for interfacing policy, research, and practice to improve individual, couple, and family well-being. Whew! You won't want to miss this year's meeting!

And last, but not least, congratulations to our newly-elected officers, Bonnie Braun, Chair-Elect and Leigh Ann Simmons, Student/New Professional Representative.

Hope to see you in Vancouver!

Patricia Hyjer Dyk, Ph.D.
Family Policy Section Chair
E-mail: pdyk@uky.edu

Feminism and Family Studies Section

My aim in this message is to get everyone excited about the sessions on tap for the NCFR Conference in Vancouver! Please plan on being at the conference on Wednesday, since the FFS Section Business meeting is scheduled for Wednesday night. You wouldn't want to miss it. We also have paper sessions starting Wednesday afternoon. As well as the 4 paper sessions & 1 symposium on the program that were submitted to our Section, FFS co-sponsors 4 additional paper sessions with other sections. Our Section's contributions to the program this fall, as usual, include engaging presentations by prominent and rising scholars. I want to highlight the special sessions we have planned, all of which were initiated by FFS and are co-sponsored by additional sections.

On Thursday, November 20, (4 – 5:30 p.m.), we will co-sponsor a session orga-

nized by new professionals Áine Humble and Catherine Richards Solomon about feminist mentoring. It's entitled "Passing the Torch: Feminist Mentoring of Graduate Students." This session is being presented as the Student/New Professional Development Seminar. Speakers include Katherine Allen, Michael Johnson, Karen Blaisure, and Harriette McAdoo. I encourage everyone, from graduate students to senior scholars, to attend this session. It promises to be useful, reflexive, and thought provoking to NCFR attendees, whether they are currently mentors or being mentored.

Also on Thursday, from 7 – 8:15 pm, a workshop organized by Katherine Allen and April Few will be presented. This special session, co-sponsored by the Research and Theory section, is entitled "Power, Privilege, And Representation in

Feminism and Family continued on page 13



Affiliate Connection

Mark Your Calendars for AOC Events in Vancouver!

If you're like me, a professional highlight each year is attending the National Council on Family Relations Conference. This year's meeting should be a special treat, not only because of a very strong program and a fascinating theme, but also because of its location in Vancouver. In this column, I'd like to highlight the special events being sponsored by the Association of Councils.

The Association of Councils Leadership Training Workshop will kick off our time together on Wednesday, November 19, 8:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Unlike previous years when only affiliated councils' presidents were offered free registration, all leaders of affiliated councils are encouraged to attend this event at no charge. Dr. Armintia Jacobson, AOC Program Chair, has organized a series of helpful roundtables that will offer insights for building and maintaining successful affiliated councils. Sessions will be offered on fundraising, planning a conference, and involving affiliated council members in public policy. We also hope to have someone available to provide guidelines and assistance in developing and maintaining engaging and effective websites. A brunch buffet will be available to all those who participate. The AOC Business Meeting will follow the leadership-training workshop at 1:00 p.m.

There are two events of particular interest to members of student/campus affiliated councils (or those who wish to initiate a campus council). The first session is called "Growing Campus Affiliated Councils" and is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, November 20. Participants will hear presentations on "Starting an Affiliated Council with Students," "Increasing Membership and Participation Rates of Student Affiliates," "Reaching Out From Within," and "How Campus Affiliates Can Promote Professional

Development." These papers will provide tangible strategies for initiating and enhancing student affiliated councils. The second event is a Meeting of Presidents of Affiliated Student Council (although all those in leadership or wish to provide leadership are invited); it will occur on Friday, November 21 from 8:30 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. This event was hugely successful last year as students and advisors exchanged ideas, networked, and reflected on practices that have succeeded and or failed to meet objectives.

The AOC is sponsoring two posters at the 12:30 slot on Thursday, November 20: #67 is "Healthy Couples, Healthy Children in Alabama: Evaluating a Marriage Education Program" and #68 is "The Marriage Enrichment Factor: Testing the Effectiveness of the Process." In addition, the AOC is organizing a luncheon on Saturday, November 22 at noon to express our appreciation to members of the Local Arrangements Committee and to also provide information for members of states who do not currently have an active affiliated council, but who are interested in organizing one. Procedures for initiating affiliated councils, as well as resources available, will be presented. If you wish that you had a state or regional council, be sure to attend.

Finally, the Association of Councils will present several awards at the conference. We have two outstanding student paper awards, one graduate and one undergraduate award. In addition, we will also present Meritorious Service Awards to deserving members of our campus, state and regional affiliates. Be sure to check out the AOC page of the NCFR website (www.ncfr.org) to learn more about these awards. Nominations (including self-nominations) are still being accepted for the Meritorious Service Awards.

Mark your calendar now! Be sure to be in Vancouver November 19 through November 22, 2003.

FEMINISM AND FAMILY STUDIES *continued from page 12*

Feminist Family Research: A Workshop about Negotiating Ethical Informant-Researcher Relations." This compelling topic is important to the work of all researchers, as we all struggle with issues of power and how we represent the experiences of the informants in our studies. I'm grateful to Katherine and April for providing a forum for us to discuss and share our dilemmas and challenges and for utilizing a workshop format providing attendees with innovative strategies to enhance our work.

Lastly, we are especially pleased to be co-sponsoring with the Family Science Section a special session on Saturday morning, November 22, from 8 - 10 a.m. The session is entitled "Safe Spaces for Students: Welcoming GLBT Students." It will be conducted by Anne-Marie Long of the University of British Columbia, and will include a hands-on workshop component so that attendees will be equipped with tools to make their campuses more welcoming for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender students.

I am delighted with the regular and special sessions on the program this year. They reflect feminist contributions to NCFR, reaching beyond our section to touch the professional and personal lives of the broad audience of NCFR conference attendees. In the past two years, we have co-sponsored sessions with 8 different sections!

I want to close by thanking the FFS officers who have worked closely with me on developing the program for the past two years: Ramona Oswald, Kristine Baber, Becky Warner, Kim Updegraff and Bill Rose. I congratulate Ramona on her election to FFS Section chair. I know she is keenly interested in your ideas for the conference program in 2004. The theme is especially appropriate to feminist work. See you all in Vancouver!

Anisa M. Zvonkovic
Feminism and Family Studies Section Chair
E-mail: zvonkova@orst.edu

Raeann R. Hamon, Ph.D., CFLE
President, Association of Councils
E-mail: rhamon@messiah.edu

Call for Papers

Special Collection for Family Relations

Innovations in Marriage Education

Guest Editor: Jeffery H. Larson, Ph.D., CFLE,

Associate Editor, Family Relations

Over the past decade there has been a renewed interest in marriage education programs as the divorce rate continues to remain high and legislatures pass covenant marriage, marriage preparation, and marriage initiative legislation in an effort to strengthen marriage and stem the tide of divorce. As a result of these social conditions and in conjunction with the 2003 NCFR annual conference on the future of marriage, innovative premarital, marital, and remarital education programs are being developed by professionals in a wide variety of settings including high schools, colleges, churches, the cooperative extension service, governmental organizations, and private and community organizations. The purpose of this special issue will be to highlight innovative marriage education programs being conducted in these and other settings.

In collaboration with the Editor of *Family Relations*, Kay Pasley, the guest editor of this special issue, Jeffery H. Larson seeks articles that describe innovative premarital, marital and remarital education programs conducted in a wide variety of settings. Program descriptions should include the theoretical and/or empirical roots of the program, a description of the appropriate audiences for the program, details on the content and delivery of the program, how the program is evaluated by clients, the results of evaluation, and effectiveness studies if available.

In addition to program descriptions, submissions for this special issue also may include but are not limited to the following topics: Descriptions and outcome studies of programs with couples from diverse racial, cultural and socio-economic groups and with couples in different stages of relationship development, public policy implications of marriage education programs, critical reviews of the literature with implications for practice, innovative teaching techniques, marriage education programs in family service settings, and discussion of the future directions in marriage education.

Instructions to authors are published annually in the January issue of *Family Relations* and on the National Council on Family Relations' website: www.ncfr.org. If you would like to discuss possible topics, contact Dr. Jeffery Larson at Brigham Young University, Marriage and Family Therapy Program, 274 TLRB, Provo, UT 84602-8614, (801)-422-2344 or jeffry_larson@byu.edu. **Deadline for submissions is December 15, 2003.** Anticipated publication date is October, 2004.

Families and Poverty Research Conference

Call For Papers

The Family Studies Center (FSC) in the School of Family Life at Brigham Young University is sponsoring a research conference on Families and Poverty, March 10-12, 2004. The conference covers a broad range of topics including: parenting, health care for poor families, how family processes influence families experiencing economic hardship, consequences of welfare reform in the United States, economic status of ethnically diverse elderly, micro-entrepreneurship in developing countries and others.

Submit a two page proposal for a paper or poster to D. Russell Crane, Director of the FSC at Russ_crane@byu.edu. Offers to serve as panel chairs and discussants are also welcome. Submissions are due November 30, 2003.

More details on the conference may be found at: <http://ce.byu.edu/cw/cwfamhr/>

FAMILY INDEX DATABASE

EDITOR: JASON D. HANS

More than ever, students, researchers, and practitioners need a convenient way to locate current research and writing on the family. Hundreds of journals representing many disciplines now publish articles on family topics, making it difficult to retrieve important information. The *Family Index Database* helps meet your informational needs!

Updated monthly, 6,000 English language articles are added annually covering over 2,100 journals. This indispensable reference tool indexes the growing international literature from journals in:

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<i>psychology</i>	<i>child development</i>	<i>Religion</i>
<i>social work</i>	<i>nursing</i>	<i>History</i>
<i>gerontology</i>	<i>medicine</i>	<i>feminist studies</i>

Unlike existing bibliographic sources in psychology, sociology, medicine, nursing, education, and religion, this unique resource offers in depth treatment of family studies and includes family-related articles from all of these areas. *Family Index Database* is the most reliable and economical way to access the periodical literature. It is the primary guide to the world's family literature.

Powerful enough for the library, yet affordable enough for your office. Simple to use, the database includes several unique features, such as:

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Client Resources for Therapists

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Bruce Fisher, Ed.D. and Robert E. Alberti, Ph.D.

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