

# Report

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### Family Focus On... Divorce and Relationship Dissolution

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It's a reality: approximately half of American marriages dissolve. About 40% of children will experience parental divorce, and about one-half of all children will spend some time in a single-parent family before adulthood. What does the research show regarding the consequences of divorce and relationship dissolution for families? What can practitioners do to help families through this process? In this issue of Report, NCFR experts report the research and offer help for the helpers.

## NEXT ISSUE:

### The Transition to Adulthood

## NCFR Launches New Journal: Journal of Family Theory and Review

At its November 2006 meeting, the NCFR Board approved the organization's third scholarly journal; the *Journal of Family Theory & Review*. The inaugural issue is slated for publication in March 2009. The journal's editor, Dr. Robert Milardo, Professor of Family Relations at the University of Maine, invites submissions beginning November 1, 2007. JFTR will be peer-reviewed and published quarterly.

The *Journal of Family Theory & Review* (JFTR) seeks to encourage integration and growth in the multidisciplinary and international domains of inquiry that define contemporary family studies. The journal will publish original contributions in all areas of family theory including new advances in theory development, reviews of existing theory, analyses of the interface of theory and method, as well as based reviews of content areas. JFTR will draw from a broad range of the social sciences, although scholarship based within the fields of family studies, sociology and allied disciplines, developmental and social psychology, communications, health and allied fields is preferred. Families will be viewed broadly and inclusively to include individuals of varying ages and genders, sexual orientations, ethnicities, and nationalities.

JFTR's mission is to complement the *Journal of Marriage and Family*, and *Family Relations*. Its goal is to add to NCFR's position as the

worldwide leader in the publication of family science; to provide new opportunities for scholarship and its development, new opportunities for users, and to work for the betterment of families. "Family Relations and the *Journal of Marriage and Family* are experiencing unprecedented growth," says Dr. Milardo. "JFTR hopes to complement that excellence and provide authors with the opportunity to develop new elements of family theory, to enrich our integration of existing research, and develop new knowledge about families in all their variety of forms. Our plan is that JFTR will become the essential companion to NCFR's existing journals." In addition to Dr. Milardo's leadership, JFTR will have deputy editors as well as an editorial board of leading scholars, from both the US and abroad, who represent the diversity of family scholars and scholarship.

"JFTR represents a more focused entry into a niche market that our publisher believes is underserved at present," adds NCFR President Pamela Monroe. "The NCFR Board of Directors is especially hopeful that the pieces that appear in JFTR will be useful to family



Dr. Robert Milardo

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## 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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## Marvin Bernard Sussman—in Memoriam

**D**r. Marvin Bernard Sussman, 88, died August 5, 2007. He was born October 27, 1918 in Bronx, New York. For the past 15 years he resided in Sebastian, FL where he was associated with the Kashi Ashram spiritual community. He is survived by 4 children, 5 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

Professor Sussman received his Bachelor's degree was from New York University (1941), Master's degrees from George Williams College (1943) and Yale University (1949) and a doctorate from Yale in 1951. He was UNIDEL Professor of Human Behavior, Emeritus, in Individual and Family Studies at the University of Delaware and previously held the Selah Chamberlain Professor of Sociology at Case Western Reserve University. He was also Professor of Sociology and Chair of the Department of Medical Social Sciences at the Bowman Gray School of Medicine at Wake Forest University. He was on the graduate faculty of Union Institute and University in Cincinnati, Ohio after he retired.

Dr. Sussman served terms as president of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, the Ohio Valley Sociological Society and the Ohio Council on Family Relations. He was the Editor of *Journal of Marriage and the Family* the founding editor of *Marriage and Family Review*. He received a number of academic honors including the Ernest W. Burgess Award presented by the National Council on Family Relations (1980), Distinguished Scholar Award, Family Division (1985) and the Lee Founders award (1992) both awarded by the Society for the Study of Social Problems. He was elected to The National Senior Citizen Hall of Fame in 1986.

An extremely productive scholar on the cutting edge of numerous areas in sociology, he debunked the notion that as the result of modernization and geographic mobility, the nuclear family was isolated. His 1951 dissertation titled "*Family Continuity: A Study of Factors Which Affect Relationships Between Families and Generational Levels*" became recognized as a landmark in intergenerational studies, influencing the developing field at the time. In the later years of his academic career, Professor Sussman became an avid sponsor of younger scholars. He was concerned about barriers in academe for women and minorities and used his position as editor of a journal and book series to initiate collaborative projects with scholars he mentored. Professor Sussman authored, co-authored, edited, or co-edited 53 monographs and books, authored 118 chapters in books and monographs, and published 120 articles dealing with the family, community, rehabilitation, organizations, sociology of medicine and aging. He traveled to more than 40 countries around the world to develop cross-national research in the field.

Dr. Sussman was a member of numerous academic organizations including the Sociological Research Association, American Sociological Association, International Sociology Association, National Council on Family Relations, Society for the Study of Social Problems, and the Groves Conference on Marriage and the Family.

Submitted by Suzanne Steinmetz



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ON THE NET



# President's Report

## Thank You, But Now I Have a Bus to Catch

by Pamela A. Monroe, NCFR President, pmonroe@lsu.edu

**M**any of you know that my husband is a political scientist. He is also a keeper of trivia for all matters related to sports, especially baseball, and of American politics. Throughout our nearly 30 years together, he has tickled my funny bone on more than one occasion with a funny story or a pithy quote. I cannot explain why exactly, but this is one of my favorites:

During the 1980 Presidential campaign, Arizona Congressman Morris Udall declared himself uninterested in his party's nomination and unavailable as a candidate by saying,

"If nominated, I will run...  
to the Mexican border.  
If elected...  
I will fight extradition."

As my term as NCFR President ended, this quote surfaced more than once in my mind. I never thought much about being President of our organization – I did not aspire to the office. I never envisioned myself as President nor did I seek it. I do know exactly where I was in 2002 when a representative of the nominating committee called and asked if I would agree to the nomination (an event that our friendship has survived). I was at Virginia Tech University in Blacksburg as a distinguished lecturer on the topic of my research on rural women and children living in poverty and coping with the demands of welfare reform. That lecture was rescheduled from the one that I was scheduled to give on September 12, 2001. I held an airline ticket to travel to Blacksburg on the afternoon of 9/11, but that trip was never made.

That night in 2002, in a Blacksburg hotel room over the telephone, I agreed to the nomination with the absolute confidence that I would never be elected. I have always been plainspoken about my on-again, off-again love affair with NCFR. My goodness, NCFR had been a wonderful and generous professional home for me and had given me tremendous opportunity for growth as

a new professional and as a scholar. I simply cannot imagine myself *not* a member of NCFR. But like most intimate relationships, there had been periods when I needed a little space, a little breathing room because something the organization did or did not do, some path it chose or did not choose, irritated me no end. At those times I usually let someone (ok, lots of someones) know my opinion. Occasionally I probably wasn't polite about it (ok, I was a pain in the behind). "Ha ha ha: with my history, no way would I ever be elected President of NCFR."

When asked for a platform statement, here's what I said: I promise not to take myself too seriously but I promise to take NCFR and its work very seriously. That is a promise that I kept in every way possible to the best of my ability, sometimes to the detriment of my scholarship, often stealing time from my precious family, at times working as much for NCFR as I did for LSU (that will be our secret). Nothing about this term turned out as I might have predicted four years ago. We weathered

serious crises that threatened to (but did not) break apart the organization. In retrospect I know that at the heart of every matter were members who took NCFR and its work very seriously. There are always Board members, Section chairs and officers, journal editors and editorial board members, state council members, new professionals and seasoned members, and others too numerous to name who take NCFR and its work very seriously. There is a dedicated staff of professionals at our headquarters who take NCFR and its work very seriously. To all of you, to my NCFR family of friends and advisors, and to every member who walked this journey, I offer my heartfelt thanks. To my beloved friend who was not elected in 2003 and who would make a most excellent President, thank you. To my mentor and friend since the day I arrived at the University of Georgia in 1982, thank you. May you all experience God's own peace and tender mercies. Now if you will excuse me, there's a bus that's been waiting four years to take me to Mexico.



## New Data Set Available on Gay and Lesbian Couples

**L**arry Kurdek with the Department of Psychology at Wright State University has made three longitudinal data sets from survey data available at the Henry A. Murray Research Archive. The data sets are notable because they include information from both partners from each couple over 4 annual assessments, there are no missing data, and widely used measures were administered.

The first longitudinal study of both partners from gay and lesbian couples began in 1986, with additional data collection occurring in 1987, 1988, and 1989. The initial data collection involved 80 gay and 53 lesbian couples who lived together without children. They were recruited from requests for participants published in gay/lesbian periodicals and newsletters as well as through the personal recommendations of partners already participating.

The second longitudinal study of both partners from gay and lesbian couples began in 1990, with additional data collection occurring in 1991, 1992, and 1993. The initial data collection involved 75 gay and 51 lesbian couples who lived together without children. They were recruited from requests for participants published in gay/lesbian periodicals and newsletters as well as through the personal recommendations of partners already

*New Data continued on page 8*





## Executive Review

# New Destinations: Little Rock and More!

by Diane Cushman, Executive Director, [dianecushman@ncfr.org](mailto:dianecushman@ncfr.org)

In this issue of Report we say goodbye to Pittsburgh and 2007 and hello to Little Rock and 2008. Mark your calendar now for November 4-8, and plan to join your colleagues at the Peabody Little Rock Hotel, home of the World Famous Peabody Ducks—more about them later.

As we begin a new year, we must thank two magnificent NCFR members whose official service passes to the next set of hands. Alexis Walker retires with over six years as editor of JMF and leaves behind a journal ranked among the top internationally. Pam Monroe leaves her post as President and, as a part of her legacy, she leaves NCFR the better for it. Her example will help us face challenges with strength, determination, courage and character.

Our Board transition has occurred, and we thank those who have completed their terms: Marcie Brooke, Robert Reyes, and Deb Gentry. We welcome new Board members Gary Bowen, Glen Palm, Debra Berke and Chloe Merrill. Maxine Hammonds-Smith now steps into the role of President. Welcome to all!

Now, let's look ahead. Bob Milardo, an NCFR Fellow, former editor of JMF and one of NCFR's long-term members, begins a new role as editor of the *Journal of Family Theory and Review*. The introduction of a new journal represents exciting growth for NCFR.

David Demo joined us as editor of the *Journal of Marriage and Family* this year. David and his editorial staff have been

working diligently behind the scenes, receiving and reviewing manuscripts and transitioning the JMF editorial office from Oregon State to the University of North Carolina, Greensboro.

We're trying some new things in 2008. To encourage active membership, we've removed the fees associated with Section participation. Read all about this in John Pepper's article in this issue of *Report*. Beginning January 1, sign up for as many Sections as you like and get involved in NCFR.

NCFR's strength is in its multidisciplinary membership. Our interests span every aspect of family studies and, admittedly, the breadth of the field makes serving our diverse membership a challenge. With the help of Dwight Jewson, we will have your feedback and refine our services. My goal is to implement the organizational mechanisms and to structure the staff to respond to member needs in a systemic, sustainable and timely fashion. We're committed to you, and we hope you remain committed to what is unique about NCFR—its diversity. From the world's best researchers in family studies to the most talented therapists, parent educators, extension educators, and early childhood professionals, NCFR has it all. Our members not only answer some of the most complex questions about family relationships through research, we then take those findings and apply them to public policy, family life education and family therapy. Perhaps at times you have felt we did too much of one or the other; it is a delicate balance. Our strength is in

doing both—in finding the bridge that connects research to practice.

In 2008, we'll begin to expand our education area beyond the CFLE and work to provide all family life educators and practitioners with the tools they need for the classroom and other practice settings in order to apply the best that research has to offer. As a result, we will also grow professionally as we develop our skills and careers.

We'll develop a model for informing public policy that works from the grassroots level in every state to make certain our research findings are pulled out of the pages of our journals and placed into the hands of legislators.

And once again, in November in Little Rock, we'll gather for celebration and discussion; we'll renew our long-standing friendships and welcome new colleagues into this marvelously diverse professional association. May I ask a special favor? As your new Executive Director, I will be meeting many of you for the first time in the coming year or two. Would you please make a point of introducing yourself at future conferences? Then I ask for your patience as I match faces and names and learn about your areas of expertise.

What about the Peabody Ducks? 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. (At the time this is going to press, there is a Youtube video of the "March of the Ducks" at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=p10YyBuzicQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p10YyBuzicQ)). Little Rock offers great attractions such as the Clinton Library and the headquarters of the Heifer International organization. Arrive early on Tuesday and watch the 2008 Presidential election returns come in with your colleagues. See you in Little Rock!

Diane Cushman can be reached at [dianecushman@ncfr.org](mailto:dianecushman@ncfr.org).

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# Report from Minneapolis

## Surviving Professional Pratfalls—Careers, Part II

by Nancy Gonzalez, CFLE, Editor, [nancy@ncfr.org](mailto:nancy@ncfr.org)

In the last issue of *Report*, I wrote an article about career development which included information about preparing job search documents such as resumes and vitae. Before we go any further, I need to issue a correction: the CV is a “curriculum vitae.” Throughout my whole career, I had been told that this document was a curriculum “vita, vita, vita.” I was wrong, wrong, wrong! In addition to a heartfelt mea culpa for my erratum, I thought you might like to hear about my linguistic and professional adventure. It’s more than a tutorial in Latin grammar; it’s an important lesson in career development. If the purpose of my original article was to mentor up-and-coming professionals, then the goal of this one is to seize on a teaching moment and demonstrate that even experienced professionals make mistakes.

The first indication of my blunder came by email from Michael Johnson of Penn State University. He began by saying, “I thought you should hear this from a friend...” Oh, no. Just like the foreshadowing of a Hitchcock thriller, any sentence that begins like that is going to have a scary ending. He told me compassionately that he thought I got it wrong and that I should look into it. I had just started to check my facts when, within minutes, a second email arrived—this time from Preston “Brit” Britner at the University of Connecticut. He sent a short, good-natured note asking, “How many students of Latin have you heard from so far?” I was mortified. I asked him to write a clarification that I could include here.

Hi, Nancy.

Thank you for a good column on job search tips for new professionals. This sort of mentoring is essential.

As a former Latin student (from a long time ago, back when it was still a “live” language), I just need to correct your “vitae is plural” error in the column.

Curriculum vitae (singular) translates as “course of life.” The *-ae* end to the root word

vita (“life”) is the genitive case (“of life”) of this singular 1st declension feminine noun. It’s true that the nominative (subject of the sentence) case of the plural noun (“lives”) is also vitae, which is probably the root of your confusion.

Thus, young professionals should stick with Curriculum Vitae at the top of their (singular) CV. If one is evaluating a stack of CVs (plural), these would be Curricula Vitae (“courses of life”).

I hope this helps. Cheers, Brit.

Dr. Britner added that I should make sure to run his information past an expert, so naturally I called my neighbor, Nita Krevans.

*“I make a Latin error at least once each semester! . . . This language has not been spoken outside the church and the academy for more than a thousand years.”*

Nita is not just any friend and neighbor. Dr. Krevans is Professor of Classical and Near Eastern Studies at the University of Minnesota—a Latin expert. I blurted out the story. “The humiliation is one thing—I can handle that,” I said. “But the guilt is unbearable. New professionals were counting on me to provide accurate information. It’s not that I failed, but that I failed *them!*”

“I make a Latin error at least once each semester!” she laughed. “My students correct me! This language has not been spoken outside the church and the academy for more than a thousand years.” Nita verified that Preston Britner is indeed a Latin sharpshooter. He hollowed-out a linguistic dime at 20 paces. According to Dr. Krevans, the misunderstanding surrounding this issue is astonishing. “Almost everyone gets this wrong,” she added. “Actually, if you want to get really technical, the classical plural for a CV is ‘curricula vitarum.’” Bewildered? There’s another variation. A modernized plural, “vitas,” has crept into usage now and is considered acceptable, too.

What does this mean in terms of creating job search documents? **Long story short: your document is your “curriculum vitae.”** (It is pronounced VEE-tye, not VEE-tay—another frequent error!) As a practical matter, Dr. Krevans suggested that since this misconception is so widespread, it’s probably best just to call it a CV. Sounds like good advice. CVs no longer need be entitled as such and therefore, in your cover letter, you may avoid a lot of chaos by using language such as “I have enclosed my CV..., etc.” The whole point in presenting your application documents is to allow your credentialing to shine through. If you write “curriculum vitae,” even though it’s correct, you might have many readers who will stop momentarily and think, “Is this right?” Meanwhile, they may be distracted from reading your wonderful dossier! Another Penn State friend, Paul Amato, weighed-in and takes it one step further: “Here is the solution to the problem—abolish the term completely. In fact, I tell my students *not* to write “curriculum vitae” at the top of their document because it looks stupid. I mean, what else could it possibly be? That’s like writing “Book” on the front cover of every book published, so shoppers will realize that they are actually looking at a book—and not a toaster or a shoe.”

That was the Latin lesson. Now I’d like to talk about life. In that last column, I wrote that mentors tell you about their mistakes and, in so doing, help you avoid missteps of your own. It’s time to put my mentoring where my mouth is. Should the day ever come when you slip-up, I’d like to offer some survival tips.

### Nancy’s Five Point Plan on Surviving a Professional Pratfall

**1. Throw yourself a brief pity party.** Unless you must act immediately to save life or limb, don’t skip this step. Take 5 – 7 minutes to wallow in misery. Get it out of your system. Cry, if it helps. Curl up in a

*Surviving continued on page 13*



# CFLE Directions

## Nearly 200 CFLE Applications Received for Final Portfolio Review!



by Dawn Cassidy, M.Ed., CFLE, Certification Director, dawn@ncfr.org

When developing the 2007 budget for the Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE) department, I knew we would see an increase in the number of applications received for the two final portfolio review sessions. While we were committed to the replacement of the portfolio review process with a nationally standardized exam, we knew there were a lot of people who did not want to take a test in order to become a CFLE.

We saw a nice increase in the number of applications received at the spring review – 54 as opposed to the usual 25 to 40. But realizing that it is human nature to procrastinate, I knew we would see a larger increase at the final fall review. I expected 75 applications. We received nearly 200!

We are excited to have received so many applications. But we are equally excited by the fact that we have received a great deal of interest in the CFLE exam. Even before the final submission deadline of September 4 had passed, I began to receive calls and emails from people wanting to know when the exam would be offered and seeking advice on how they could best prepare. As I write this column, the first offering of the exam is scheduled for November 7 at the NCFR conference. It will also be available at a number of specified sites throughout the United States and Canada from November 1 to November 15. I don't know yet how many people will register for this first offering, but I do know that there have been at least 30 people who have requested information on registering for the exam!

The **CFLE Advisory Board**, in collaboration with members of the **CFLE Item Writing Committee** (those responsible for the actual development of the CFLE exam) developed policies for the CFLE exam. Much of the CFLE program is unchanged. We will continue to recognize university and college degree programs that offer

coursework covering the ten CFLE family life content areas as "NCFR-approved" programs. Graduates of NCFR-approved programs will continue to be eligible to apply for Provisional certification through the Abbreviated Application process.

We made a few changes to the work experience requirements for those seeking Full certification to recognize degree levels, but overall the minimum requirements to qualify to be a Certified Family Life Educator are similar to what they were under the portfolio review process. The table below includes information on the options available for the CFLE credential.

Any person with at least a Bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited institution can sit for the CFLE exam. If they lack

sufficient work experience (see table) they can receive Provisional certification upon successful completion of the CFLE exam. They can remain at Provisional status for up to five years. They can upgrade to Full certification upon documentation of sufficient work experience.

One major change to the CFLE policies includes recognition of degree level. An applicant with an advanced degree in family will need less experience in family life education in order to qualify for Full certification than would an applicant with a Bachelor's level degree. An applicant with a degree outside the family field will need more family life education work experience in order to balance the lack of formal academic preparation.

*CFLE Directions continued on page 7*

Criteria for the Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE) Designation				
Degree Type	Provisional Certification	Full Certification	Bachelor's Level Degree	Master's or PH.D. Level
Family Degree from an NCFR-Approved Program earned within the past two years	Complete Abbreviated Application Process	Complete Abbreviated Application process and document FLE work experi- ence hours	Document at least 3,200 hours FLE work experience to qualify for Full certification	Document at least 1,600 hours FLE work experience to qualify for Full certification
Family Degree from an NCFR-Approved Program earned <i>more</i> than two years ago	Complete CFLE Exam	Complete CFLE Exam and document FLE work experience hours		
Family Degree from a non-NCFR-Approved Program				
Non-Family Degree			Document at least 4,800 hours FLE work experience to qualify for Full certification	



## CFLE DIRECTIONS *continued from page 6*

An applicant with sufficient work experience hours may take the CFLE exam and receive Full certification upon successful completion of the exam. As part of the application process for Full certification, an applicant will need to provide formal documentation of their work experience hours by completing the FLE Work Experience Summary Form.

The cost for the CFLE exam will be \$225 for NCFR members (\$325 for non-members) seeking Full certification. The cost for Provisional certification will be \$150 for NCFR members (\$250 for non-members). Provisional CFLEs will need to pay an \$85 (\$110 for non-members) Upgrade fee upon submission of work experience hours in order to receive Full certification.

The NCFR website includes information on the exam including the content outline, a list of relevant resources, and the CFLE Exam Application Form. In the near future we hope to collaborate with NCFR members to provide continuing education opportunities for CFLE applicants wanting to prepare for the exam and for CFLEs working to earn continuing education credits for recertification.

It has been an amazingly productive year with the development of the CFLE exam and the final portfolio review sessions. The future of the CFLE program looks brighter than ever. I look forward to working with our members to increase the awareness and value of the family life education profession!



## A NEW JOURNAL

*continued from page 1*

life educators and that the journal will help support the growth we project for the Certified Family Life Educator program. We know that the journal is in good hands with an editor as experienced and dedicated as Dr. Bob Milardo."

JFTR is now accepting submissions on theory and review in any area of family studies. The journal is especially interested in publishing emergent theory or work that reinterprets or integrates existing theory. The journal places an equal emphasis on publishing reviews of content areas and particularly those reviews that have an explicit theoretical basis.

In guiding the journal's initial growth, several principles apply. The journal seeks to represent the diversity of families, the scholars who study them and the ways in which they do so. Authors will be encouraged to write integrated reviews that cross disciplinary boundaries, social boundaries of race, class, sexual orientation, and gender, and national or cultural boundaries. Initially the journal will encourage reviews in areas receiving the widest attention, and those experiencing the greatest need. NCFR member Stephen Marks observes, "The thing that excites me the most is the 'R' in JFTR. Comprehensive, integrative review of literature on specific areas of research and theory is one of the most underappreciated creative endeavors in social science. It can provide a deeper understanding of where others have gone and alert us to the most fruitful next steps."

The journal will publish reviews of books with direct implications for theory development. However, JFTR will not publish research reports, advances in research methods or analyses that more properly might appear in research-oriented journals. In addition the journal will not publish articles on teaching and professional skills, the design of family interventions, the provision of services to families, media reviews, fiction, memoir or op-ed pieces.

Interested writers and reviewers may contact Dr. Milardo with questions at [rh360@maine.edu](mailto:rh360@maine.edu) or by phone at (207) 581-3128.



## CERTIFIED FAMILY LIFE EDUCATORS

Following is a list of Certified Family Life Educators designated since July 15, 2007.

\* denotes provisional CFLEs

### Alabama

Christopher Adkins \*  
Janet Bowles \*  
Veleda Davis \*  
Tammy Morrow \*  
Jessica Weiss \*

### California

Panayiota Courelli

### Florida

Claudia Herrera  
Brenda Miller  
Ana Ramos-Lopez

### Illinois

Cerissa Brown \*

### Iowa

Jennifer Best  
Meghan Brugman \*  
Kyle Kostelecky

### Indiana

Alison Barber \*

### Louisiana

Kristie Jernigan \*

### Maryland

Tasha Martin \*

### Michigan

Shamika Adams-Morgan \*  
Michelle Bisson \*  
Pamela Bush \*  
Tammy Cordes \*  
Ryan Gundrum \*  
Brenda Knapp  
Jerry Michalowicz \*  
Audrey Rumler \*  
Kerri-Lynn Tanner \*  
Angela Tissue \*  
Rebecca Vannest \*

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### North Carolina

Jennifer Fields \*  
Jennifer Stanton  
Helen Watkins

### Ohio

Lisa Boudouris \*  
Celeste Didlick-Davis \*  
Renae Schlueter \*

### Oklahoma

Scott Harper  
Shana Kaufman \*

### Pennsylvania

Lois Gohn \*

### Tennessee

Gene Humphrys  
Rebecca Peterson \*  
Delsa Spence \*

### Texas

Jennifer Barker  
Laura Imondi \*  
Valerie Kirkley \*  
Sheila Lumar  
Ruth Martinez \*  
Erin Roberts \*  
Kathie Smith \*

### Virginia

Jon-Eric Garcia

### Wisconsin

Jennifer Reinke \*  
Elizabeth Rink \*

# TCRM Then... and Now

by Hilary A. Rose, TCRM Chair 2008, [hrose@alcor.concordia.ca](mailto:hrose@alcor.concordia.ca)

It was 1971. Richard Nixon was President and the United States was still at war in Vietnam. In Canada, Pierre Trudeau was Prime Minister, and abortion and homosexuality had recently been decriminalized. The 26th amendment to the Constitution was passed, giving 18-year-olds the right to vote. Meanwhile at home we were reading *Love Story* and watching *All In The Family*.

On the heels of the civil rights movement, sociologist Robert Staples wrote about black families. Feminists like Shulamith Firestone explored women's issues from a theoretical perspective, while Constantina Safilios-Rothschild explored women's issues from a methodological perspective. Sociologists William Goode and Jetse Sprey studied

TCRM sessions comprise informed discussions of theoretical and methodological issues raised by refereed papers that are read in advance of the meeting by discussants and workshop attendees. The format of TCRM is unique in that registrants receive copies of all papers a month or so before the conference. Because attendees have already read the papers, discussions can center on the ideas raised in each paper, and on the integration of different papers in a session.

And, as discussants have also provided their comments to the papers' authors in advance, authors get a chance to respond to the discussants' comments in an atmosphere of collaboration, pushing forward the thinking of authors, discussants, and audience alike. Family methods and theories can thus

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*TCRM's mission is to facilitate the creation and refinement of theory and methods relative to the study of families.*

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family violence and conflict respectively. The time was ripe for the establishment of NCFR's Theory Construction and Research Methodology workshop.

Theory construction was a big topic in the social sciences, and 1971 saw the publication of two books on the subject (by Nicholas Mullins and Paul Reynolds), followed by books on theory construction in sociology by Wes Burr and Jerry Hage. According to Jay Teachman and Alan Neustadt, the first family research to feature regression as the primary form of analysis appeared in 1971. In addition, 1971 also witnessed the first *Journal of Marriage and the Family* article to report path analysis.

## Mission of TCRM

TCRM's mission is to facilitate the creation and refinement of theory and methods relative to the study of families. The TCRM Workshop strives to create an environment of discovery, intellectual challenge, and debate for authors and colleagues who are developing new approaches to theory, methods, and practice. Also, scholars who have works in progress benefit from the collective wisdom and critique of informed colleagues, feedback that can enable revisions for possible publication, according to former TCRM archivist, David Klein.

evolve in a collegial and constructive context—one that is welcoming of students and new professionals in the field. "The workshop encourages the involvement of students and young professionals, so it serves as a training center for issues related to family theory construction and research methodology," says David Klein.

## Call for Proposals

TCRM offers a unique opportunity for scholars to present and discuss their ideas and research in a highly constructive format designed to enhance works in progress and

advance the development of theory and methods in family research and practice. All interested family scholars are invited to attend and participate. See the TCRM webpage at the NCFR website ([www.ncfr.org](http://www.ncfr.org)) under the subheading "Conference" for further information, submission instructions, and the deadline.

Types of paper sessions at the workshop will include:

- (a) working papers—papers submitted individually, in order to benefit from discussion of theoretical or methodological issues with discussants and the audience;
- (b) symposia—submitted as a thematic group of 2 or 3 papers, or grouped by the TCRM chair. The papers will be related and discussion will focus on the concepts that link the papers together;
- (c) plenary sessions—with a broad, open format, focusing on specific theoretical or methodological issues that will benefit from discussion, and will be of interest to all TCRM attendees.

The first TCRM workshop in Estes Park, Colorado in 1971 coincided with a period of social upheaval and unrest. Since then, diversity of methods, and diversity of theories, have been the hallmark of the family field—and of TCRM. For the 38th annual TCRM, the tradition continues. Be a part of history: **be a part of the 38th TCRM!**



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## NEW DATA *continued from page 3*

participating. Some of the couples (41 gay and 21 lesbian) participated in the 1989 data collection from a previous project.

The third longitudinal study of both partners from gay and lesbian couples began in 1994, with additional data collection occurring in 1995, 1996, and 1997. The initial data collection involved 57 gay and 54 lesbian couples who lived together without children. They were recruited from requests for participants published in gay/lesbian periodicals and newsletters as well as through the personal recommendations of partners already participating. Some of

the couples (45 gay and 36 lesbian) participated in the 1993 data collection from a previous project. In each of the studies, the surveys were sent by mail and were returned in separate postage-paid envelopes for each partner.

To access the dataset, go to: <http://www.murray.harvard.edu/frontpage>. Once at the link, the SPSS data sets and supporting materials (actual surveys and information on scoring) can be found by searching for "gay and lesbian couples" in the "Find Data" section of the archive's homepage.





# Get Involved in the Leadership of YOUR Organization!

by Jay A. Mancini & Catherine A. Solheim, NCFR 2007-2008 Elections Council Co-Chairs

The vitality of NCFR depends on the dedication of its members to serve in leadership capacities at various levels of the organization. The charge of the Elections Council is to identify people who are willing to commit their time and energy for leadership positions. Please consider how your skills and gifts might benefit NCFR. In turn, we're quite sure that you will gain invaluable leadership experience and will grow personally as well as professionally. Here are the Selection Criteria (Source: NCFR By-Laws, May, 2002, Article IX, Section 2, B 3) to help you decide whether you would be willing to be nominated and/or to identify potential candidates for the upcoming election:

- knowledge and/or experience in areas reflecting broad trends in Family Science in the United States and internationally.
- knowledge and/or experience with policy governance and the development of ENDS policies.
- knowledge and/or experience in leadership roles through Sections, Association of Councils, Elections Council, Conference planning, publishing, public policy or other committee work.
- diversity in race, ethnicity, culture, sexual orientation, gender, age, physical ability or religion.
- diversity of geographic location.
- diversity in educational training.
- diversity in employment and/or professional settings; and
- specific characteristics identified by the Board of Directors and charged to the Elections Council before the call for nominations is developed and circulated.

Keeping these criteria in mind. We invite self-nominations or nominations of others for the following positions for the next slate to be elected in February of 2009. The terms for these positions will begin November 2009 at the end of the annual conference in San Francisco, California.

## President-elect – 2009-2011 (President 2011-2013)

The President-elect shall assist the President and in the event of the President's absence, incapacitation, resignation or death, the President's duties (general management of the business of the NCFR Board) shall devolve upon the President-elect.

## Association of Councils President-Elect – 2009-2011

The Association of Councils President-Elect shall serve on the National Council on Family Relations Board of Directors for a two-year term, and shall represent concerns of the members of the Association of Councils. This position shall assume the presidency of the Association of Councils for a two-year term following his or her term as President-Elect.

## Two Elections Council Members - 2009-2012

It is the responsibility of the Elections Council to prepare a slate of nominees for officers and members of the Board of Directors, Fellows Committee, Program Chair-elect, and the Elections

Council positions, and to ensure that the policies regarding recruitment as provided by the NCFR Bylaws, and the Elections Council Policies and Procedures are followed.

## Three Fellows Committee – 2009-2012

The Fellows Committee shall review the applications from nominees for NCFR Fellow status. During the NCFR Annual Conference, discuss and vote on which applicants will be recommended to the Board of Directors.

## Conference Program Chair-elect - 2009-2010 (Program Chair for 2011 Conference)

Serves one year as Conference Program Chair-elect, proceeding to Program Chair the following year and has primary responsibility for selecting the theme for the Annual Conference and selecting plenary and other special speakers.

Send nominations to Jeanne Strand at [jeanne@ncfr.org](mailto:jeanne@ncfr.org). For additional information, please review our website, [www.ncfr.org](http://www.ncfr.org). **Deadline for nominations is January 31, 2008.**

We have submitted a nomination slate (ballots will be mailed to members in February 2008) for terms that will be filled at the end of the national meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas in November 2008. The nominees are:

## Board Member-at-Large (2008-2011): (3 Positions)

Bert N. Adams - WI	vs.	Gary R. Lee - OH
Norma J. Burgess - PA	vs.	Estella A. Martinez - NM
Mary Ann Hollinger - PA	vs.	Constance L. Shehan - FL

## Student/New Professional Board Representative (2008-2010): (1 Position)

Soyoung Lee, CFLE - NM	vs.	Gary T. Horlacher - CA
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## Program Chair Elect (2008-2009)

(Program Chair for 2010 Conference): (1 Position)

Karen R. Blaisure, CFLE - MI	vs.	Ramona F. Oswald - IL
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## Elections Council (2008-2011): (2 Positions)

Katherine R. Allen - VA	vs.	Karen S. Wampler - TX
Thomas R. Lee - UT	vs.	Stephan M. Wilson, CFLE - NV

## Student/New Professional Program Representative (2008-2010)

Clare M. Kamp Dush - OH	vs.	Kristy Y. Shih - CA
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The Elections Council wants to encourage ALL members to become involved in leadership positions of our organization. Again, consider what your involvement will be. Send nominations to Jeanne Strand at [jeanne@ncfr.org](mailto:jeanne@ncfr.org). For additional information, please review the NCFR website – [www.ncfr.org](http://www.ncfr.org). **Deadline for nomination is January 31, 2008.**



# Using old technology to locate qualified candidates?



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# On the Bookshelf

## Announcing New books Authored or Edited by NCFR Members in 2006-2007



**Paul R. Amato, Alan Booth, David R. Johnson, and Stacy J. Rogers** (2007) *Alone Together: How Marriage in America Is Changing*, Harvard University Press.

**Nijole V. Benokraitis** (2007) *Marriages and Families: Changes, Choices, and Constraints*, 6th edition, Prentice Hall.

**Karen Bogenschneider** (2006) *Family Policy Matters: How Policymaking Affects Families and What Professionals Can Do*. 2nd edition Lawrence Erlbaum.

**Karen Bogenschneider & Maureen Ittig** (2006) *Instructor's Manual to Accompany Family Policy Matters: How Policymaking Affects Families and What Professionals Can Do.*, Lawrence Erlbaum.

**Mary Bold & Lillian Chenoweth** (2007) *Reflections: Preparing for Your Practicum and Internship*, Thomson Delmar Learning.

**Donna Couchener** (2008) *Families, Schools and Communities: Together for Young Children*, Thomson Delmar Learning.

**Kent Chrisman & Donna Couchenour** (2008) *In the Field: Guided Field Assignments and Readings in Early Childhood Education*, Thomson Delmar Learning.

**Rochelle Dalla** (2006) *Exposing the "Pretty Woman" Myth: A Qualitative Investigation of Street-Level Prostituted Women*, Lexington Publishers, Inc.

**Bella DePaulo** (2006) *Singled out: How Singles Are Stereotyped, Stigmatized, and Ignored, and Still Live Happily Ever After*, St. Martin's Press.

**Margie L. Kiter Edwards, Laura O'Toole and Jessica R. Schiffman** (2007) *Gender Violence: Interdisciplinary Perspectives*, NYU Press.

**Charles Figley & W. P. Nash** (2007) *Combat Stress Injury Theory Research, and Management*, Routledge.

**Charles Figley** (2006) *Compassion Fatigue in the Animal Care Community*, Humane Society Press.

**Charles Figley** (2006) *Mapping the Wake of Trauma: Autobiographical Essays by the Pioneers of Trauma Research*. In the Psycho-social Stress Book Series, Routledge.

**Raeann R. Hamon** (2006) *International Family Studies: Developing Curricula and Teaching Tools*, Haworth Press.

**Shirley May Harmon Hanson, Vivian Gedaly-Duff, & Joanna Kaakinen** (2005) *Family Health Care Nursing: Theory, Practice and Research*, F.A. Davis Publishers.

**Meg Wilkes Karraker and Janet R. Grochowski** (2006) *Families with Futures: A Survey of Family Studies for the Twenty-first Century*, Lawrence Erlbaum.

**Norah Keating** (2008) *A Good Place to Grow Old? Critical Perspectives on Rural Aging*, The Policy Press, UK.

**Vera Sonja Maass** (2006) *Women's Group Therapy: Creative Challenges and Options*, Springer Publishing.

**Vera Sonja Maass** (2007) *Facing the Complexities of Women's Sexual Desire*, Springer Science + Business Media.

**J. LeBron McBride** (2007) *Pastoral Care from the Pulpit: Meditations of Hope and Encouragement*, Haworth Press.

**Peggy Meszaros** (2007) *Self-authorship: Advancing student's Intellectual Growth through the Lens of Self-authorship*, Jossey Bass.

**Carol J. Burger, Elizabeth G. Creamer, and Peggy S. Meszaros** (2007) *Reconfiguring the firewall: Recruiting Women to IT across Cultures and Continents*, A. K. Peters, LTD.

**Ira Reiss** (2006) *An Insider's View of Sexual Science Since Kinsey* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2006).

**Rhonda A. Richardson & Margaret A. Pevac** (2007). *What Kids REALLY Want to Ask: Using Movies to Start Meaningful Conversations (A Guidebook for Parents and Children ages 10-14)*, VanderWyk & Burnham Publishers.

**Mihaela Robila** (2004) *Families in Eastern Europe*. Oxford, UK: Elsevier.

**Paul C. Rosenblatt** (2006) *Two in a Bed: The Social System of Couple Bed Sharing*, State University of New York Press.

**Brad Sachs** (2007) *When No One Understands: Letters to a Teenager on Life, Loss, and the Hard Road to Adulthood*, Random House.

**Jewel Sample** (2006) *Flying Hugs and Kisses*, Lifevest Publishing.

**Jewel Sample** (2007) *Flying Hugs and Kisses Activity Book*, Lifevest Publishing.

**Karen Seccombe** (2007) *So You Think I Drive a Cadillac? Welfare Recipients' Perspectives on the System and its Reform*, 2nd edition, Allyn and Bacon.

**Karen Seccombe** (2007) *Families in Poverty*, Allyn and Bacon.

**Karen Seccombe** (2008) *Families and Their Social Worlds*, Allyn and Bacon.

**Harriet Shaklee and Diane Demarest** (2006) *The Parent Connection: Group Learning for Parents and Young Children*, University of Idaho Educational Communications.

**Linda Skogrand, Nikki DeFrain, John DeFrain, and Jean E. Jones** (2007) *Surviving and Transcending a Traumatic Childhood: The Dark Thread*, Haworth Press.

**Robert F. Stahmann & Nathan D. Wood** (2007) *25 Keys to a Great Marriage*, Silverleaf Press/Independent Publishers Group.

**Bahira Sherif Trask & Raeann R. Hamon** (2007) *Cultural Diversity and Families: Expanding Perspectives*, Sage Publications.

**Patricia Voydanoff** (2007) *Work, Family, and Community: Exploring Interconnections*, Lawrence Erlbaum.

On the Bookshelf is a news column intended to build community by letting colleagues know about new books by fellow members. Inclusion on this list does not constitute an endorsement by NCFR. To submit your book for consideration in the next *On the Bookshelf* column, at least one author must be an NCFR member and the book must have been published in 2006 or thereafter. Send your submission in the exact format of these listings to [nancy@ncfr.org](mailto:nancy@ncfr.org).







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Esther Perel - Mating in Captivity

Harville Hendrix - IMAGOConnects

Michele Weiner-Davis - The Sex-Starved Wife

David Olson - PREPARE/Couple Check-Up

Steve Stosny - Boot Camp for Emotional Abusers

Frank Pittman - Marriage & the Movies

John Covey - 8 Habits of Successful Marriages

Bill Doherty - Marriage-Friendly Therapy

Willard Harvey - His Needs, Her Needs

John Van Epp - How to Avoid Marrying A Jerk

Terry Hargrave - Boomers on the Edge

William Fals-Stewart - Learning Sobriety Together

Muhammad & Slack - The Black Marriage Curriculum  
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## NCFR Report - A Member Forum

The NCFR Report is a member-written quarterly newsletter designed to encourage member-to-member dialogue; to inform colleagues about new research areas or to report early research findings and solicit critique before submission to a professional journal. Through the Report, NCFR also builds our community by reporting on people, events and organizational news.

Unlike the content of our scholarly journals, the articles in Report have not been peer-reviewed. In the spirit of open debate and academic freedom, NCFR Report is a member forum for exchanging ideas. The opinions or findings expressed are those of the author(s), which may or may not represent the official position of NCFR as an organization nor the prevailing scientific consensus on the topic.

Author email addresses are provided to encourage readers to offer comment to writers. Members may access the content of our scholarly journals on-line at [www.ncfr.org](http://www.ncfr.org). To join NCFR, click on our convenient on-line membership application at [www.ncfr.org](http://www.ncfr.org). Journalists with media inquiries are invited to contact Nancy Gonzalez at 763-231-2887 or via email at [nancy@ncfr.org](mailto:nancy@ncfr.org) for information on our scholarly research.

fetal position under your desk and moan. Whatever works. Given my vivid imagination, the self-flagellation came in the form of two nightmarish daydreams. In the first one, I envisioned Michael Johnson kneeling prayerfully in his Pennsylvania office. He was thanking whomever he worships that I had not gone into neurosurgery or air traffic control. Then the scene changed. Suddenly I was at a gala reception that was teeming with scholars. I was standing at the punchbowl alone because no one would mingle with me. I overheard a nearby conversation: “See her? That’s Nancy ‘C.V.’ Gonzalez—only in her case it stands for ‘cranium vacuum’.” The group erupted in laughter. I think I even heard a rimshot.

### 2. Go to your supervisor and come clean.

And it’s here I’d like to say something about good leadership. When this happened, I had worked under Diane Cushman just five months. Nevertheless, I had already internalized her value system. She isn’t about perfection—only accountability. I could move directly into repair mode because I didn’t have to waste any time worrying about how to phrase my confession or how to duck her blows. I pled

guilty. I was met with warm absolution and then a “what are you going to do?” Business publications are replete with stories about expensive or life-threatening industrial disasters that, upon analysis, were completely avoidable with the right management culture that encouraged employees to identify problems early.

**3. Act!** Check your facts, identify possible fallout, move to minimize it quickly and apologize. I placed a correction on Zippy News, sent letters to everyone whose documents I had reviewed, and started writing this article.

**4. Call in support.** Colleagues and friends come through with acceptance, consultation and also a few “You wouldn’t believe what I did!” stories. I heard things such as “You are being way too hard on yourself,” “I didn’t know the difference between *vita* and *vitae* either,” and “Maybe it’s just as well—we all need a refresher.” However, my best support came from my husband. When he got home that evening, I was still pretty upset. I told him the story. He walked over to our home library and pulled out a book; *Kill Duck before Serving: Red Faces at the New York Times*. It’s a compendium of

the Times’ corrections and retractions. He began reading:

*July 14, 1985 A report misidentified the document on which John Hancock put his famous prominent signature. It was the Declaration of Independence, not the Constitution.*

*December 13, 2000 A theater review about “Icarus” misidentified the central characters in a Samuel Beckett play to which the setting was compared. Beckett’s characters in “Waiting for Godot” are Vladimir and Estragon, not Lucky and Pozzo.*

*February 15, 1996 A map about new findings on the authenticity of the Vinland Map, said to be the earliest map showing any part of the Americas, misidentified the ocean off the coast of Newfoundland. It is the Atlantic, not the Pacific.*

He closed the book and gave me a hug. For all the times he had used my car and left me only enough gas to back out of the garage, he was forgiven. This moment may go down in my family history as one of my top five memories.

**5. Forgive yourself.** Or, in the words of noted teenage philosopher Eric Gonzalez, “Mom, get over it.” (I don’t know where he learns this stuff!) A great way to move on is to take your mistake and try to salvage something good out of it. Use your experience to mentor others.

I am still in the business of reviewing resumes, *vitae* and cover letters for new career NCFR members. I thought about hanging up my pen, but one of my crying towels, Wisconsin family policy legend Karen Bogenschneider, said something that changed my mind. Karen had loads of encouraging things to say. But the best was, “The only way to avoid making mistakes is never to do anything. That doesn’t help anyone.” I enjoy writing and editing—and I used to ace all of the spelling bees in elementary school. If I can help, I’m happy to. However, if you send me your documents, I will make you promise that there will be other mentors looking them over, too.

I’m giving up on Latin. Maybe I’ll take a stab at learning some other language that makes more sense—like Klingon. One thing’s for sure; I’ll never make this mistake again. I have a daily reminder. Each morning as I back out of my driveway, I see an evergreen tree near our garage. Its Latin name is *Arborvitae*. If you’d like to know what that means, call my new best friend, Brit. ■

## NCFR Report - Call for Submissions Theme: *Transition to Adulthood*

The next issue of NCFR’s magazine *Report* will focus on the *Transition to Adulthood*; for young adults age 18 – 25.

- Just what are the “markers” that indicate the attainment of adulthood?
- Are these the same or different than those of a generation ago?
- What are the unique concerns of this population?
- How does public policy meet - or fail to meet - their needs?
- What is the latest research on young adults?
- How can family professionals support their well-being?
- How does the college-bound population differ from those entering the workforce?
- What are the economic realities for them in terms of accessing jobs, healthcare, housing and other basic needs?
- To what extent does the family (or should a family) form a safety net?
- How is the transition different for those with special needs?

Articles should be written in magazine essay style (not APA) and approximately 1800 words. The editorial deadline is December 21, 2007. Address questions and send submissions to editor Nancy Gonzalez at [nancy@ncfr.org](mailto:nancy@ncfr.org).

# The Psychology of Divorce



## **Parenting After Divorce: Resolving Conflicts and Meeting Your Children's Needs (2nd Edition)**

Philip Stahl, Ph.D.

**NEW!** Softcover: \$17.95/208 pages

Revised and updated second edition features ideas from the latest research, more information on long-distance parenting, dealing with the courts, and working with a difficult co-parent.

## **Divorce Doesn't Have to Be That Way: A Handbook for the Helping Professional**

Jane Appell, Ph.D.

Softcover: \$27.95/288 pages

Comprehensive therapist guide to divorce counseling. Emphasizes a healthy, family-centered, non-adversarial approach. Key topics: understanding the divorce process, treating "problem" personalities, domestic abuse, custody, legal issues, much more.

## **Defusing the High-Conflict Divorce: A Treatment Guide for Working with Angry Couples**

B. Gaulier, Ph.D., J. Margerum, Ph.D., J. Price, M.A., and J. Windell, M.A. Softcover: \$27.95/272 pages

The therapist's practical guide for working with angry divorcing couples, offering a unique set of proven programs for quelling the hostility in high-conflict co-parenting couples, and "defusing" their prolonged, bitter, and emotional struggles.

## **After Your Divorce: Creating the Good Life on Your Own**

Cynthia MacGregor and Robert E. Alberti, Ph.D.

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# Snapshots from Pittsburgh



Top left: Our outgoing Board members: Deb Gentry, Pam Monroe, Marcie Brooke and Robert Reyes. top right: Tom Chibucos and Karen Bogenschneider talk public policy. Above: NCFR members dance to the rockin' sound of the Lost Faculties. Right: AV genius Carl Williams accepts NCFR award of appreciation and also congratulations from his wife Elizabeth. Below left: Plenary speakers Sara McLanahan and Kathryn Edin talked with us about Fragile Families. Below right: 2008 Program Chair, Anisa Zvonkovic, invites us all to Little Rock.



# A New Financial Model for NCFR Sections

by John W. Pepper, NCFR Finance Director

**Beginning January 2008, Section membership will be free to all active NCFR members. Members may join as many Sections as they choose at no additional cost.**

NCFR understands the vital importance that Sections play to NCFR's core disciplines by linking members in specified areas of concern for families. We endeavor to strengthen the organization by providing members every opportunity to participate in Section activities with no reservations or barriers. One way to do this is by offering free Section membership. As a member, you may join one, five, or all 10 Sections at no cost. You choose!

Over the years, NCFR's business model has evolved to offer members opportunities not previously available. In the past, Sections managed their own income and expenses, but revenue which is generated by annual Section member dues was constantly consumed by normal operational expenses. This limited income stream often forced sections to concentrate on fund-raising efforts. These financial

concerns hindered a Section's ability to focus and expand services to their members.

Now NCFR headquarters will maintain annual financial support to all Sections, removing both the financial burden from members who pay the dues and the laborious job held by Section officials trying to manage a tight budget. This financial freedom allows Sections to enhance existing member services by strengthening its framework of communication and interaction without constant financial concerns and distractions.

In the months to come, you will see an increased focus on Section services provided by NCFR staff including: enhanced Section websites offering section members access to blogs, member contact database, surveys and much more. Jeanne Strand will continue to be the Section point of contact for all services to Sections. She can be reached at 763-231-2881 or at [Jeanne@ncfr.org](mailto:Jeanne@ncfr.org)



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