

IN THIS ISSUE

Family Focus theme: Families and Cultural Intersections

When cultures intersect in this complex world, change happens. Articles in this edition of Family Focus address how families are often the agents of change within their own native culture and when they interact with new cultures.

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**2018 NCFR
Annual Conference
Nov. 7–10, San Diego**

**Families and Cultural Intersections
in a Global Context: Innovations in
Research, Practice, and Policies**

Full details at ncfr.org/ncfr-2018

Join Us at the 2018 Annual Conference

Families and Cultural Intersections in a Global Context: Innovations in Research, Practice, and Policies

Bahira Sherif Trask, Ph.D., Chair, Conference Program Committee, bstrask@udel.edu

Our theme for this November's annual conference could not be timelier: a focus on cultural intersections in an increasingly interconnected and diverse world. As we are seeing in the United States and other countries around the world, migration and globalization are creating new points of contact between cultures. At times these intersections are perceived as a welcome addition, enriching

Family Scientists have the knowledge base to help assist families as they navigate complicated contexts and situations.

local environments. However, this is not always the case. In the United States and other high-income countries, we are witnessing an increased tendency for policymakers and government leaders to stress nationalistic beliefs. And at times, these values are translated into policies that are detrimental specifically to families. A recent example is the policy of separating immigrant children from their families at the U.S.–Mexico border.

For our discipline to be relevant and contribute to the betterment of our society and other societies, we must address these types of issues at every level: we need to emphasize and disseminate our empirical research on child, youth, and adult development and on family relationships across the life span. Furthermore, we need to advocate for policies

that strengthen all families. Contemporary families live in a complex, increasingly intertwined, and culturally diverse world. They themselves represent many forms and types. However, they have in common that they need supportive policies that take into account changing circumstances. We, as Family Scientists, have the knowledge base that can help create environments and circumstances that assist families as they navigate complicated contexts and situations.

Our 2018 program will address the issues created by cultural intersections head on. Special and invited presenter symposium sessions will highlight research on families in Western and non-Western contexts, culturally and socially marginalized families, and families that live at or embody cultural intersections. They will also focus on innovative evidence-based best practices, programs, and pedagogies that promote family resiliency and well-being in varying settings and draw attention to and critically analyze policies that support and strengthen all types of families, including the most vulnerable.

Moreover, we are fortunate to have an extraordinary group of plenary speakers



**Bahira Sherif
Trask, Ph.D.**

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Mission Statement for NCFR Report

NCFR Report, the quarterly newsletter of the National Council on Family Relations, provides timely, useful information to help members succeed in their roles as researchers, educators, and practitioners. Articles address Family Science issues, programs, and trends, including association news.

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How to contribute to the Family Focus section:

The Family Focus section of *NCFR Report* is member-written. Articles accepted for publication will be edited using standard editorial practice, and given priority based on 1) relevance to the Family Focus theme, 2) brevity due to space limitations, and 3) how articles form a complementary collection. For information and guidelines, contact the editor, Judith A. Myers-Walls, Ph.D., CFLE at reporteditor@ncfr.org. **The contents of articles represent the views of their author(s), which may not represent the position of the entire organization.**

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Nominate Candidates to Be NCFR's Next Leaders

The future of both NCFR and Family Science are inextricably tied to the quality and dedication of our leaders. Thanks to the strategic vision and perseverance of our leadership, we have made tremendous strides toward our mission of strengthening families. We need your help to keep up this momentum. As we approach the annual conference in San Diego, there are two ways you can assist the Elections Council.

First, think about the leadership opportunities in NCFR that would be a good match for you. Speak with colleagues, mentors, section leaders, or Elections Council members about your desire to serve and your willingness to be nominated for a position. Second, consider nominating colleagues who you think would be a good match for the positions available in the next election cycle:

- Board of Directors members-at-large (2020–2023), three positions
- Elections Council members (2020–2023), two positions
- Inclusion and Diversity Committee members-at-large (2020–2023), three positions
- Students and New Professionals program representative (2020–2022)
- Annual Conference program chair-elect (2020–2021), a board-appointed position.

The election cycle begins each year at the annual conference, when we ask members,

sections, and focus groups to nominate potential candidates for the organizational-level positions that need to be filled.

In the spring of 2019 the Elections Council will meet to identify and discuss possible candidates for 2020 who have been identified by nomination or who have previously served in leadership positions. We consider the experience of individual candidates and ensure that the overall slate reflects the strength and diversity of the entire NCFR membership and that reflects and promotes the mission and goals of NCFR.

The Elections Council's responsibility is to help NCFR members match their leadership abilities to the opportunities that abound within our organization. We take seriously the NCFR Board of Directors' charge to find the right people who are willing to have their names placed on the ballot each year. We are guided by the operating values outlined in the NCFR bylaws and the Elections Council policies and procedures. We are excited about the possibilities for future leadership and hope you consider being a part of it. ✨

—NCFR Elections Council Co-chairs Curtis A. Fox, Ph.D., CFLE, and Ramona Faith Oswald, Ph.D., CFLE (2018); Kevin M. Roy, Ph.D., and Kimberly Updegraff, Ph.D. (2019); Jodi B. Dworkin, Ph.D., and Heather M. Helms, Ph.D. (2020) of the NCFR Elections Council; and April L. Few-Demo, Ph.D., board liaison to the Elections Council

Congratulations to NCFR's Honors Graduates for Summer 2018

NCFR Honors Student Recognition is awarded to students who demonstrate outstanding achievements in academics, leadership, and community service in the discipline of Family Science.

Graduating this fall? The deadline to apply for honors for fall 2018 graduates is Oct. 1, 2018.

Summer 2018 Recipients

- Olivia Diggs, Iowa State University
- Woosang Hwang, Syracuse University
- Sarah Kuborn, Kansas State University
- Fiorella Luisa Carlos Chavez, Florida State University
- Jessica Elizabeth Morales Flores, University of New Mexico



Get Into the Fall School Spirit

Anisa M. Zvonkovic, Ph.D., NCFR President, zvonkovic18@ecu.edu

Fall is a traditional “back to school” time. Most of us, whether in faculty, student, or family roles, are attuned to the cyclical nature of the school calendar. As a person who has always been enrolled in school or serving as a faculty member, I am very much attuned to the rhythm of this calendar.

I love the crisp energy associated with a new school year, and I love seeing the faces of new families as they embark on an academic adventure: such as families with preschoolers in a child development center, children starting new grades, college students, graduate students, and the arrival of new faculty, which this year includes me, as I begin a new administrative position at a new university. Fall is a time of new possibilities and excitement about new things to learn and new patterns to establish.

Fall is also the time to finalize plans for attending the 2018 NCFR Annual Conference! We do hope to see you in San Diego for what promises to be an exciting conference. The program chair, Bahira Sherif Trask, has a column in this volume of *NCFR Report* with more information about the conference (see page 1). For those who cannot travel to San Diego, we encourage you to attend virtually during any of 18 live-stream sessions, follow conference activities on social media, and look for recorded sessions in early 2019.

I want to write a bit about the annual conference and urge you to take your “back to school” energy and use it to examine the online program carefully with an eye toward intentionally constructing new experiences for yourself at the conference. When I was program chair a while ago, I shared with the attendees at the Newcomers Welcome the idea that they should construct their program experience to be sure they got exposure to a variety of sessions. Those of you who are long-term attendees could take advantage of this advice, too. I believe you have an obligation to go outside of

your typical sessions, especially outside of sessions in which you are an author! This is a great time to look at the program with fresh eyes and intentionally select sessions that will provide you with insights about Family Science that you haven’t typically explored.

As Family Scientists, we have a responsibility to learn about the broader field that shapes our discipline, and the annual conference offers unique and easy ways to do this. You can learn about a new area of study, see which areas have a lot of contemporary research interest, and hear plenaries by practitioners and scholars who are extremely well known. I would remind you that section

As Family Scientists, we have a responsibility to learn about the broader field that shapes our discipline, and the annual conference offers unique and easy ways to do this.

meetings are very different from how they used to be more than five years ago. They are interactive events that are organized and arranged by section members—they typically involve exchanges of resources, working along with peers, and networking. Attending section meetings is a terrific way to develop relationships and get involved. Honestly, they’re worth being up for and in a meeting at 7 a.m.!

This paragraph is for the colleagues who are in my cohort—people who have been attending NCFR for many years. I have found

that many long-time NCFR members often forget (or are too humble to realize) that we can be role models for others and that we are, in fact, the senior people to whom new attendees look for advice and for suggestions for navigating the conference and mentorship in general. I ask that you longer-term members make a point of being available to people you don’t know and try to encourage newer NCFR conference attendees in their work. Remembering the fall spirit of new beginnings helps me to remember when I was new in NCFR and how much I appreciated people who reached out to me.

Relatedly, my colleagues on the NCFR Board of Directors do want to hear from you—about your ideas for the organization and about your experiences. I can honestly say that we are interested in your perspectives so that we can best represent you. Please look for us at the conference (we will have “flair” on our name badges denoting our membership on the board) and please reach out via email to board@ncfr.org.

And now, I will share just how much I relate to new NCFR members and new conference attendees. At this very moment I’m sitting in a new office, with a new computer, trying to unlearn acronyms associated with one academic institution and to learn new ones associated with my new academic home. Today was the first time I didn’t get lost trying to find an office! All of us have been in the position of new member, and we are eager to assist with your learning and connecting with others—those are among the pleasures of being family-focused scholars and professionals! ✨



Expanding NCFR's Resources for a Changing World and Dynamic Discipline

Diane Cushman, NCFR Executive Director, dianecushman@ncfr.org

NCFR members and staff are busy preparing for what promises to be a stellar conference this fall, and we can't wait to see you there in San Diego, Nov. 7–10. In the meantime, I wanted to share with you some of the ways NCFR continues to adapt its programs and resources to the needs of its members and an ever-changing world.

Annual Conference Poster Sessions

Submissions for the NCFR Annual Conference continue to set records. This year there were 896, compared to 845 in 2017 and 705 in 2016. To accommodate the increased submissions yet keep the program at three and a half days, we've expanded the poster sessions from 313 in 2016 to 450 in 2017 and again this year. There are now five sessions, each lasting either 60 or 75 minutes, with 90 posters on display per session. We have kept programming opposite the poster sessions at a minimum so that conference attendees are able to focus on the posters during those sessions.

In addition to increased submissions, the changes to the poster sessions came about as a result of feedback from conference attendees and the work of the staff-led conference improvement committee. Goals of this work included increasing the status, energy and visibility of the poster sessions, and decreasing the number of sessions and the overlap with other non-poster sessions.

A consequence of more posters during each session is the need for more floor space in which to hold the sessions. We have shifted to using a ballroom in most properties, but that eliminates needed space for other functions. We'll be exploring other options for future conference sites, including use of convention centers.

Expanding Online Tools for Member Networking

Our long-awaited enhancement to Listservs is now firmly in place, with discussion groups for every section and focus group, as well as Certified Family Life Educators (CFLEs) affiliates, Students and New Professionals, and an all-member group. Discussion groups can be found by logging in to ncfr.org and clicking on the Discussion Groups tab or by logging in with your member login at groups.ncfr.org. Work continues on the website user experience, with the goal of having a single sign-on that allows access to the discussion groups as well as the NCFR Store and Learning Center.

There are now five poster sessions at the annual conference, with 90 posters on display per session.

Once logged in to the discussion groups, you can see the groups you are in, create a new post, or respond to posts by others. The most frequently used group to date is CFLE, where discussions are happening about tracking professional development, screening for internships, family support systems in courts, and many other topics of interest to Family Life Educators. All posts are archived for future access. If there is a topic about which you have an interest and want to share with or hear from your colleagues, please consider using the discussion groups as a resource.

If you are having trouble accessing the discussion groups or setting your notices for the desired frequency, you can contact Bethany Cox, NCFR member relations manager, at bethanycox@ncfr.org for assistance.

Online Resource Collections

In response to member interest about the treatment of immigrant families at the United States borders, NCFR's Immigration and Families Resource Collection was

revised and updated (ncfr.org/resources/resource-collections/immigration-resources). Additional online resource collections include the following:

- How to Talk to Children About Tragedies
- Coping in the Wake of Shootings, Mass Violence, and Terrorism
- Support for LGBTQ Individuals and Families
- Understanding Racism in Society
- Ambiguous Loss
- Families, Media, and Technology
- Explaining CFLE to Employers
- Crafting Scholarship

If you have an interest in assisting with the creation of additional resource collections or suggesting the addition of resources, please contact NCFR staff at info@ncfr.org.

Focus Groups

Included in this issue of *Report* is the schedule for focus group meetings at the annual conference in San Diego. It's worth noting that the number of focus groups (23) is on the rise, with five new focus groups in the last 24 months: Extension Network, Families with Disabilities, Home Visiting, Korean Families, and Social Justice Network.

When the original seven focus groups were created in 1980, they were required to be sponsored by and made up of members from one section. That changed in 2013 when the Focus Group Task Force recommended that focus groups be independent of sections. Focus groups receive support in a number of ways, including a discussion group and time on the agenda at the annual conference. Focus group membership is free to NCFR members.

Each year, many of the focus groups discuss ideas for conference submissions, including symposia, which can be submitted to the appropriate section for consideration. The criteria for the establishment of a new focus group includes 15 current NCFR members

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Beyond the Book Review: Expanding to Programs and Curricula

Dawn Cassidy, M.Ed., CFLE, Director of Family Life Education, dawncassidy@ncfr.org

For many years, book reviews have been a regular feature in the *CFLE Network* newsletter for Certified Family Life Educators (CFLEs). The reviews cover a range of resources, from textbooks and scholarly works to popular press and children's books. The reviews benefit CFLEs by alerting them to relevant publications and providing feedback regarding a book's strengths, weaknesses, and potential usefulness in Family Life Education (FLE) settings.

As NCFR continues to look for ways to better serve the practitioner audience, we are considering expanding reviews to FLE programs and curricula. Clearinghouses like the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's National Registry of Evidence-based Programs or Blueprints for Healthy Youth Development are helpful in locating evidence-based programs, but we think there would be value in providing a platform in which Family Life Educators could share their impressions, experiences, and opinions regarding specific FLE programs.

Before implementing this new feature, it is important to take some time to consider what we would want it to look like and which information we would want to include in a program review. For the book reviews, for example, reviewers are asked to consider the relevance of the publication to the practice of FLE, and to identify themes that are applicable in teaching, learning, and/or practice within the larger framework of FLE; what makes the publication noteworthy; and their overall impression. Similar questions for programs and curricula would increase the usefulness of the review and contribute to consistency in the information included.

In attempting to identify a structure that could be used for program reviews, I considered the Family Life Education Materials Quality Assessment Tool (FLEMat QAT), created by NCFR member and CFLE

Judy Myers-Walls, Ph.D., and housed on the Purdue University website (bit.ly/FLEMatQAT). Originally created to help Purdue Extension staff and undergraduate students understand program review criteria, the FLEMat QAT provides a framework helpful in assessing a variety of FLE materials, including newsletters, online articles, magazines, websites, books, curriculum guides, and workshop outlines. Users identify basic components, including scope, target audience, and philosophy or theoretical orientation, and then consider the quality of the program by reviewing factors such as the author or sponsor qualifications, research base, objectives, appropriateness for target audience, and program focus (awareness, enrichment, prevention, and intervention), as well as other criteria, to result in a final rough score and narrative evaluation. The FLEMat QAT tool could definitely be a useful guide in the creation of a program-review template separate from outcome evaluations.

I also took advantage of my access to Deb Gentry, Ph.D., CFLE, NCFR's academic program liaison. Deb is very knowledgeable in all things curricula, so I asked her to share her thoughts on the type of information we'd want to include in a program-review template. Not surprisingly, there was overlap with the information included in the FLEMat QAT tool, but she presented some new concepts and alternative phrasing, among other suggestions. Some of the questions she posed included the following:

- What need or problem does the program address?
- Is the program evidence based or evidence informed?
- What is (are) the stated goal(s) of the program?
- If there are stated objectives, to what degree can they be measured?

- What are the anticipated outcomes, and to what degree can they be measured?
- In what ways does critical content have both depth and breadth of coverage?
- What are the suggested means of delivery, if any?
- To what degree is there flexibility in implementation?
- If there is a training component, how extensive is such training?
- If providers are expected to have formal training, what kind is it?
- What direct and indirect costs, if any, are associated with this program?

These could all be important and helpful concepts to include in a review template for an FLE program or curriculum. The scope of information included would need to be limited for the purpose of a newsletter review, to within 1,500 words. Although it would be helpful to have reviewers provide information that is consistent across reviews, an important component of a review outline would be the opportunity to share subjective information. What was the reviewer's experience in implementing the program? What did he or she like about it? What would the reviewer change? There is a lot to be gained by providing more opportunities for CFLEs to share their knowledge and experience with one another.

It's important to note that a review of FLE programs in the CFLE newsletter would not be a comprehensive program evaluation, nor would it imply any kind of endorsement on behalf of NCFR. I think we have a good start in creating a template for use in reviewing FLE programs. However, **I would welcome the input of other Family Life Educators in finalizing the series of questions and format used in reviewing FLE programs going forward.** Please contact me if you would be interested in helping with this quick but important project. ✨

2018 Conference continued from page 1

at this year's conference. They include the following:

Nora Spinks, chief executive officer, Vanier Institute of the Family, Ottawa, Ontario, has dedicated her career to creating innovative policies and programs focusing on health and well-being, caregiving, workplace flexibility and work-life harmony, having served as an adviser and consultant to leaders in business, law, labor, government and community. She is a recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal, the Canada 125 Award for Exemplary Community Service, the Workplace Wellness Pioneer of the Year Award, and the Learning Partnership Volunteer of the Year Award. Ms. Spinks will speak on the topic of "Perspectives on Family Diversity in Canada."

Dominic Richardson, Ph.D., is a senior education specialist at UNICEF, Office of Research, Innocenti, where he leads research on issues of equity in education and the relationship between schooling, school outcomes, and child well-being. Dr. Richardson previously worked with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Social Policy Division on child well-being, evaluation of family policies, and studies of extreme poverty and vulnerability. Dr. Richardson has led or coauthored several reports on comparative child and family well-being, including *How's Life for Children?* in the OECD's *How's Life?*, *Doing Better for Children*, and *Doing Better for Families* publications, as well as UNICEF

Innocenti Report Cards 7, 9, and 14. Dr. Richardson presentation is "Child Well-Being, Poverty, and Family Policy Across the Life Course: Lessons From High-Income Countries."

Carola Suárez-Orozco, Ph.D., is a professor of human development and psychology at UCLA and cofounder of Re-Imagining Migration. Her books include *Children of Immigration*, *Learning a New Land*, as well as *Transitions: The Development of the Children of Immigrants*. She has been awarded an American Psychological Association (APA) Presidential Citation for her contributions to the understanding of cultural psychology of immigration, has served as chair of the APA Presidential Task Force on Immigration, and is a member of the National Academy of Education. Dr. Suárez-Orozco will speak on the topic of "Growing Up in the Shadows: Living in Undocumented and Mixed-Family Status."

Andrew Cherlin, Ph.D., is Benjamin H. Griswold III Professor of Public Policy and Department Chair in the Department of Sociology at John Hopkins University. He has served as the president of the Population Association of America (PAA), received the Distinguished Career Award from the Family Section of the American Sociological Association, was a Guggenheim Fellow, and received the Irene B. Taeuber Award from the PAA, in recognition of outstanding accomplishments in demographic research. Dr. Cherlin's presentation is "Degrees of

Change: An Assessment of Marriage and the Deinstitutionalization Thesis."

Conferences are ultimately only as good as the individuals who attend and present at them. This year we are fortunate to have a wide variety of strong, relevant proposals that promise to shed light on some of our world's most pressing family-related issues. I thank all of you for submitting such germane, exciting proposals, and I extend much gratitude to the section chairs for the many hours of behind-the-scenes effort they have put in to review and organize the various sessions. Moreover, the fantastic staff of NCFR has pulled together what promises to be an excellent conference. Working closely with them, I have observed firsthand how they attend to every detail with great interest and care. I thank them for their commitment to our discipline and their extreme helpfulness and caring.

I extend a warm welcome to the students and new colleagues who will be joining us, and I hope that you make NCFR your academic home. Every year I am heartened to be with colleagues who care about the same issues that I do and who are conducting such important work to support families. I look forward to meeting all of you in San Diego and hope that we are able to have the kind of productive discussions and collaborations that will continue to move our discipline forward! ✨

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and a family topic that is not currently addressed by an existing section or focus group. If you have an idea for a new focus group, or wish to propose one, contact Member Relations Manager Bethany Cox at bethanycox@ncfr.org.

Whether through the online discussion groups, focus groups, resource collections, or annual conference, I hope you are making good use of the resources of NCFR and the opportunities to connect with your colleagues, electronically or in person at the annual conference in San Diego. Safe travels! ✨

An Update on NCFR's Research and Policy Brief Editor

Jennifer Crosswhite, Ph.D., CFLE, Director of Research and Policy Education,
jennifercrosswhite@ncfr.org

By now, I hope you have heard that Elaine Anderson, Ph.D., is NCFR's new research and policy brief editor. The purpose of the research and policy briefs is to provide policymakers and others with research on families to help inform decisions that affect families at the federal, state, and local levels. Dr. Anderson is a nationally recognized leader and scholar in family policy, as well as the founder and codirector of the Maryland Family Policy Impact Seminar, and she is passionate about understanding the impact policies have on families.

Dr. Anderson began her role as the new editor in June 2018 and immediately started working on developing a queue of briefs to reach the goal of publishing four research or policy briefs per year. Two briefs were published in 2018, which can be viewed at bit.ly/NCFRbriefs:

- *How Parental Incarceration Harms Children and What to Do About It* by Sara Wakefield and Christopher Wildeman in January 2018
- *Parent and Family Life Education: A Critical Link in Early Children Education Policy* by Glen Palm and Betty Cooke in July 2018

We look forward to the continued advancement of the research and policy briefs under Dr. Anderson's leadership. ✨



Policy Activities at NCFR, Highlighting the 2018 NCFR Annual Conference

Jennifer Crosswhite, Ph.D., CFLE, Director of Research and Policy Education, jennifercrosswhite@ncfr.org

It's that time of the year again—preparing for the NCFR Annual Conference. The Conference Program Chair, Bahira Sherif Trask, Ph.D., and the Conference Program Planning Committee have pulled together another excellent conference with many high-quality sessions, including plenaries, special sessions, invited presenter symposia, and more. The theme for this year's conference, "Families and Cultural Intersections in a Global Context: Innovations in Research, Practice, and Policies" will focus on innovative approaches, theories, research, policies, and programs that support and strengthen families in all types of Western and non-Western settings. The specific conference goals are as follows:

- Highlight research on families in Western and non-Western contexts, culturally and socially marginalized families, and families that live at or embody cultural intersections.
- Feature innovative evidence-based best practices, programs, and pedagogies that promote family resiliency and well-being in varying settings.
- Draw attention to and critically analyze policies that support and strengthen all types of families, including the most vulnerable.

I want to take this time to call your attention to some of the many policy sessions that will

occur during this year's conference. Be sure to check out the conference program (ncfr.org/2018-schedule) for a full list of policy and policy-related posters and sessions not listed here—and all of the other sessions too. (📺 = live-streamed session)

Wednesday, Nov. 7

- **Navigating Disruption and Change in Diverse Families**, a Family Policy Section lightning paper session

Thursday, Nov. 8

- **Child Well-Being, Poverty, and Family Policy Across the Life Course: Lessons From High-Income Countries**, the Thursday plenary with Dominic Richardson, Ph.D., organized by Conference Program Chair Bahira Sherif Trask, Ph.D. 📺
- **Family First Prevention and Services Act: Enabling Federal Child Welfare Reform Through Research and Evidence Use**, an invited presenter symposium organized by the Family Policy Section 📺
- **International Organizations and Agencies That Focus on Family Research and Its Application to Family Policies**, a special session organized by Conference Program Chair Bahira Sherif Trask, Ph.D. 📺
- **The Family: The Forgotten Link in Public Health**, an invited presenter

symposium organized by the Families and Health Section 📺

Friday, Nov. 9

- **"A Conscious Policy of Cultural Genocide:" Indian Boarding Schools and Implications for Family**, a special session 📺
- **Child Custody and Coparenting Arrangements in the Context of Intimate Partner Violence**, an invited presenter symposium organized by the Family Policy Section 📺

Saturday, Nov. 10

- **The Intersection of Gun Violence and Mental Health: Reframing the Policy Dialogue**, a special session organized by the Family Policy Section 📺
- **Migration to Deportation and the Stress In Between**, a concurrent paper session organized by the Ethnic Minorities Section

In addition to the Thursday plenary with Dominic Richardson, the three other scheduled plenaries are sure to inspire us to think critically about family policy implications and how the research can and should impact policies at the federal, state, and local levels. See page 6 for details on the plenary sessions.

One final session to highlight is the Inclusion and Diversity Committee's special session, **Conversations on Social Justice: How Our Social Locations Shape Our Work**, on Wednesday, Nov. 7. See details on page 9.

Be sure to check out all of the excellent sessions offered throughout the conference related to policy, advocacy, social justice, and more. The 2018 NCFR Annual Conference is sure to generate multiple ideas, connections with new and familiar colleagues, and future conference proposals! ✨

For an update on NCFR's research and policy brief editor, please see page 6.

Thank You, NCFR Donors

April—June 2018

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NCFR Focus Groups

Connect With People Who Share Your Interests!

Members consistently tell us that opportunities for networking and exchanging ideas are a primary reason they belong to NCFR.

One of the best ways to connect with other professionals and students who share your interests is through NCFR's "focus groups." You can join a focus group at any time, and it's free. For more information, visit nconf.org/focus-groups.

Primary interaction is through your focus group's online discussion group where you can get involved in a conversation, and ask your own questions. If you're attending the 2018 NCFR Annual Conference in San Diego, Nov. 7–10, be sure to attend the focus group meeting. See listings below (we recommend confirming the day and time just before the conference).

Academic Administration and Leadership Focus Group

Friday, Nov. 9 | noon–1:15 p.m.
Session #326
David Demo, chair

Adoption Focus Group

Thursday, Nov. 8 | 7–8:15 a.m.
Session #202
Cheryl Fortner-Wood and Rachel Farr, co-chairs

African Families Focus Group

Wednesday, Nov. 7 | 7:30–8:45 p.m.
Session #160
Mame Kani Diop and Pearl Stewart, co-chairs

Asian American Families Focus Group

Friday, Nov. 9 | 5:45–7 p.m.
Session #353
Yanqun Peng, Kristy Y. Shih, Chang Su-Russell, and Hyun-Kyung You, co-chairs

Coparenting/Divorce Education Focus Group

Friday, Nov. 9 | noon–1:15 p.m.
Session #327
Lawrence Shelton, chair

Directors of Graduate Study Focus Group

Friday, Nov. 9 | 7–8:15 a.m.
Session #301
Alan C. Taylor, chair

Eastern European Families Focus Group

Wednesday, Nov. 7 | 7:30–8:45 p.m.
Session #161
Sylvia Asay, chair

Extension Network Focus Group

Wednesday, Nov. 7 | 11:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m.
Session #130A
Ahlshia Shipley, chair

Families and Technology Focus Group

Thursday, Nov. 8 | 7–8:15 a.m.,
Session #201
I. Joyce Chang, chair

Families With Disabilities Focus Group

Saturday, Nov. 10 | 7:30–8:45 a.m.
Session #401
Yolanda S. Fredrickson, Madysyn Main, and Myles Maxey, co-chairs

Family Economics Focus Group

Saturday, Nov. 10 | 7:30–8:45 a.m.
Session #402
Clinton G. Gudmunson and Xiaohui "Sophie" Li, co-chairs

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Straight Alliance (GLBTSA) Focus Group

Thursday, Nov. 8 | 7:45–9 p.m.
Session #256
Alison Chrisler and Jenifer K. McGuire, co-chairs

Grief and Families Focus Group

Wednesday, Nov. 7 | 7–8:15 a.m.
Session #101
Colleen I. Murray, chair

Home Visiting Focus Group

Thursday, Nov. 8 | 6:15–7:30 p.m.
Session #247
Jennifer A. Mortensen, Carla Peterson, and Bridget A. Walsh, co-chairs

Issues in Aging Focus Group

Wednesday, Nov. 7 | 11:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m.
Session #129
Amber Seidel and Amy Rauer, co-chairs

Korean Families Focus Group

Friday, Nov. 9 | 5:45–7 p.m.
Session #352
Woosang Hwang and Soyoung Lee, co-chairs

Latino(a) Research Focus Group

Friday, Nov. 9 | 5:45–7 p.m.
Session #350
Veronica Regina Barrios and Gloria Andrade, co-chairs

Men in Families Focus Group

Thursday, Nov. 8 | 6:15–7:30 p.m.
Session #248
Henry Gonzalez and Bharathi Zvara, co-chairs

Military Families and Children Focus Group

Friday, Nov. 9 | 5:45–7 p.m.
Session #351
Christina Marini, and Kayla Reed-Fitzke, co-chairs

Qualitative Family Research Network (QFRN) Focus Group

Thursday, Nov. 8 | 7:45–9 p.m.
Session #255
Samuel H. Allen and Kevin M. Roy, co-chairs

Sexuality Focus Group

Wednesday, Nov. 7 | 11:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m.
Session #130
Katie Barrow and Erin S. Lavender-Stott, co-chairs

Social Justice Network Focus Group

Thursday, Nov. 8 | noon–1:15 p.m.
Session #223
Kristen Benson, chair

Work and Family Focus Group

Thursday, Nov. 8 | noon–1:15 p.m.
Session #224
Kamala Ramadoss, chair ✨

Inclusion and Diversity Committee (IDC) Update

Conversations on Social Justice: How Our Social Locations Shape Our Work

Elizabeth G. Holman, Ph.D.; Tiffany L. Brown, Ph.D.; Anthony G. James, Jr., Ph.D., CFLE; Tyler Jamison, Ph.D.; Kristy Y. Shih, Ph.D.; and Thomas W. Blume, Ph.D., LPC, LMFT; IDC Members

NCFR and its members have a unique opportunity to lead the discourse on social justice issues that affect families. Over the last several years, NCFR's Inclusion and Diversity Committee (IDC) has called upon family scholars and practitioners to apply a social justice framework in Family Science. We have defined this as, "actively identifying the dynamics of socially structured and institutionalized oppression and privilege; reflecting on our own socialization linked to social locations (e.g. the intersections of race, class, age, gender, sexual orientation, religion, ability, etc.); and acting on systematic and hidden disparities with meaningful leadership in the field of Family Science." See the IDC's full working definition of social justice at bit.ly/IDC-social-justice.

In line with this mission, the IDC has now hosted special sessions at the last three annual conferences to engage NCFR members in actively identifying opportunities to promote social justice for diverse families through education, research, and practice. These sessions have promoted lively conversations that acknowledge the challenges of addressing inequalities—whether in the context of a classroom, a family room, or a community center. These sessions have created a space for openly discussing the roots and consequences of institutionalized forms of discrimination (e.g., racism, sexism, classism, homophobia, Islamophobia) that affect the lives and well-being of *all* families.

Although the 2017 IDC special session focused on race and racism, conversations also extended to different social identities, including gender, sexual orientation, immigration status, and religion. Attendees spent time in small groups actively identifying the dynamics of social structured

and institutionalized oppression that affect the well-being of individuals and families. The session was supported by all NCFR sections, suggesting widespread support for using a social justice framework across Family Science domains. More information can be found at bit.ly/IDC-2017-resources.

With support from the NCFR Board of Directors, the IDC once again invites members to a discussion of issues related to social justice at the 2018 NCFR Annual Conference, Nov. 7–10, in San Diego. This session, scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 7, 4:45–6 p.m., will be different from its predecessors. Instead of seeking to identify and critique problematic social structures, this session will encourage attendees to reflect on and identify their own social locations and explore how those locations promote or constrain a social justice orientation across Family Science domains.

The session will explore how social location shapes education, research, and practice. Social location—the combination of social categories including race, ethnicity, social class, gender identity, sexual orientation, religious affiliation, ability status, and many others—shapes how humans move through their social world. This examination of social locations, and interactions within and between broader systems of privilege and oppression, will provide family scholars and practitioners with an opportunity to reflect on how their social locations affect their approaches to education, research, and practice.

Tyler Jamison, Ph.D., in proposing this session, stated: "Knowing your audience is one of the cornerstones of effective teaching, outreach, and clinical practice. Knowledge about *who* you want to reach impacts *how* you will approach your

work. In other words, audience matters. What is sometimes overlooked is that the practitioner matters too. Who we are when we walk into a classroom, community center, or therapy room is equally important in shaping the interactions that follow."

Co-moderated by Dr. Jamison and Anthony G. James Jr., Ph.D., CFLE, the session will be an interactive experience, including discussion with a panel of scholars and practitioners as well as opportunities for self-reflection and participant discussion. The overarching goal of the session is to equip participants with new insights and skills that can help to challenge institutionalized inequality one classroom experience, therapy session, or family interaction at a time.

Panelists will include the following:

- **Veronica Barrios, Ph.D.**, is an assistant professor in the Department of Family Science and Social Work at Miami University. She has taught courses on Latino families in the U.S. in Spanish; family development across the life span, with a focus on the impact of ethnicity and culture; and a course called Power and Intersectionality. She currently teaches on family violence. As a self-identified Latina teaching at a predominantly White university, her pedagogy focuses on bridging knowledge and alliances among students to progress toward understanding and unity.
- **Greg Brooks Ph.D., LMFT**, is an assistant professor of marriage and family studies at Abilene Christian University. Dr. Brooks teaches numerous classes in family studies and he has taught and published on the pedagogy of cultural diversity in marriage and family therapy training. At a faith-based university that is associated

with a historically Evangelical Christian denomination, he challenges his students to consider how their deeply held beliefs, assumptions, and biases influence their standards of what is “healthy” in family life, and to compare those standards to evidence-based knowledge.

- **Manijeh Daneshpour, Ph.D., LMFT**, is a professor and systemwide director of marriage and family therapy at Alliant International University in California and a licensed marriage and family therapist with more than 22 years of academic, research, and clinical experience. She is from Iran and identifies herself as a third-wave feminist. Dr. Daneshpour’s main areas of research, publications, and presentations have been centered on issues of immigration, multiculturalism, social justice, third-wave feminism, premarital and marital relationships, and Muslim

family dynamics. She has spent more than 20 years training therapists to provide multiculturally sensitive therapy and has a five-year grant to train therapists to work with immigrants and refugees. She has spent many years working and studying Muslim families not as a religious group but as individuals, members of family units, and a distinct group in their own societal context. She recently published *Family Therapy With Muslims*, which advocates classic and contemporary family therapy theories in working with Muslim families cross-culturally.

- **Adrienne Duke, Ph.D.**, is an assistant professor in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies at Auburn University. She teaches the course Families in Cross-Cultural Perspective, as well as the seminar Program Design for Youth, Communities, and Families. As a self-identified African American woman of the millennial generation who teaches at a predominantly White university, she focuses on building critical consciousness in her students so that they can interrogate the biases, ethnocentrism, and historical legacy of inequality that influences the lives of families.
- **Vanja Lazarevic, Ph.D.**, is an assistant professor in the Department of Child and Family Development at San Diego State University. She teaches courses on human development and family and cultural diversity. As a White female teaching at a Hispanic-serving institution with a very diverse student body, she focuses on creating a supportive environment in which students are able to discuss a wide variety of topics related to family diversity. She strives to create an open, inclusive, and nurturing environment so that students feel comfortable sharing wide variety of experiences and opinions.
- **Chang Su-Russell, Ph.D.**, is an assistant professor in the Department of Family

and Consumer Sciences at Illinois State University. She grew up in Hulu Dao, Liaoning Province, China. After attaining her B.A. at Minzu University of China (a designated university for celebrating cultural diversity across China’s 56 officially recognized ethnic groups), she came to the United States for graduate training. In February 2017 she became a U.S. citizen. While a doctoral student at the University of Missouri, she taught Multicultural Study of Children and Families for five consecutive semesters, following campuswide protests surrounding racial injustice. In her teaching she uses readings, research, and her own personal experiences to exemplify existing issues related to culture and race and to facilitate discussions with her undergraduate students.

As in previous years, the IDC will also host the Active Conversation and Breakfast Meeting—to be held on Friday, Nov. 9, 7:30–9 a.m. We encourage everyone at the conference to attend this session to provide input on future directions and initiatives for the IDC. We are also planning to use this time as a follow-up to the special session. Attendees will have a chance to share the strategies and skills they learned and how they will apply them to their own lives and work. Additionally, strategies will be collected and added to the growing list of resources gathered from previous special sessions at bit.ly/IDCNCFR.

The IDC intends these steps to help move the NCFR membership to a place of action that centers on a social justice framework. Rather than simply acknowledging the elephant in the room—that is, the institutionalized discrimination and oppression in our society—we hope that attendees will better understand their own role in the conversation and develop strategies to address barriers to well-being for all families.

We look forward to seeing you in San Diego and are excited to dig into this work with you! ✨

NCFR Report: A Member Forum

NCFR Report is a quarterly magazine for members designed to encourage member-to-member dialogue, to inform colleagues about our research, and to discuss research application for practitioners and policy professionals. Through *Report*, NCFR also builds our community by reporting on people, events, and organizational news.

Unlike the content of our scholarly journals, the articles in *NCFR 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.

Feminism and Family Studies Section Update



Abbie E. Goldberg, Ph.D., Section Chair, agoldberg@clarku.edu

The Feminism and Family Studies Section recently concluded an intense few months reviewing proposals and creating the program for the 2018 NCFR Annual Conference in San Diego. There are so many wonderful sessions to look forward to. In particular, I want to draw your attention to the following:

- **Special Session Workshop: Therapeutic Conversations with Queer Youth: Queer Theory in Action**, with Julie Tilsen, Ph.D. (Thursday, Nov. 8, 7:30–9:45 a.m.). This special session is co-organized by the Feminism and Family Studies and Family Therapy sections. Dr. Tilsen is a narrative therapist who works with LGBTQ youth in Minneapolis, and she is the author of *Therapeutic Conversations With Queer Youth* and *Narrative Approaches to Youth Work*. This is a not-to-be missed session!
- **Feminism and Family Studies Section Member Meeting and Praxis Roundtables** (Friday, Nov. 9, 5:45–7:30 p.m.). We have an exciting business meeting planned, followed by an engaging and diverse set of praxis roundtables. Among the topics to choose from are “Using Your Social Positioning as Scholars to Promote Social Justice Through Public Scholarship” and “Being Brown in America Today: An Interactive Feminist Workshop.”

- Cutting-edge symposia, including **LGBQ Identities in Context: Finding and Implications for Future Research** (Thursday, Nov. 8, 1:30–2:45 p.m.), **Transgender Youth and Young Adults in Family, Social, and Community**

Contexts (Thursday, Nov. 8, 3–4:15 p.m.), and **Holding Hollywood and Its Viewers Accountable: Time’s Up, Family Scholars!** (Friday, Nov. 9, 8:30–9:45 a.m.).

We can’t wait to reconnect with you in San Diego! ✨

Congratulations to Our New Certified Family Life Educators

The following is a list of Certified Family Life Educators (CFLEs) designated between April 1 and June 30, 2018. *Provisional unless otherwise noted.*

Alabama	Rachel KayLee Cannon Hillary Annette Charles Jones Danielle M. Russo	Michigan	Jennifer Holly Campbell Della Marie Levi Allison Victoria Buttino Melinda K. Hemry Wai Yee Vicky Lee	Ohio	Taylor Wolfe FULL Emily Catherine Seibel Jennifer L. Schug Breanna I. Jones Lauren Marie Raymond
Connecticut	Sarah Nicole Wasilesky Paulina C. Anderson Gabriella K. Lester	Mississippi	Lora Anne Grissom Najah Symone Scott-Reeve	Oklahoma	Ericka Kennedy Chelsea Clifton Chelsea Lange Paul
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2018 Strengths-Based Leadership Preconference Workshop

The Academic Administration and Leadership Focus Group invites you to check out an exciting preconference workshop on Leadership on Tuesday, Nov. 6. See more details at ncfr.org/ncfr-2018. ✨



Families and Health Section Update

Jerica Berge, Ph.D., M.P.H., LMFT, CFLE, Section Chair, jberge@umn.edu

The 2018 NCFR Annual Conference is right around the corner! We will be meeting in beautiful sunny San Diego, California. Here are some exciting things to look forward to at this year's conference:

- A record-breaking 200 proposals (including symposia) were submitted to the Families and Health Section this year, and because so many were of high quality, we have lots of presentation slots! Make sure to check out all of the Families and Health (FH) sessions in the program online at ncfr.org/2018-schedule
- Our second annual tri-section meeting

with the Family Policy and Ethnic Minorities sections will occur during the 2018 conference. We will meet together as the Families and Health Section for the first hour at our section meeting. We will then join the other two sections for roundtable discussions, which include opportunities to work on symposium proposals for the next NCFR conference, propose policy briefs, discuss important topics in the field, and swap teaching or clinical ideas and resources. The tri-section meeting will be **Thursday, Nov. 8, 6:30–8:45 p.m.**, after the University Receptions.

- We will be giving out four awards at the Families and Health Section meeting at the 2018 conference. In addition to our Outstanding Professional Paper Award and Student and New Professional Paper Award, we will be giving out Outstanding Poster Awards for undergraduate/master students and doctoral students/new professionals. We did this for the first time last year and decided to make the poster awards a standing award. The deadline for the papers have passed, but the poster competition is still open. Look for more information coming via the Families and Health Section discussion group on how to apply for the poster awards.
- And of course there will be door prizes, great networking, free memberships for newcomers who want to try our section out, and food! Look for our preconference newsletter in October. ✨

Families and Health Section Spotlight

Keeley J. Pratt, Ph.D., LMFT
Assistant Professor at Ohio State University



Dr. Pratt is an assistant professor of human development and Family Science and a coordinator of the Couples and Family Therapy Clinic at Ohio State University. She is the recipient of the Families and Health Section Outstanding Professional Paper/Publications Award at the 2017 NCFR Annual Conference. The manuscript for which Dr. Pratt won was entitled "Perceived Child Weight Status, Family Structure and Functioning, and Support for Healthy Behaviors in a Sample of Bariatric Surgery Patients." The purpose of this manuscript was to describe associations between parents' perspectives of their child's weight status, family support for eating and exercise behavior changes, and family structure and functioning. She and her colleagues found that parents (patients) who perceived their child to be overweight or obese reported more impaired family functioning, less family exercise participation, and more disagreements among family members about changing eating habits. Single parents were more likely to perceive their child as being overweight or obese, report impaired family functioning, and report less family support for exercise and eating behavior changes. Dr. Pratt's long-term goal is to design family-based adult weight management programs that enhance parent-child relationships, support adult behavior change and weight loss, and prevent further development of obesity in children. ✨

Section Member Spotlight

For our member spotlights in each newsletter, we highlight the previous year's conference recipients for best student/new professional and professional paper awards and undergraduate/master's and doctoral/new professional best poster award.

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Family Policy Section Update

Anne Farrell, Ph.D.; Morgan Cooley, Ph.D., LCSW; Erica Jordan, Ph.D., CFLE; Anthony Ferraro, Ph.D., CFLE; section officers

We are excited about the Family Policy Section (FP) lineup at the 2018 NCFR Annual Conference! Make plans to join us for our annual FP member meeting and the following tri-section event cohosted with the Ethnic Minorities and Family Health Sections. All attendees are welcome to attend the NCFR member meetings. Come out and hear policy-relevant research and support your colleagues! Mark your calendar for the following special sessions and invited symposia.

Tuesday, Nov. 6

- **2018 Strengths-Based Leadership Preconference Workshop** | Session #002 | 8:30 a.m.–5:15 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 8

- **Navigating Disruption and Change in Diverse Families** | Session #121 | 10–11:15 a.m.

- **Invited Presenter Symposium: Family First Prevention and Services Act: Enabling Federal Child Welfare Reform Through Research and Evidence Use** | Session # 219 | 12–1:15 p.m.
- **Transracial Adoption, Foster Care, and Socialization** | Session #243 | 3–4:15 p.m.
- **Family Policy Section Member Meeting followed by Tri-Section Meeting of Ethnic Minorities, Families and Health, and Family Policy Sections** (professional development session with refreshments!) | Sessions #251–252 | 6:30–8:45 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 9

- **Invited Symposium: Developing a Funded Translational Research Portfolio in Family Science** | Session #312 | 8:30–9:45 a.m.

- **Invited Symposium: Child Custody and Coparenting Arrangements in the Context of Intimate Partner Violence** | Session #338 | 3–4:15 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 10

- **Special Session: The Intersection of Gun Violence and Mental Health: Reframing the Policy Dialogue** | Session #405 | 11 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

The schedule for all focus group meetings can be found on page 8. The full program schedule can be viewed online at ncfr.org/2018-schedule. ✨

In Memoriam: Jan Trost

Longtime NCFR member Jan Trost died on Feb. 27, 2018, at age 82.

Jan Trost, Ph.D., was a sociologist and professor emeritus at Uppsala University in Sweden, where he received his doctorate. He founded and led several sociological research groups at Uppsala University on topics such as families, alcohol, and disasters. Dr. Trost was the author of about 50 books and 300 scientific articles in journals including the *Journal of Marriage and Family*.



Dr. Trost was a member of NCFR for 52 years. He was a founding member of the NCFR International Section and served as section chair from 1979–1981, and was a member of the NCFR Board of Directors during this tenure. In 1999, the International Section introduced the Jan Trost Award for Outstanding Contribution to Comparative Family Studies to honor an individual's lifetime achievement in research, teaching, and service to international families. Dr. Trost was named as the first recipient at the 1999 NCFR Annual Conference in Irvine, California. Award winners have been selected annually every year since then beginning in 2001. ✨

Letters to the Editor

You may submit letters to the editor to *NCFR Report* on topics and activities relevant to NCFR member interests. The following guidelines apply:

- Only letters submitted by members will be accepted.
- Length is limited to 250 words; letters may be edited for space and clarity.
- Letters must be signed and include author contact information; submissions are verified.
- Letters that are deemed libelous, malicious, or otherwise inappropriate will not be published.

Email letters to the editor to:

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Visit ncfr.org/conference-marketing to see which opportunities are still available, or contact Judy Schutz at judy.schutz@ncfr.org.

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University of Minnesota Extension, Center for Family Development
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Steve Kogan, Ph.D. is a Professor of Human Development and Family Science who provides workshops and mentoring on grantsmanship and professional development to academic departments and research centers. He directs a university-wide training and mentoring program for early career faculty in the social and behavioral sciences; this program has supported over 50 mentees who applied for more than \$25 million in research dollars. An active investigator, he has participated, as Principal or co-Principal Investigator, in the development of NIH funding applications that resulted in over \$35 million in funding for observational, longitudinal studies of adolescent development; randomized prevention trials; and Core Center research infrastructures.

To discuss tailored workshops, mentoring, or consulting services, please contact Dr. Kogan at:
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