



Ask the Editors:

Tips for Publishing in NCFR Journals

Journal of Family Theory & Review

Top Ten Tips

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1. Know the mission of the Journal. The *Journal of Family Theory & Review* (JFTR) publishes original contributions in all areas of family theory, critical reviews of literature, and book and media reviews with a focus on theory.

2. Do not submit empirical research reports to JFTR. Other than meta-analyses, the journal does not publish articles in which the focus is largely upon the presentation of empirical data.

3. Focus on families, regardless of your discipline or theoretical perspective. JFTR's commitment is to developing the field of *family* science with innovations in theory and critical reviews.

4. Use original source materials, not textbooks that discuss theories. The most useful reviews advance understanding rather than reiterate what is already known. A historical review of theory or research is only appropriate if you present new knowledge or a new understanding of existing knowledge.

5. Support theoretical models with reviews of empirical literature. JFTR pairs publishing integrative reviews with new developments in theory because they are so intimately tied together in the generation and interpretation of knowledge about families. Thus, theory papers should be grounded in the empirical literature and literature reviews should be theoretically grounded.

6. State your method. Whether systematic reviews, quantitative meta-analyses, or qualitative meta-syntheses, literature reviews should include a clear statement of method (e.g., how articles for review were selected).

7. Avoid jargon. Whatever your purpose or method, the most useful reviews are theory-based, well balanced, organized, comprehensive, critical, and written for a broad audience.

8. Follow the instructions for authors on the journal web page. Use APA style. Do not exceed 30-35 pages. Use hanging indents for references; do not use tabs. Do not skip lines anywhere.

9. Read articles that have been successfully published in JFTR. Reading published JFTR articles will give you a sense of the kinds of manuscripts that are appropriate for JFTR. Also, virtually all published articles undergo multiple revisions, so always return an invitation to resubmit and don't get discouraged.

10. When in doubt, contact the Editor, Deputy Editor, or Editorial Assistant for advice. Authors are encouraged to contact us with questions and visit us on the JFTR Blog, Facebook, and Twitter!