

Focus Group End of Year Report for 2022

Men in Families

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1. What were your focus groups major activities or accomplishments this year?

The Men in Families Focus Group organized a symposium entitled “Light and Shadow: Perspectives on Men in Families” whose purpose is to further understand the diversity in men’s fathering experiences: institutional barriers to contemporary fathering, promotive factors that support fathers’ involvement in their youths’ lives and their own understanding of their coparenting experiences. Our discussant will be Dr. Sarah Schoppe-Sullivan. We also reviewed 35 peer-reviewed articles to be considered for MIF awards for Best New Professional Research Article, Best Research Article, and Diversity and Inclusion in Men in Families Research Article, identified and notified the authors of their awards. This year we are also partnering with the Theory Construction and Research Methods Group in their workshop intended to bridge the work of the Men in Families and Feminism focus groups. The workshop will be done in the form of two panels: Wed 11/16, 8:30-9:45, critical approaches to masculinities and Wed 11/16, 10-11:30, masculinities and fathering families.

2. What has your focus group done during the past year to further NCFR’s inclusion and diversity initiatives?

In addition to being deliberate about considering diversity and inclusion in the ways in which we organized our panels and symposium, we also selected a theoretical framework (feminism) that bridged the divide between the topic of “men in families” and feminism by using the lens of a critical feminist framework. Finally, the focus group elected two ethnic minority co-chairs to lead the group, which supports NCFR’s inclusion and diversity priorities.

3. Please list any concerns, questions, or suggestions.
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