

JUNE 1997

# Report

The family...where the future touches now.

Volume 42, Number 2

## Doherty Elected to Lead NCFR in 1998-99

**W**illiam J. Doherty, a professor in the Dept. of Family Social Science at the University of MN, and director of the Marriage and Family Therapy Program, is NCFR's new president-elect. He will begin his term as president in November 1998.

Doherty was NCFR Program Vice-president in 1993, has been chair of the Family and Health Section, a member of the Nominating Committee, and is a co-founder of the Men in Families Focus Group.

In his platform statement, Doherty notes that "increasing calls for collaboration and integration signal a striking new direction for health care, education, and other family services at the end of the century. NCFR has long

provided a collaborative forum where scholars and professionals from many disciplines generate and share knowledge both basic and applied. Our strength is our ability to weave many voices into a sustained dialogue about families, with few constraints from guild or professional turf interests. NCFR can provide leadership to make family well-being more central to policy and practice by nurturing this tradition of collaborative scholarship and application."

Also elected in the spring balloting were: **Katherine R. Allen**, Program vice-president-elect; **Mark J. Benson**, secretary; **Kathleen Gilbert**, treasurer; and **Debra K. Hughes**, Student/New Professional representative.

Chair of the Nominating Committee is **Joan A. Jurich**, with members **Kerry Daly**, **Barbara A. Elliott**, **Joseph H. Pleck**, **Sandra Stith**, and **Britton Wood**.

Elected to the Fellowship Committee were **Alan C. Acock** (chair), **Harold D. Grotevant**, **Edith A. Lewis**, **Patrick C. McKenry** (chair-elect), and **Roger Rubin**.

A total of 679 members voted in the election—a 16.8 percent return. This compares with 15.5 percent in 1996; 14.5 in 1995; and 15.7 in 1994. From 1990-1993, the average return was 18 percent. All national officers will take office at the end of NCFR's annual conference in Arlington, VA, in November.

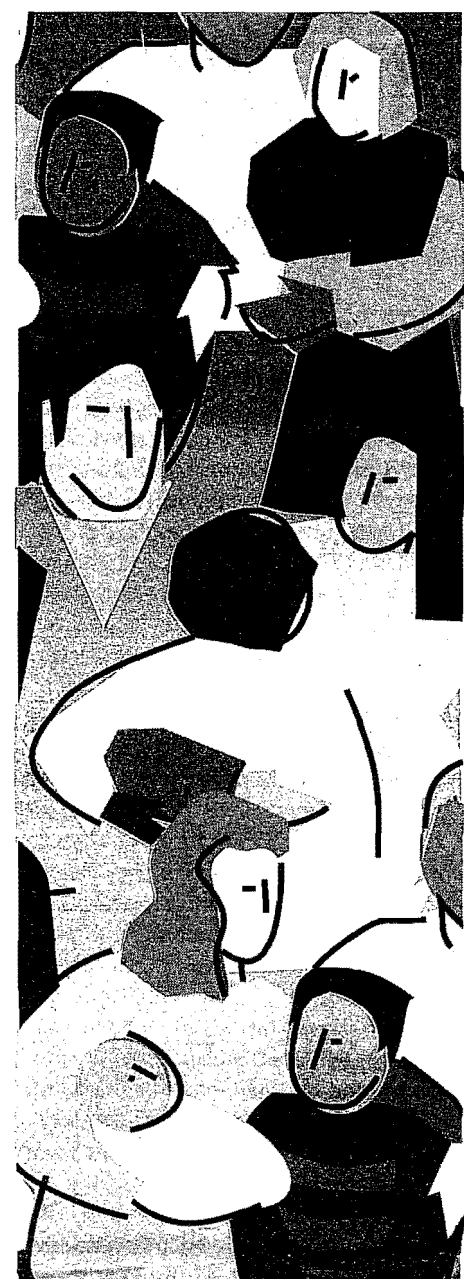
New officers in the Section elections are:

**Family Policy**—**Leslie A. Koepke**, chair; **Susan Bowers**, vice-chair; **Hallie Duke**, secretary/treasurer; and **Jacqueline J. Kirby**, S/NP representative.

**Family Therapy Section Nominating Committee**—**Kenneth V. Hardy** and **Candace S. Russell**, co-chairs (tie in the voting), and **Karen Wampler**.

**Feminism and Family Studies**—**Donna L. Sollie**, chair; **Shelley MacDermid**, vice-chair; **Mark A. Fine**, secretary/treasurer; **Stephen R. Marks**,

*See Elections on Page 2*



## Plenary Speaker Addresses Motherhood, National Identity

**"P**roducing the Mothers of the Nation: Race, Class and

Contemporary U.S. Population Policies," is the topic of the plenary address scheduled to be given by **Patricia Hill Collins, Ph.D.**, during NCFR's 59th annual conference in Arlington, VA, in November. The address will be sponsored by the University of MN, in honor of NCFR President Pauline Boss, a University of MN professor.

The theme of the conference is "Fatherhood and Motherhood in a Diverse and Changing World," with **Ralph LaRossa** of GA State University as Program vice-president.

her research and scholarship have dealt primarily with issues of gender, race, and social class, specifically relating to African-American women.

She has published many articles in professional journals and edited volumes. Her first book, **Black Feminist Thought: Knowledge, Consciousness, and the Politics of Empowerment** (1990), won many awards. Her second book, **Race, Class, and Gender: An Anthology** (edited with Margaret Andersen; published in 1992; second edition 1995; third edition 1997) is widely used in undergraduate classrooms throughout the U.S.

She has taught at several institutions,

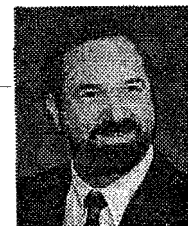
*See Collins on Page 2*



Doherty



Allen



Benson



Gilbert



Hughes



Jurich



Acock



Grotevant



Lewis



Rubin

No photo of McKenry available.

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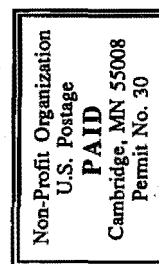
Collins



LaRossa

Dr. Collins is the Charles Phelps Taft Professor of Sociology in the Dept. of African-American Studies at the University of Cincinnati. She earned her bachelor's and doctorate degrees from Brandeis University and an M.A.T. degree from Harvard University.

While her specialties in sociology include such diverse areas as sociology of knowledge, organizational theory, social stratification, and work and occupations,



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# President's Report



## Moving Forward on NCFR's Vision

The waters of the flooding Red River are again within its banks and the families of western Minnesota and eastern North Dakota are heroically cleaning up the mess. We who are interested in families through research or practice, know that we are surely witnessing family resilience and competency in the face of deep crisis and terrible loss. Historically, life was never easy on the western plains of Minnesota and North Dakota--and it still isn't. Even in the age of technology, the harshness of weather on the northern plains remains a dominating force. From these families who have coped with nature's harshness again and again, there is much we can learn about overcoming adversity and maintaining hope. This Spring especially, they have inspired us all.

Arlington, VA, where the April Board meeting took place, gave us a gentler view of spring. The flowers were out, the climate mild, and our meeting was full and productive. I will comment on the items of business that were related to my original presidential goals and also fit with the organization's goals.

There is sustained interest from some NCFR members to make some type of formal international linkage. While the possibilities of a true international organization are at this time virtually impossible, there is the real possibility of strengthening the International Section of NCFR to become more active, visible and central to NCFR. I support the idea of a fuller international connection for NCFR, perhaps because of my own international roots, but also because families are a global topic and without international members, we are less authentic. I will be working with John DeFrain, the Chair of the International Section, to formulate ideas for strengthening NCFR's international focus.

Regarding the second goal of increased visibility of NCFR, the focus is presently on the journals of NCFR since they serve to sustain our visibility, nationally, internationally, and across disciplines. Critical issues are being investigated and discussed, ranging from electronic publishing, to complete revamping of publishing processes, to

staying as they are, or variations across all of these possibilities. Because of the central importance of the journals, I have asked Richard Gelles, Publications Vice-president, to reorganize the several Task Forces which now deal with some aspect of the journals. My goal is to eliminate redundancy in Task Force assignments and thus create more efficient and focused work groups for discerning the most effective functioning for our journals, at present and in the future. It is not just NCFR which is faced with making decisions in spite of uncertainty about publications processes in an electronic age. All professional organizations and their journal editors are now grappling with these issues.

I have asked that the Publications Committee report to NCFR's overall Long Range Planning Committee by September 15 so that the Long Range Planning Committee, whose charge it is to look at the "big picture," to check recommendations for overlap and determine if they fit within NCFR's overall priorities before the recommendations are sent on to the Board for action. The Board will act on final recommendations at the November meeting in Washington, DC. This process of information gathering and decision-making concerning the future of our journals will require our full attention for the next several years since our journals are the vital core of NCFR, not only for the dissemination of knowledge, but also for the visibility they give to NCFR in this nation, abroad, and across

disciplines.

With the structure and process of committees now clarified and in place, I believe we can lay the ground work for the future and come to some good decisions regarding our journals. NCFR is at a crossroads regarding its prestigious journals, its interdisciplinary recognition, its visibility, and thereby its membership. Its mission, however, remains the same:

*The National Council on Family Relations provides a forum for family researchers, educators, and practitioners to share in the development and dissemination of knowledge about families and family relationships, establishes professional standards, and works to promote family well-being.*

It is not this mission, but how we implement it that needs to be reviewed as we move into a new century. Now is the time for discussion. Change is inevitable

and with it comes stress. If we work together, we can make the best decision about how to proceed into the new millennium with a balance between change and continuity, the requirement of any healthy organization.

To help chart the course for the future, I have called for a special Presidential Task Force with the charge that it meet this summer as a think-tank to make recommendations for how NCFR can best move into the 21st century. You will hear more from me about this in the September newsletter.

**Pauline Boss, Ph.D.**  
1996-97 NCFR President

*P.S. The word is out that the expected registration for this year's conference will be record-breaking. Ralph LaRoss program theme is one of great interest among many people. So make plans to attend a terrific conference in Washington, D.C., November 7-10. You won't want to miss this one!*

## — Contributors —

The following persons have contributed donations since March 1997. Their generosity aids NCFR in continuing its programs and awards.

### General Fund

**Dr. G. A. Adams**, Guelph, Ontario,

Canada; Cluster Periodical Center, Washington, DC; Mrs. Thelma Duni Hansen, East Lansing, MI; Mary Myers, Columbus, OH; David J. Pratto, Greensboro, NC; Gwenneth Rae, Kingston, RI; Aimin Wang, Oxford, OH; Anisa M. Zvonkovic, Corvallis, OR.

### Reuben Hill Fund

**Dr. Linda Nelson**, East Lansing MI.

For more information on contributing to NCFR, contact Mary J Czapslewski, NCFR executive director 3989 Central Ave. NE, Suite 550, Minneapolis, MN 55421; toll free 888-781-9331 ext. 17.

## Collins from Page 1

held editorial positions with professional journals, lectured widely in the U.S., served in many capacities in professional organizations, and acted as consultant for a number of businesses and community organizations.

She is currently completing her third book, tentatively entitled **Fighting Words: African-American Women, Critical Social Theory, and the Search for Justice**, to be published by the University of MN Press in 1998.

Dr. Collins's plenary address will explore the relationship between motherhood, American national identity and population policies. She will examine not only how the traditional family ideal frames notions of normal, idealized motherhood, but how it shapes notions of an American national family. She suggests that this family rhetoric linking family and nation simultaneously draws upon racial meanings specific to the U.S.

She will survey selected contemporary population policies targeted toward middle class White women, working class White women, African-American women, and undocumented immigrant Latinas.

"As is the case with all groups of women," she notes in an abstract of her address, "these four groups occupy distinctive positions concerning their suitability as mothers of the nation. As a

result, population policies applied to each group demonstrate how the nation-state seeks to regulate experiences with motherhood of women from different racial, social class, and citizenship groups in defense of putative nation-state interests."

Collins further explains that "in the U.S., notions of motherhood influence definitions of American national identity. Just as mothers are important to family well-being, ideas about motherhood remain central to constructing an American national identity that organizes itself via family rhetoric. But in a nation-state like the U.S. where social class, race, gender, and citizenship status operate as intersecting dimensions of social inequality, neither families nor the mothers within them experience equal opportunities."

She notes that "challenges to affirmative action policies in the mid-1990s, the emergence of increasingly strident anti-immigration rhetoric, and concerted efforts to reinstate 'values' in civic life, can all be seen as part of an overarching framework designed to preserve radicalized and class-specific notions of Americans' national identity. In this effort, controlling motherhood becomes important in reconstructing the American national family to its former glory. In this current politicized climate, the issue of which women are best suited as 'mothers of the nation' takes on added importance."

## Elections from Page 1

newsletter editor; and Beth C. Catle and Kaitilin O'Shea, S/NP representatives.

**International--Bron Ingoldsby** chair; Jay D. Schvaneveldt, vice-chair; Raeann R. Kunkle Hamon, secretary/treasurer; and Xiaolin Xie S/NP representative.

**Religion and Family Life--Jud Watson Tiesel**, chair; Carla M. Da vice-chair; John Conger, secretary/treasurer; and Curtis A. F S/NP representative.

**Research and Theory--Paul R Amato**, chair; Sally A. Lloyd, vice chair; David W. Wright, secretary/treasurer; and Carmelle Minton, S/NP representative.

## REPORT

### of The National Council on Family Relations

Executive Director: Mary Jo Czapslewski  
Printing: Cambridge, MN

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NEWS DEADLINES: February 1 for March issue; May 1 for June issue; August 1 for September issue; November 1 for December issue.



## CFLE Directions



# CFLE Encourages Professionalism

I represented NCFR at the first conference of the Coalition for Marriage, Family, and Couples Education, "Smart Marriages, Happy Families," May 15-20, in Washington, DC. The Coalition is dedicated to improving the quality of marriage and family life by bringing courses for couples and families to the public.

In addition to hosting an NCFR exhibit, I participated on a panel presentation, "Do Marketing and Marriage Go Together? You Bet!" (or as we say in Minnesota, You Betchal!). I discussed the merits of certification in marketing ourselves, our programs, and our profession. Identifying oneself as a certified professional adds greatly to one's credibility.

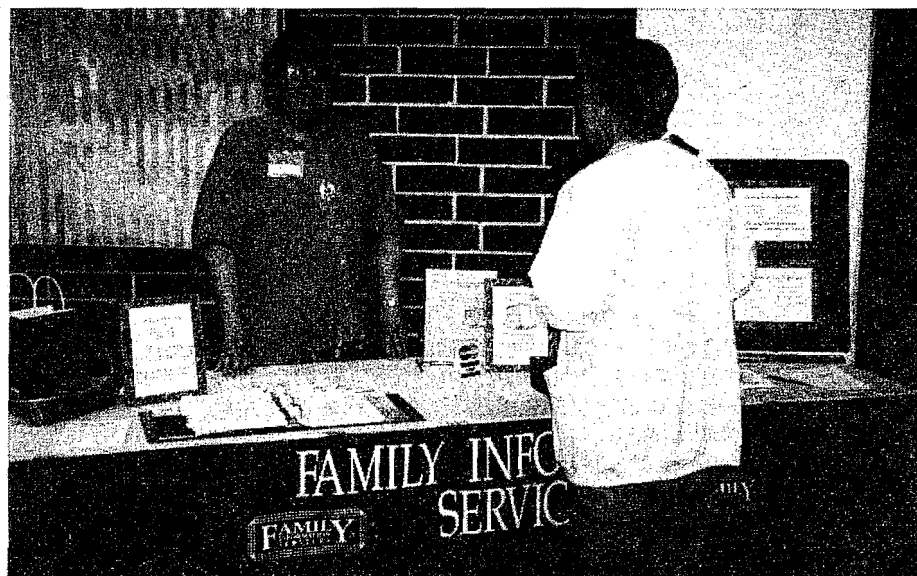
In preparing my remarks for this presentation, I've given a lot of thought to the issue of professionalism. What does it mean to be a "professional" family life educator? As we've discussed before, the Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE) program has followed the evolution of the family life education field. Many people still do not know what family life education involves, let alone what it means to be certified! However, we are making progress. Part of that progress is owed to the fact that people and organizations are recognizing

the value of professionalism and the importance of requiring minimum standards be met by those practicing in a particular field.

The Certified Family Life Educator program developed from the need to identify unique components of the family life education field and to assure that practicing professionals possess the family science knowledge base and skills needed for effective practice.

As the value of preventive education becomes more widely recognized, family life education programs involving parenting, marriage enrichment, communication, etc., are proliferating. But how do we know that the people developing and presenting these programs know what they are talking about? When the courts rule that a parent must attend parenting classes before they regain custody of their children, are there any stipulations on who offers these parenting classes and what kinds of background they need? What makes someone qualified to present marriage enrichment workshops? Does a teaching degree automatically qualify you to teach about birth control? Can a parent educator do a decent job without any formal family science background?

For example, the growing interest in



Joan Comeau, Ph.D., CFLE, shares information about Family Information Services at the Coalition for Marriage, Family and Couples Education conference held in Washington, DC, May 15-20.

professionalizing parent education has led to discussion of a possible parent educator certification. This discussion stems from the desire of parent educators to be recognized as professionals. It is the recognition that there are certain qualifications and skills and a minimum level of knowledge needed to deliver high quality parent education. It is not enough to have taken a class in child development. Parent educators need to know about how families work, how having a child affects the couple relationship, how proper money management can reduce the stress level in a family. They need to be familiar with how society affects the family and vice versa. They need to be aware of policy and legislation issues. They need to know how the introduction of a new family member can affect the sexual relationship of the parents. Most important, they need to know how to develop, implement and evaluate learning activities.

The CFLE designation covers all these areas and is an appropriate certification for parent educators. But should all parent educators be required to meet the rigorous requirements of the CFLE designation? Maybe not all parent educators, but certainly all *professional* parent educators should be firmly grounded in a broad family education knowledge base. To be an effective parent educator one needs to know about family systems, human growth and development over the life span, sexuality, communication skills, and the many other areas included in the CFLE standards.

No one person can be an expert in all areas of family life education. Most CFLEs have main foci such as sex education, parenting, resource management, health care, marriage enrichment, etc. They excel in their particular area because they have solid preparation and understanding in all the substance areas. They have a "big picture" perspective.

When presenting yourself as a candidate for a new job or as a speaker on a specific topic, it is important to provide information about your qualifications. What do you bring to the job that others don't? Why should people pay money to hear you speak? What do

you have to offer?

Because certification emphasizes continuing education and maintaining professional standards, it provides assurance that the knowledge and skills of family life education are current and practiced. It recognizes that not everyone can effectively implement family life education programs. When I made my presentation in Washington, this was my message: encouraging professionalism through certification!

Dawn Cassidy  
NCFR Certification Director

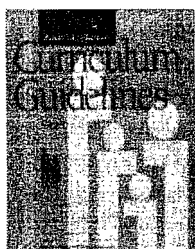
**NEXT CFLE REVIEW  
DEADLINE:**

**SEPTEMBER 3RD**

## FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION CURRICULUM GUIDELINES

*REVISED AND EXPANDED!*

Offers guidelines for developing or assessing family life education programs over the life span. A must-have for anyone involved in family life education program development or assessment.



Editor David J. Bredehoft, Ph.D., has revised and expanded the contents of the NCFR Family Life Education Curriculum Guidelines to include a number of excellent resources for anyone working in family life education. Contents include: *University and College Curriculum Guidelines*, *A Framework for Life-Span Family Life Education*, a K-12 sexuality curriculum guide, an evaluation guide, a parent education program guide, and family life education references and resources.

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## Executive Review



# Spring Board Actions Summarized

The NCFR Board of Directors met for its annual Spring meeting April 25-26, 1997 in Crystal City, VA at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City. The following is a summary of the board actions.

### Approved:

- Minutes of the November 1996 board meetings, with corrections.

- The 1998 budget for \$1,058,186 with changes where necessary as a result of subsequent board action. Capital expenditures for new software for the **Journal of Marriage and the Family** editor and NCFR financial records of approximately \$20,000.

- Interest accrued by the Section accounts will be allocated to those accounts annually based on net balance.

- A three-year close-out of the Other Publications department except for the sale of consignment books.

- A joint pre-conference co-sponsored with Family Service America on work and family issues at the 1998 NCFR conference in Milwaukee.

- Pre/post-conference service fees raised to \$200 effective for the 1998 annual conference.

- The 1998 Conference theme, "Families in a Global Context: Media, Environment, and Peace."

- The revision of the editorial selection process with the proviso of defining time lines and work schedules.

- Family Policy Committee endowed Fellowship. To be awarded biennially beginning with 1999 (provided that sufficient funds for the endowment have been raised).

- The 1997 Post Conference on Military families.

- The establishment of a biennially awarded Ethnic Minorities Section dissertation award in honor of John McAdoo, effective 1999 (provided that sufficient funds to endow the award have been raised).

- The Family Therapy Section revised By-laws.

- The Burgess Award committee was increased from 5 to 7 members.

- The Association of Councils to conduct a silent auction and sell book bags at the 1997 conference.

### Accepted for filing:

- Development of an International Council on Family Relations was referred to the long Range Planning Committee.

- Association of Councils Task Force Report and Recommendations.

- The use of the Family Science Section Ethical Guidelines and Principles for Family Scientists by NCFR. This will be published in the September Report accompanied by legal opinion.

- The Bachelor and Masters level student awards proposals were referred to the Student/New Professional award committee.

- Recommendations for the revision of personnel review of the executive director referred back to personnel committee.

### Update on Parenting Education Networking

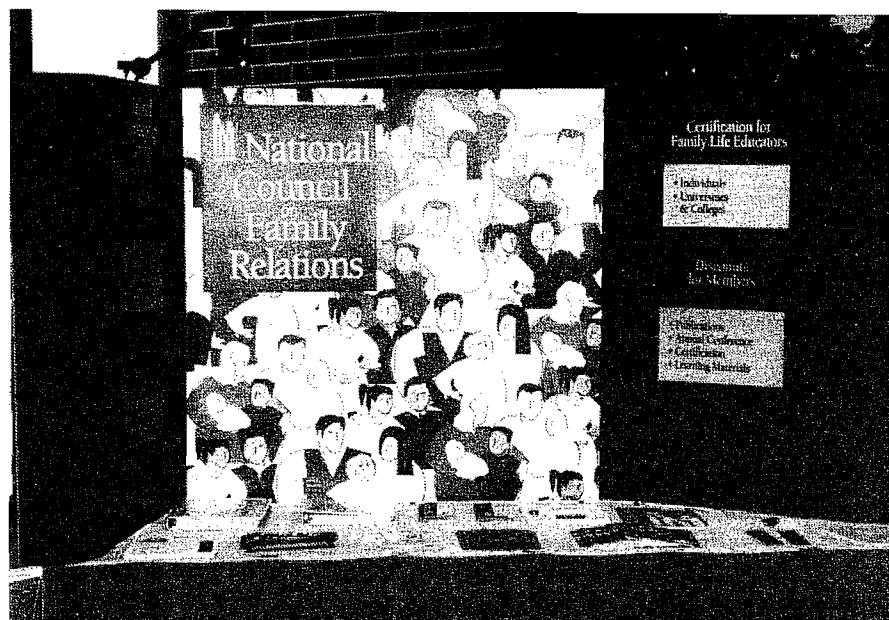
In my column dated March, 1997, I gave a detailed description of the history and progress of the networking NCFR has been doing with leaders of the Parenting Education Network over the past two years. At this writing, more positive progress can be reported.

Dr. Harriet Heath, Director of the Parent Center At Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA--a long time parenting education researcher and spokesperson, and a long time NCFR member--spoke to the NCFR Board of Directors about the growth and development of parenting education and the desire to formalize and professionalize this component of family life education. She described the national efforts to be inclusive to both practitioners and scholars, to encourage diversity of ideas, and to be formally recognized and legitimized. A mutual agreement between NCFR and the new National Parenting Education Network (NPEN) to continue collaborating with each other was reinforced by the board.

The NCFR Chair of the Liaison Committee Sally Kees Martin, and Judith Myers-Walls also met with Dr. Heath to initiate further plans pending the outcomes of the meeting NPEN had scheduled for May 18 and 19 in Boston. At that meeting, Harriet Heath and Dana Murphy were appointed as partnership liaison co-chairs, with Karen DeBord and Glen Palm as committee members. They will continue to work with NCFR's committee which also includes Irene Lee, Marilyn Rossman, and Wallace Goddard. Harriet's e-mail address is harrheat@aol.com, and Dana's is dmurphy@foxtrot.latin.pvt.kiz.il.us.

The coordinating home of NPEN was moved to ERIC--clearinghouse on Elementary and Early Childhood Education and National Parent Information Network--Anne S. Robertson--based at the U. of IL, Champaign, IL. (e-mail - arobrtson@uiuc.edu). Glen Palm, St. Cloud State U., St. Cloud, MN and Sheila Sussman, director, Center for Family Resources, Mineola, NY are co-chairing the strategic planning committee for NPEN. Ann Ellwood and Dana Murphy will continue to work on funding for the group.

The exciting part of this collaboration with NCFR is that the 1997 conference has a strong focus on parenting education. The pre-conference full day workshop sponsored by NCFR's Education and Enrichment Section will include a special luncheon presentation by NPEN and an open forum. NPEN will also hold their next meeting during the pre- or post-conference activities of



NCFR has a new exhibit for use at the annual conference and other workshops and meetings. It features the new artwork and color (teal, purple, and goldenrod) on the recently re-designed brochure. The design has been carried through on stationery, envelopes, and ad. Look for the bright, back-lit exhibit at this year's conference in Arlington, VA, in November.

### NCFR.

At its May meeting, NPEN defined its mission as that of promoting the field of parenting education, maintaining quality, facilitating cross-disciplinary diversity, while avoiding a commercial focus. Many of their goals have also been the goals of NCFR. To be working together can only strengthen the cause of parenting education in this country as a legitimate field of study, research, and practice.

Many of NCFR's members are also involved in the parenting education movement sweeping the country, and are in leading roles in initiating this new organization. This means that NCFR is truly at the crossroad between developing a stronger more inclusive role for those professionals who are parenting educators within the framework of NCFR, or providing the seeds for the development of a new organization.

History has a way of repeating itself. This scenario is similar to that of the birth of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy slightly

over 50 years ago, when members of then fairly young, National Council on Family Relations saw a need to legitimize family therapy as a specialty. As NCFR approaches the new millennium, it has a new opportunity to legitimize the parenting education specialty of family life education. How that is done, remains to be seen. It will be important for the liaison committee the board of NCFR, and NCFR members to bring forth the best and most creative ideas for a mutual creation of an entity that can serve in the best interests of the parents who will ultimately reap the benefits of well qualified professional services, backed by scholarship and research. As I said in March, we invite all of NCFR's interested members to contact any of the people above or to send your comments to me or to Sally Martin at (smartin@scs.unr.edu).

Study and debate about whether parenting education is a field, a discipline, or a profession may also be helpful. We encourage anyone, who has comments on this to submit an article for publication.

Mary Jo Czaplewski, Ph.D., CFLE  
NCFR Executive Director

## NCFR Headquarters Station Actively Helping Families

NCFR headquarters staff recently participated in the Minnesota/North Dakota Flood Relief Drive. They donated cash, food, cleaning products, and personal care items to flood victims in the Red River Valley. The items were distributed by the Salvation Army.

The donations were part of an ongoing staff commitment to local food shelves and relief organizations.

Since 1994, the 10 staff members have contributed over 400 pounds of food to the Southern Anoka Community

Assistance program, and donated holiday gifts and cash to the Theresa Living Center, an alternative housing program for homeless women. They also have adopted a family during the holidays for the past two years, bringing them food and gifts.

Staff members participating were Susan Bristol, Dawn Cassidy, Becky Donat, Doris Hareland, Brenda Hoffman, Theresa Nichols, John Pepper, Chad Prenzlou, Cindy Winter, Kathy Collier Royce, and Executive Director Mary Jo Czaplewski.



# Membership Memo



## Your Dues at Work: Creative Recruitment Ideas

**Y**ou've probably noticed big signs posted at the beginning of highway repair projects or near government construction sites: "Your tax dollars at work." That image came to mind as I thought about writing this column. I want to let NCFR members know what efforts the Membership Committee is making on behalf of keeping our organization strong. Although all the committee members are volunteers, a portion of your dues payment does support the organization's membership and marketing staff and activities. So, here's a summary of how part of your dues is "at work" for you.

Together with NCFR staff Kathy Collins Royce (Membership Manager) and Brenda Hoffman (Marketing Coordinator) the Membership Committee made plans for the year's work. One of the Membership highlights of the year, of course, occurs at the annual conference. As has become customary, we will sponsor a Newcomers' Reception to help those attending for their first or second time learn about NCFR. In addition, a new feature of the program this year will be an Orientation Session for both old and new members, to provide some information about getting involved in sections, journal editing, and the like, as well as an opportunity for networking.

The Mentoring Committee, working under the auspices of Membership, will sponsor an Open House to let potential mentors and mentees know about the program and how to become involved in it.

Besides these annual conference sessions, the Membership Committee is working on quite a few other projects aimed at recruiting and retaining NCFR members. These include giving feedback to the staff on the recruiting packet; working on an incentive plan for a membership drive; placing personal telephone calls to potential, new, or lapsed members; posting membership information on relevant listservs; comparing the NCFR membership with the list of subscribers to the Family Science Network to identify potential new members; recruiting through agencies that are not family-focused per se, but serve family members; working with the Association of Councils to secure a membership chair in each affiliate group; helping to review member benefits provided by Sections; and developing mentoring programs in conjunction with NCFR Sections and the Action for Diversity Committee.

Just as a construction project requires many workers, so does organization-building require the efforts of all its members. Please join the

Membership Committee in recruitment and retention activities whenever you have a chance.

Here's a good example: To recognize the contributions of Mike Sporakowski (a former NCFR president) during his year as interim department head and congratulate him on his appointment as head for the next 3 years, faculty and staff in Family and Child Development at VA Polytechnic Institute and State University contributed to an "NCFR student member fund." They presented Mike with 3 certificates and member recruiting packets—he gets to select the students who will each receive a one-year, two-journal membership in NCFR.

We welcome your suggestions and success stories like the one above (rmb@vt.edu or 540-231-5437), and we can send you a membership recruiting packet filled with informative and appealing brochures about membership categories and benefits, NCFR journals and other products, and bookmarks (kcroyce@ncfr.com or toll free 888-781-9331, ext 21).

**Rosemary Blieszner**  
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## Weber State University: Here's How They Do It

**R**ecent recruitment efforts at Weber State University in Ogden, UT, have resulted in more than 50 new NCFR members.

The Dept. of Child and Family Studies and its corresponding Student Association at the university have organized to educate and provide practical application for students with an emphasis in Child and Family Studies. The Child and Family Studies Student Association (CFSSA) promotes NCFR at all its meetings.

There are several other ways the department and CFSSA work to promote NCFR, according Chloe Merrill Ph.D., CFLE:

- ❖NCFR affiliation is viewed and promoted as a personal and professional building block.

- ❖The department has promoted NCFR's Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE) program for the past seven years.

- ❖The Family Studies program has followed the CFLE 10 standards for the past five years.

- ❖Department students are organized to promote families.

- ❖CFSSA members help each other with graduate school searches, professional connections, job searches, skill development, and professional awareness, including subscriptions to NCFR journals and NCFR memberships.

- ❖A department logo developed by Merrill when she was department chair has been put on t-shirts that faculty and staff wear each Thursday.

- ❖Professional networking luncheons are held quarterly and typically attended by over 40 students.

- ❖Weber State University's Career Services reports 44 jobs on line for Child and Family Studies graduates in 1996.

- ❖Students seek certification and national involvement through NCFR, guided by certified faculty.

- ❖Students are required to apply for acceptance into the Family Studies major, and join a "cohort group" of students who will take required courses. These cohort groups have resulted in a dramatic increase in the cohesiveness and interpersonal closeness of the students. The department is known as the most personal department on campus.

- ❖Students have a strong support system and evolve into leaders and mentors for other students.

- ❖Students are a powerful advocacy and have a voice in the department.

- ❖Students embrace the identity of "educators."

- ❖The faculty is willing and eager to help when students have questions or concerns.

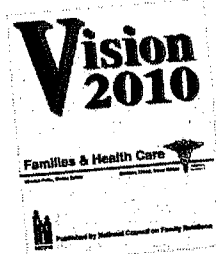
- ❖Faculty and staff are concerned for students and want students to succeed.

- ❖Service projects have been initiated. This year CFSSA has accepted the responsibility of two of the ten volunteer involvement projects on campus: Bridging the Gap and Family Service. Bridging the Gap has provided the association with the chance to visit a retirement twice a month and provide activities. Family Service asks the association to plan one large volunteer project each quarter that all students on campus participate in—not alone, but with their entire families.

- ❖CFSSA has sponsored a Down Syndrome Conference. The organization also will help with the "Families Alive" conference sponsored by the department this spring.

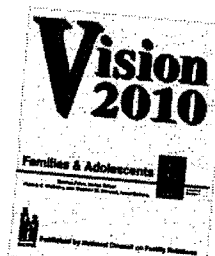
*(Do you have ways that you or your department or university encourage students to join NCFR? Send your ideas to Kathy at headquarters: kcroyce@ncfr.com.)*

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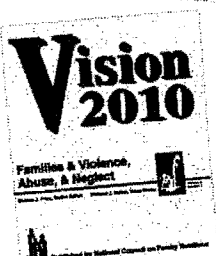
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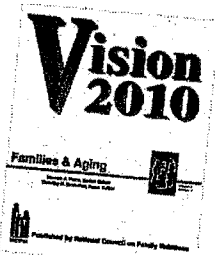
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REP 697



# Family Policy Monitor



## Interagency Forum Finally a Reality!

As of April 21, 1997, President Clinton signed into formal existence the Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics. It is Part 6 of an Executive Order regarding children's safety which followed the White House Conference on the Brain Development of the Child.

This Interagency Forum is a real triumph for NCFR. Readers of the COFO Memo will remember that as long ago as 1988 the Coalition of Family Organizations, with NCFR as one of the four original members, originated the idea of interagency cooperation on the collection of family related data. The idea was that HHS, Department of Labor, Justice, the Census and other agencies could cooperate on collection and analysis of data that related to families to make sure there was compatibility of data and possible savings in data collection. There was already a model in the Interagency Forum for Aging Statistics.

The COFO effort did not result in formal recognition at that time, but the idea has been carried forward by some NCFR members who are also workers in HHS and NICHD, and now, with the cooperation of OMB, it has been incorporated into this Executive Order.

The job for the new Forum is to prepare an annual report of the most important indicators of the well-being of the nation's children, determine the indicators and identify the sources of data to be used for each indicator; provide an ongoing review of Federal collection and dissemination of data on children and families; and make recommendations to improve the coverage and coordination of data collection. NICHD is to be the lead agency.

### Child Health

There is a new Senate effort, the Hatch-Kennedy Children's Health Insurance and Lower Deficits bill, to expand health care for 10 million uninsured children, mostly of working parents. On May 13<sup>th</sup> there was a press conference to announced a new coalition of more than 100 leading organizations, including NCFR, who support this effort. The Senators' idea of targeting a 43 cents a pack tobacco tax (which has been shown to cut down on teen smoking) toward expanding health care for children and also reducing the deficit by \$2 billion a year, is a nearly unbeatable combination. We can all help it pass by calling and writing our senators.

### Census 2000

As preparations and planning for Census 2000 moves forward, Congress is not as concerned as we are with the family and the demographics of the nation. The issue for Congress is population shifts which may lead to new boundaries of Congressional districts and allotments of federal money.

A major issue for Representatives is sampling. The Census plans to mail everyone the short form of seven basic questions. Five items were dropped from the last short form and five more

(including marital status) were moved to the long form. One in six households (1 in 2 in rural areas) would get the long form of 34 questions, many of which are of major interest to NCFR members. One new item is grandparents who have responsibility for the care of grandchildren, mandated for collection by welfare reform. Other items may be added: (1) If the official definition of poverty changes they may have to add support expenditures and health coverage; and household noncash benefits. (2) A question on ancestry to deal with the questions of race and ethnicity, a newly emerging issue.

The House Committee which oversees the census thinks the long form depresses the return rate. With each census there is an undercount of people who are not reached which becomes crucial since it determines money and power. To get a response from these last people is extremely expensive, and the people at Census are suggesting that a scientific sample follow-up by well-trained professionals would give a better picture than a count skewed by large numbers of unidentified non-responders. Census officials are even giving some consideration to a sampling using the short form, given the increased accuracy of sampling. However, if people do not think this would give a true picture, it would be counterproductive, according to one witness.

The Republican leadership in the Senate Appropriations Committee attached a rider to an important appropriations bill which would cut off all use of sampling in the 2000 Census. Census officials fear that this might perhaps include sampling the 1 in 6 households now receiving the long form. An amendment to eliminate the rider was defeated, and the President has sent word he will veto any such provision.

### Campaign Finance Reform

With all the campaign money scandals have come calls for campaign finance reform as a way of making the outcome of elections more responsive to the good of the country as well as releasing the senators and representatives from the time they now spend on raising money. Reformers call for shifting the focus of campaigns from contributors to constituents.

The main ideas for reform revolve around obtaining free TV time, giving federal financing to candidates who qualify by raising a set amount of money in the home district and who agree not to raise additional money. The McCain-Feingold bill (S.25) is the main means of a solution at the present time, but a candidate would still have to rely on private contributions, but without PACS.

The idea I found most appealing is to offer two options for candidates: a public financed option with free TV time for those who believe that the government has a strong role to play in providing restraints and services; and a second, free enterprise option completely open to any contributions, but those contributions would have to be clearly

announced to the public. The author, Jamin Raskin, thinks this plan might develop into a different two party system which could contest for public support.

### Research vs. Ideology in Influencing Policy

During the time I was writing this report, the House debated the Juvenile Crime Bill. The debate was carried out on the basis of ideology, with ideologues saying, "we all know---," and the others saying, "research has shown---." In the end, ideology won. A punitive bill goes to the Senate and perhaps to the President.

Research information on the topic of juvenile crime was readily available. COSSA (Consortium of Social Science Associations), of which NCFR is a member, devoted one of their informative breakfast sessions for Congressional staff and advocates on the topic of "Juvenile Crime: A Research Perspective." Regrettably, despite invitations to all Congressional offices, attendance of staff at these sessions is always very low.

One speaker, Dr. Denise Gottfredson from the University of MD, told of her extensive, federally funded meta analysis on school based crime, a precursor to adult or juvenile crime. Her findings on what works, especially the importance of structure and adult supervision at home, in school, and on the playground were very revealing. Congress would learn from her paper that the widely acclaimed school program, D.A.R.E. is not effective against drug use, and that group counseling of delinquent youths is counterproductive. You can download her paper from the Web --- [www.ncjrs.org](http://www.ncjrs.org), in the "new" section or order from ncjrs by calling 1-800-851-3420.

Findings from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention also would have been useful in the Congressional debate. The three top men from that office spoke at a meeting of the Mental Health Association sponsored Coalition on Voices vs. Violence. Although the Office of Juvenile Justice is a small agency, it has carefully distributed money for research, for model programs, and for encouragement toward collaboration between OJJ, HHS and Education. They distribute facts about trends and programs which work. Their research shows that a heavy punitive approach does not work, that working with families is important, and that there is a correlation between delinquency, mental illness, and gun possession. You can learn more at the OJJDP Homepage: <http://www.ncjrs.org/ojjhome.htm> or E mail: [askncjrs@ncjrs.org](mailto:askncjrs@ncjrs.org).

### Ideology

NCFR needs to continue efforts to provide good research on topics of concern to legislators. Officials in all the agencies call for good, objective research. However, because of the ideology factor it may take as long as 10 years, according to one witness, for that research to result in policy.

The importance of ideology cannot be underestimated. One current staffer who left academia to work for the House Ways and Means Committee, explained how Congress works. "We always start with the answer to any question. Members of Congress decide in advance what the best policy is, usually on the basis of ideology. Now we can divide the studies into two stacks, one stack of the good ones and the other stack of the bad ones. Then they hire guys like me to show why the stack of good ones are pristine research and the bad ones are terribly flawed and need to be trashed."

Both liberals and conservatives cling to ideology. How to open minds on both sides to objective research findings is a major puzzle, and itself a researchable project.

Margaret Feldman  
NCFR Washington Representative

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### DEADLINE

for the  
next REPORT  
August 15, 1996



# Blessed by the Gifts: The Legacy of John Lewis McAdoo

by Suzanne J. Randolph

When I was first honored with the opportunity to write this tribute to the legacy of John Lewis McAdoo, my working sub-title was "Gentleman, Giant, and Gem."

In preparation for writing the article, I recalled that I had videotaped the tributes made when NCFR's Ethnic Minorities Section had dedicated its business meeting to John's memory at the 1994 NCFR annual conference. So, instead of lines and lines of my reflections of this gentleman, giant and gem, I have transcribed (for the most part, verbatim) the tributes paid to him during that session.

I apologize because I did not know the names or full names of all those paying tribute, but the essence of John's spirit as expressed through their voices is what I am intending to convey. (Editor's note: Where possible, additional speakers have been identified.) The participants were men and women of various racial and ethnic backgrounds, and included veteran professionals, new professionals, and students. John's family members gave brief remarks at the end in response to the tributes, and their remarks are also included here. The tributes are presented in the order in which they were given during that 1994 session.

## Tributes

### Edith Lewis

We are here tonight to pay tribute to John McAdoo. I will pass the "mike," and as you feel moved, please share with us how you have been blessed by the

gifts of John McAdoo.

### Leonor Boulton Johnson

I can't even imagine being here without John. When you went into a seminar with him, you knew there would be fireworks. When I would say something controversial, people would get mad, but when John said it, people would say "okay," "all right." I appreciated the way he supported Harriette (McAdoo, his wife, then incoming NCFR President.)

### Aaron Thompson

One thing I remember was his ability to make you feel good as a black man. At my first NCFR conference in the 1980s, John came up and spoke to me. I told him what I was doing, and he said, "Thank God, another brother."

### Edith Lewis

People have asked during this conference why am I wearing this "59 cents" (59 cents on the dollar) button? I bought this button at my first NCFR conference from a feminist organization trying to make people aware of women's wages relative to men's earnings. It reminds me of John because I put the button on, and 15 minutes later when I turned around there was this very tall black man asking, "What are you doing with that button?" and "Let's talk about black men's earnings relative to other's earnings." I said, "Who is this?" John was a friend, a big brother, a mentor, who was supportive of me and helped me find jobs. Not many people would say "You do not want to go there!" John was honest and straightforward at times when I thought things about my life would not be accepted. He's been my champion. I will miss him dearly, but I see him

everywhere, all around the room, in all of you, and in the little bitty baby (John's grandson was also present.).

### Norma Burgess

In 1980 or so, I met both Harriette and John. The Ethnic Minorities Section was boycotting the NCFR conference which was held at the Hyatt Regency because there was a citywide boycott of the facilities which discriminated against blacks. At a small session much like this one, I learned that there were black scholars who studied families. I wasn't in a family area as an undergraduate, and I didn't know people existed who did family research. I had the pleasure of introducing John and Harriette to my husband, and years later John would ask, "How's your old man?" He understood that we do have counterparts, and we are regular people, but also he was an eminent scholar in his own right. He was so supportive, and I really appreciate that, and my husband does, too.

### Frankie (no last name available)

Sixty days after entering graduate school, and having been out of school 10 years, everything was overwhelming to me. In 1989, when I came to NCFR, I met John. He came up to me and started asking questions--"What are you interested in?", etc. He told me that graduate school doesn't have to be hectic; and I learned that eminent scholars laugh and tell jokes. It taught me that in the midst of local academic politics and the hustle and bustle, that it is important to get back and see the "extended family," and that it's good to have a balance. So the other night a few of us were going to a reception to get strawberries to go with our ice cream from the BYU social. We entered the room laughing and giggling, and were very happily going to get this stuff, when we realized that the atmosphere was somewhat subdued and "proper." One of my friends said, "Oh, oh. We had better switch gears." I said, "Why? In the spirit of John McAdoo, let's keep cutting up!" So, for me, that spirit lives.

### Hattie Fields

I'm sure I met John the first time he came to NCFR. He walked up and gave me a big hug, and I felt so thrilled, because I could get hugs from another male other than Bob (Staples)! My grandson is a student at Howard University, and I told him there was a couple there (Harriette and John) that I'd like for him to meet. They had left Howard before he arrived, but my grandson came over to an NCFR conference last year (1993) to meet them, and was quite thrilled at having met such outstanding personalities.

### White Male Professional (no name available)

I've known John about 25 years. It seems like he is around at all the meetings. Every meeting I went to for the last 15 years, John was there, and we did a lot of kidding. One of the things I kidded him about last year (1993) was that he was way behind me in grandchildren--I had 12, and he didn't have any. I was really happy to hear he was able to see his first, a grandson, last summer.

### Ouida Westney

It's very hard to be at NCFR

without John, but it's good to have the children here to bring back some more of John. John was always on our minds. We were walking around (NCFR), and there was a gentleman that looked like John (it was his son). A year and a-half ago, John came to my office to borrow some books. I'm not a person who likes to loan out my books, but John promised to return them. John returned them, just as he'd said, in two weeks, and said thank you.

### Tammy (a student; no last name available)

I don't have all the rich history, but I have something really special. As I finished my Master's, I didn't know if I wanted to go on. I feel a loss because I've been waiting for a year to come back and thank him. Last year, he came by my poster session and read it. I have been reading John McAdoo for years and to meet the John, and I thought, "John McAdoo's looking at my poster!" It was wonderful and gave me some inspiration. Last year (my) dream became a reality as John McAdoo recognized my talents and my place in the professional arena. John encouraged me to study family policy, and he expressed the need for research on the impact of policies on African American families. What John indirectly challenged me to do was to let go of my fears. He also encouraged me to work on my weaknesses. What John does not know (or maybe he does) was that my article (based on my thesis) was published, and I did decide to go further in graduate school. The questions I must answer are: How do I further John's dream for me? How do I look at family policy as an African American issue as well as an issue for all people of color? Harriette mentioned policy in the (Presidential) address, and I could see John's face staring at me.

### Walter Kawamoto

At my first NCFR conference, my unofficial parents (Harriette and John) bought me food; and I was looking forward to that again. This year, I brought my wife, Tammy, and I did as he used to do--I introduced myself as Tammy's husband. He was the role model I want to be, and I'll always be looking to be.

### William Allen

When I met John, I felt I could be proud to be a black man writing about black families. Last year (as a doctoral student), I met John, and he made me feel the importance of being a black man studying black families.

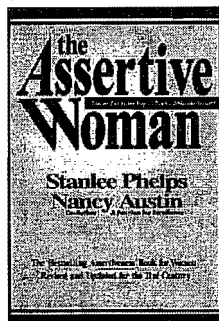
### Ken Hardy

Neither his successes nor failures, nor obstacles he had to overcome deterred him from remaining in touch with who he was or what it meant to be an African American in this society...I knew John well enough to know that not even death would prevent him from being here with us. So I know he's listening down on us. I have been deeply humbled by your untimely death. I'm deeply embittered by your untimely death...but it's your untimely death that reminds me that the field we all play on is not level...and leaves me with this nagging, recurring question, wondering "Had you

See McAdoo on Page 8

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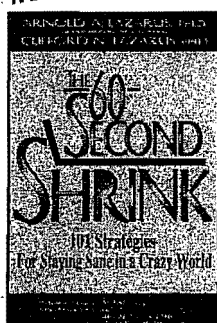
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## McAdoo from Page 7

been white, would you not be here with us differently tonight?"

### Katherine Allen

I met John when I was a graduate student of Harlan London's at Syracuse University. I knew him as my mentor's friend, like an uncle. He hugged me and called me "Kathy," when most call me "Katherine." I remember in the theory construction workshops, he was so interpersonally warm and kind and generous, but in the discussion of intellectual ideas, he was so passionate, intense, and burning—sometimes with rage. Sometimes I'd push back, but he'd let it out, and let people know what he was feeling. I'd often find myself pushing back, too, so that the explosion of energy I felt for some topic would not override others' feelings. I learned something from that, but I'm crushed to realize he gave everybody that, not just me. I just want to say how much respect I have for him.

### Patricia Bell Scott

I met (John) 20 years ago, when we were all young. I liked the fact that he always liked to play on the various levels of the situation. For instance, he'd go from being very formal and professional inside the room to outside asking, "Girl, did you hear that? What were they talking about?" I feel very honored that two years ago when I co-chaired the Groves Conference, he participated in that experience. He shared and opened up about a part of his life that he never had shared before, and after that session, I had a new level of intimacy with him. Finally, I had an experience last night that I initially felt embarrassed about, but I now feel John would approve of. That was that I got involved in a party that was so outrageously fun that Security shut us down. What was nice about that was that I was there with the McAdoo sons.

### White Male Professional (no name available)

I didn't know you, John, but you must have been some kind of man.

### Suzanne Randolph

To Harriette, even though we know he often played the role of the "wind beneath your wings," we also know that in his last year, you had to play that role. Thank you, John, for the laughter and fun. I'll always remember crawfish in New Orleans and the other good times we had with you and Harriette. We love you all.

### Daughter-in-law

He was always really supportive and provided a lot of encouragement while we (she and oldest son) were in graduate school. He and Harriette were both in our corner. I know if you were still here, you'd still be pushing me as I continue through my program.

### Second Son

Through everybody here, I can see my Dad touched you in a lot of different ways. He definitely "touched" me all my life, and those of you who have known us for the last 25 to 30 years know what I'm talking about. My Dad was unique and special. He always backed us, and he allowed all of you to help raise all of us. I want to thank you for that, and I'm pretty sure he would like to thank you, too, for that.

### Closing

These excerpts from that 1994 session are but a glimpse of the legacy left by the strong black man that was John Lewis McAdoo. He was to many a scholar, role model, mentor, friend, "big brother," and "uncle." He was also a father and father-in-law. To Harriette he was a husband, and to the youngest one among us there, he was a grandfather. To us all he was an inspiration, and he was fun! We're proud to have been blessed by his gifts—of scholarship, of friendship, of love.

Finally, at John's memorial service in 1994 at MI State University, Niara Sudarkasa reminded us that John loved strong black women. So to close, I would like to paraphrase a verse from Maya Angelou's (1994) poem about strong black women, "Phenomenal Woman":

Now you should all understand  
Just why John's head was never bowed  
Why he sometimes had to shout or  
Jump about or talk real loud  
When you saw him passing  
It made us all real proud  
I say,  
It was in the click of his heels,  
The bend of his hair,  
The palm of his hand,  
The need for his care.  
Because he was a man  
Phenomenally,  
Phenomenal man,  
That was John.

Angelou, Maya (1994). **Phenomenal woman: Four poems celebrating women**. New York: Random House.

Suzanne Randolph, Ph.D., is Associate Professor of Family Studies at the University of Md, College Park, MD 20742. Her e-mail is: SR22@umail.umd.edu.

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### Thinking About Diversity

If we could, at this moment, shrink the earth's population to a village of precisely 100 females and males, but maintain the existing human ratios, it would look like this:

57 Asians, 21 Europeans, 14 North and South Americans, 8 Africans

70 non-white, 30 white

70 non-Christian, 30 Christian

70 unable to read, 50 malnourished, 80 living in substandard housing

1 university graduate

50 percent of the entire world's wealth would be in the hands of six people, all citizens of the U.S.

From the Association of Retired Citizens newsletter, Vol. 16, No. 5, June, 1990; from United Nations demographic data.

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

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If there is enough interest, headquarters staff will investigate the possible formation of this new member service.

## Committee Member Added

**N**ijole V. Benokraitis has recently been added to the NCFR/Sage Student Book Award committee. She joins Bert Adams and David Klein as co-chairs. Committee members are Sharon Dwyer, Joe F. Pittman, and Catherine Solheim. Margaret Zusky is the Sage Award contact.

Six manuscripts have been received for the current review cycle, according to Dr. Klein.

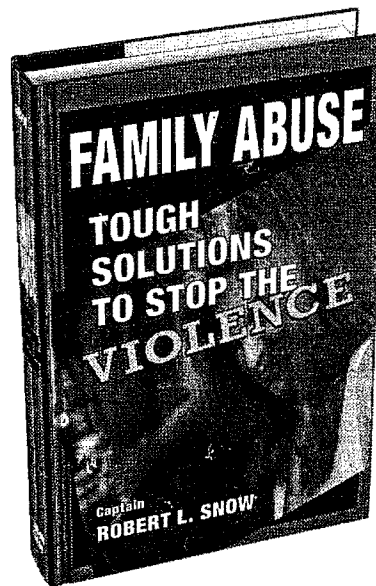
He also reports progress on previous award-winning manuscripts. The 1995 manuscript by Janice Nadeau has been sent to Sage to begin the production process. The 1996 winner, Anna Dienhart is expected to be ready for production by the end of the summer.

Two previous winners (when Guilford Press sponsored the award with NCFR) have had their books published. One paper that did not receive the award did receive a publication contract. A third manuscript from the Guilford Press sponsorship has a contract with Sage and is close to a production date.

**NCFR FAX**

**612-781-9348**

## Invaluable New Resources for Those Who Care...



### FAMILY ABUSE Tough Solutions to Stop the Violence Captain Robert L. Snow

"Captain Snow describes family violence through the eyes of a patrol officer who is concerned by the abuse he witnesses, but concerned also by contradictions in the way the police and the public perceive the problem."

—David A. Ford, Ph.D., Chairperson, Department of Sociology, Indiana University; Director, Training Project on Family Violence for Indiana Law Enforcement Officers

Captain Snow combines an insiders' knowledge forged from years of experience on the police force, with in-depth research to expose the tactics of violence and terror abusers wield — whether against a parent, wife, or child. Snow also gives invaluable advice to victims and their loved ones on how they can use the police and legal system to their advantage in fighting against abuse.

0-306-45560-9/310 pp./1997/\$25.95

### MOTHERHOOD AT THE CROSSROADS

Meeting the Challenge of a Changing Role  
Sue Lanci Villani (with Jane E. Ryan)

"A much-needed book that reveals the core of motherhood crises in the country...validates a woman's subjective experience of mothering while offering solutions on an emotional, psychological, and cultural level."

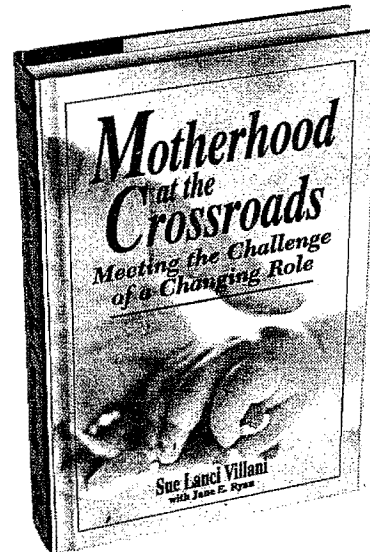
—Eleanor Morin Davis, Director, New Center for Modern Parenthood and Psychotherapy, New York

Ms. Villani and Ms. Ryan, experts in the cultural changes of motherhood and family, insightfully point out how women's expectations of themselves as mothers often don't match their performance, thereby causing intense feelings of shame and guilt.

0-306-45566-8/256 pp./ill./1997/\$27.95

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# Members Submit Letters to the Editor

## PRA Clarified

*The following letter was received by NCFR Executive Director Mary Jo Czaplewski on January 13, 1997:*

I am concerned about the confusing portrayal of the parental rights movement on page 6 of the December 1996 **NCFR Report** (the Family Policy Monitor column). I believe a clearer and more substantial presentation of the issue would be beneficial to NCFR members.

Although the Parental Rights Amendment (PRA) was soundly defeated by Colorado voters in the November (1996) election, the initiative will undoubtedly resurface at both the state and national levels. The Parental Rights and Responsibilities Act was one of the ten planks of the Christian Coalition's "Contract With the American Family," was introduced in the first session of the 104<sup>th</sup> Congress, and died in committee. It is likely that similar proposals will emerge in the 105<sup>th</sup> Congress. In addition, at least 18 states are currently considering parental rights legislation. Consequently, I hope you will consider providing a more in-depth analysis of parental rights to your organization and its members. As contribution to this effort, I have summarized Colorado's recent experience with the parental rights movement and provided an overview of Governor Romer's position on the Parental Rights Amendment.

The text of the proposed amendment to Colorado's constitution was short---containing only 15 words---and would have added the inalienable right "of parents to direct and control the upbringing, education, values, and discipline of their children."

### Proponents

The Colorado amendment was sponsored by the Coalition for Parental Responsibility, Citizens for Responsible Government, the Christian Coalition, the Republican National Committee, and a handful of individuals. Proponents believe that public schools, courts, and governments have too much power to intrude into family life. Decisions affecting children are being made regarding their morals and values without the consent of parents. Proponents seek support for their parental authority in four areas: education, health care, religious training, and discipline.

### Opponents

Organized under the "Protect Our Children" coalition, over 140 organizations, including the American Civil Liberties Union, the Anti-Defamation League, the District Attorneys Council, the County Sheriffs of Colorado, and the Colorado Education Association, opposed the amendment. They argue that the ambiguous language of the amendment could eliminate child abuse laws, challenge adoption laws, permit censorship of materials and programs in public libraries and schools, and limit teenagers' access to confidential services such as substance abuse treatment, mental health care, birth control, and counseling.

Below is a comparison of what the proponents and the opponents believe would happen with passage of the PRA:

## Education

### Proponents

Public schools could become more accountable to parents by giving them greater oversight of academic standards and by helping to ensure that values taught at school don't conflict with values taught at home.

The amendment is not intended to give one parent the right to dictate curriculum decisions to an entire classroom; rather, it allows parents to direct the education of their own children.

### Opponents

Extremist parents could transform local school districts into legal battlegrounds over everything from curriculum to dress codes.

Public libraries could refuse library cards to children because of the potential liability for violations of PRA. Schools could be required to tailor an individual education plan for each student.

## Health

### Proponents

Parents could have better legal standing to require schools to get parental permission before their children are subjected to psychological "surveys," for example.

### Opponents

Could limit the rights of minors to access confidential medical services, confidential counseling for addiction to drugs or alcohol, severe family problems or thoughts of suicide.

Health care providers could no longer provide confidential services to teens such as birth control counseling, and testing and treatment for sexually transmitted disease and HIV. Could eliminate state laws such as mandatory immunization or child car seat laws.

## Family Autonomy

### Proponents

Colorado will make it clear that parents, not government, raise children. Could protect against parental rights being undermined by bureaucracies and increase parents' freedom to perform their parenting roles.

### Opponents

Does not specify whose parental rights prevail if there is conflict between parents, as in custody cases, child support determinations, and adoption proceedings.

## Legal/Constitutional

### Proponents

Aims to limit government authority and curtail government excesses in dealing with families. The PRA is a negative mandate on government. Could provide parents with greater legal standing to ensure that government respects their rights through its policies, and, when necessary, in the courts.

### Opponents

Parents' legitimate rights are already protected by a potent combination of Supreme Court precedents, federal laws, and state laws affecting many different aspects of life. These legal protections have evolved from a carefully reasoned process of ensuring parental rights on the one hand and protecting the needs and rights of minors on the other.

## Child Welfare

### Proponents

There are feelings of powerlessness and frustration with what are considered arbitrary actions and the lack of timely resolution of disputes involving government agencies. The amendment would not provide quick remedies, but would provide a statement of policy that the rights of parents must be given greater consideration.

### Opponents

Laws regarding the protection of children may be weakened or set aside. Parents accused of criminal child abuse may claim in their defense that they were merely exercising their inalienable right to discipline their child.

If parental rights are "inalienable," they cannot be terminated and children cannot be made legally available for adoption.

### Governor Romer's Position

Governor and Mrs. Romer both strongly opposed the Parental Rights Amendment. Although it sounds innocent on the surface, underneath it is deceptive, unnecessary, and could have unintended consequences. We don't need to change the constitution for parents to take responsibility for their children's upbringing. Parents already have the right to raise their children as they see fit. This amendment could give parents such absolute control over their children's lives that, in some instances, the children's own constitutional rights and the current legal standard of "best interests of the child" would be threatened.

The Parental Rights Amendment is vague. The language of the amendment is broad and raises uncertainty as to how it may be applied. The words "discipline," "values," "upbringing," and even "parent" are unclear.

The Parental Rights Amendment is unnecessary government intrusion into local decision making, taking debates that belong in local communities, school boards, city councils, county commissions, and state legislatures and turning them over to the courts.

The Parental Rights Amendment does not talk about parental responsibility to care for, nurture and protect their children. The amendment provides no protections for children. Good parents don't need this amendment, and bad parents could abuse it.

The Parental Rights Amendment was not a Colorado-based, grassroots movement: 95 percent of the financial support for Colorado's Parental Rights Amendment came from a right-wing organization out of Arlington, VA called Of the People. Even the paid petitioners who collected signatures to get it on the Colorado ballot were financed with money from Virginia.

The Parental Rights Amendment is a full employment act for lawyers. The proponents of PRA admit that they do not know exactly what PRA will do and that its meaning and limits would have to be determined in test case litigation against school districts, public libraries, county departments of social services, individual health care providers, adoptive parents and others. Tax dollars will be needed to pay the salaries of the judges and lawyers that

PRA will keep very busy.

Although the Governor takes the position that the vital and primary role parents play in the raising of their children is of critical importance and must be respected, he opposes broad parental rights amendments and bills because they are unnecessary, redundant and dangerous.

As members of NCFR, Bea Romer and I both wish to commend you on your significant contributions to the field of family support and education. If you have questions, or require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 303-866-4848.

Sincerely,  
**Kristie Kauerz**  
**Policy Advisor, Families and Children**  
**State of Colorado**  
**Executive Chambers**  
**136 State Capitol**  
**Denver, CO 80203-1792**  
**303-866-2471**

## Rapoport Tribute

*The following is a tribute to the late Robert Rapoport, a long time NCFR member who died in November, 1996.*

Robert Rapoport was, first of all a man of vision: a man whose vision was filled with an abiding hope that those of us engaged in family studies and those of us engaged in peace studies might discover our common bonds and work together to help families educate their young for global citizenship.

Robert died in November 1996, following an accident at his home. He left behind a legacy of hope and a vision of ways that family life professionals can and do engage with families who are, in all ways, educators of their young for global citizenship. This tribute draws upon that vision, and offers reflections on the implications this vision has for those of us engaged in research, education and practice in our work with families.

Robert first contacted me in the early months of 1992 asking for resources for educating families in the ways of peace. I sent him a copy of my books, *Peacemaking: Family Activities for Justice and Peace* (1980) and *Learning to Live Together: Practical Peacemaking Ideas for Families* (1989), along with reprints of several articles, an extensive bibliography, and suggestions for a program he was developing in his own country. It is evident from the several years of engaging correspondence and lengthy phone conversations which took place over the course of these years that we shared a respect for and an excitement about each other's work.

Robert often spoke of one of his greatest dreams: to bring family studies scholars and practitioners and peace studies scholars and practitioners from many countries together for an international symposium exploring the topic: "Families as Educators for Global Citizenship". In December of 1994 he hosted the Budapest symposium, a fulfillment of his dream. When he first

*See Rapoport on Page 12*



# Conference Comments



## When You Speak (Or Write) – We Listen

A few years ago conference attendees indicated that there was a need for sessions where new research was presented that could be used to validate practitioners' counseling or teaching techniques. As a result, the 1993 Program Vice-president, **Bill Doherty**, established **Research Updates for Practitioners (RUPS)**. They are one of the most popular presentation types at the conference -- and they wouldn't have been initiated without attendee feedback on the conference evaluation forms.

Here are two more questions that were listed frequently on the 1996 Evaluation forms:

**Why can't we have discounted sleeping room rates for all students who come to NCFR?**

It would be wonderful to be able to provide this service for each student, but unfortunately it is an economic impossibility. NCFR always tries to provide services for its students: discounted membership fees, discounted conference registration rates (plus opportunities to work at the conference and receive registration fee rebates), and a limited number of discounted sleeping rooms.

Many associations do not provide discounted sleeping room rates for students at all.

Negotiating sleeping room rates is a complicated process, especially at the present time. Hotels are currently operating at nearly peak capacity most of the year, and they want healthy profits from all avenues of business. With the law of supply and demand this means that the negotiating ball is in the hotel's court. If our conference isn't willing to pay the prices they wish, there are other conferences that will. According to industry reports, this economic trend is predicted to continue for at least ten more years.

Hotels set room rates based on a number of factors. When they quote sleeping room rates, they look at their previous three-year history during the time period that NCFR wishes to meet. They look at:

- ◆ Average room rates for conferences during that time
- ◆ Average number of guests in the hotel during that time period. Who was there for business or pleasure. The rate structure is higher for these hotel guests. If history indicates that there are a lot of these type of guests, the hotel will save many rooms for this purpose and won't release as many rooms in a block for conventions.
- ◆ City wide events, such as sports, trade shows, etc. that might bring people into town. These guests also pay higher rates than convention attendees.
- ◆ The number of meeting rooms used in proportion to the sleeping rooms. NCFR typically uses every meeting room, but sometimes only 1/2 of the hotel sleeping

rooms. Hotels cannot fill up the rest of the rooms with walk-ins, and another conference can't be scheduled, because NCFR uses all the meeting room space.

When NCFR sets aside a block of rooms for the conference, it is based on our "history." We cannot reserve rooms on what we hope will be filled, but on what we have used during past conferences. Organizations who are unrealistic in their expectations will not receive good rates in the following years from other hotels--hotels share information about conferences and their sponsoring organizations.

Over the past 30 years, NCFR has blocked approximately 30 rooms for students at a discounted rate. Our history up until 1996 indicated that this was our norm.

If NCFR overbook on student rooms, the other attendees pay higher sleeping room rates for the hotel to make up for the number of discounted student rooms. If we had more student room blocks, NCFR would have to pay additional meeting room rent, which means that it would be necessary to charge higher conference registration fees to offset these costs.

1996 broke many records for the NCFR Conference - including student rooms. On September 1, we had 21 rooms reserved. Since the deadline was the 15th, it appeared that everything would be fine, but suddenly on September 15, we received over 60 reservations. The hotel was not able to give us additional rooms.

Now that NCFR has seen the need for more student rooms, we have taken several steps to insure that the student needs are answered:

- ◆ We have blocked additional rooms at the Hilton Hotel, a 5-minute walk from the Hyatt - at the same rate as the Hyatt.
- ◆ Housing forms have explicit instructions that there are 65 rooms available between the two hotels, and that rooms are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. When they are used, students will need to make their own housing arrangements, or register at the NCFR regular conference room rate.
- ◆ In order to serve more students, the discounted rates are available only for triple and quad rooms.

◆ Karen Myers-Bowman, Student/New Professional Representative, will notify students if they have been assigned a room.

**It seems like the Exhibits are getting smaller. I expected many more publishers to be there. Why aren't there more at the Conference?**

We would love to see 100 exhibits at the Conference, because they provide a great service to attendees.

Each year NCFR Headquarters staff sends out special letters to former exhibitors, and a major mailing is sent to

approximately 1,000 other publishers. We then call publishers, software companies, and agencies to interest them in exhibiting. We point out that NCFR attendees are eager to use books in their work, that their colleagues are the authors of the books printed by the publisher, and explain that some publishers use the conference as a recruiting tool for securing authors to write books. When talking with software companies we discuss that over 70% of our attendees are in the academic field, and are extensive users of software.

Here are some of the reasons given by publishers for not coming to NCFR:

- ◆ "We must have sufficient sales to warrant the expense. There is the cost of the exhibit fee, shipping the display and materials to the conference, paying air fare, hotel, and meals for 2-3 staff members whenever a publisher exhibits. The sales must cover expenses."
- ◆ "Our marketing dollars have been cut, and we are limited to 2 exhibits a year. We choose conferences with an attendance of at least 3,000 to 5,000."
- ◆ "We don't publish enough 'family' books to warrant a full booth." (This is why NCFR offers a Combined Book Display where companies can send a few

titles, and not have to spend the money for a full exhibit).

◆ "You don't have enough practitioners, and the academic attendees are not interested in our products."

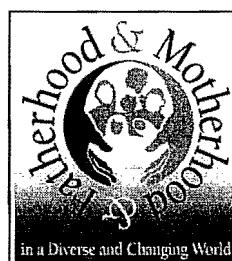
◆ "There are not enough 'exclusive' time to visit the Exhibits" (i.e., NCFR's program is too full). Some exhibitors feel that this is why sales are slow.

◆ Consolidation of publishers. Ten years ago Lexington Books and Free Press both exhibited at the Conference. They are no consolidated, and we have one exhibit - the Lexington Books/Free Press. Similarly, Wadsworth Publishing and West Publishing both exhibited separately. Wadsworth's parent company now has purchased West: This year we will have only the Wadsworth booth.

NCFR is looking at new market for the Exhibits. For the Combined Book Display, the largest success is from authors asking their publishers to display their books. Two years ago we received a tremendous response from authors, and sent personalized letters to their publisher representatives. We had a 50% gain in the number of books displayed. Keep sending

**See Conference on Page 1**

## National Council on Family Relations



**59th Annual Conference  
November 7-10, 1997**

Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Arlington, VA

Pre-conference Workshops: Nov. 5-6  
Post-conference Workshops: Nov. 10-11

### Plenary Topics and Speakers

*Producing the Mothers of the Nation: Race, Class, and U.S. Public Policy*, Patricia Hill Collins, Univ. of Cincinnati.

*Looking Back, Moving Forward: Attachment from One Generation to the Next*, Martha Farrell Erickson, Minnesota Children, Youth, and Families Consortium, St. Paul, MN.

*Daddy Strategies for the 21st Century: Involving Men in Children's Lives*, James Levine, Families and Work Institute, New York, NY.

### Research Updates for Practitioners (RUPS)

*Corporal Punishment in the Discipline of Children in the Home*, Ronald Pitzer, Univ. of Minnesota.

*Parental Involvement with Children's Education*, Gary Lee Bowen, Univ. of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.

*Research Update on Lesbian Mothers, Gay Fathers, and Their Children*, Charlotte Patterson, Univ. of Virginia.

### Author Meets Critic

*Life Without Father...*, David Popenoe, Rutgers Univ.  
**William J. Doherty**, Univ. of Minnesota, and **Constance L. Shehan**, Univ. of Florida, dialogue with the author about his controversial book.



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**Local Arrangements Committee members recently attended a planning meeting for the upcoming NCFR conference in Arlington, VA. Attending were, front row from left: Francine Proulx, co-chair; Kathleen Ross-Kidder; Billie Frazier; Suzanne Randolph; and Cindy Winter, NCFR conference coordinator.**

**Back row, from left: Elizabeth Robertson; Mary Ellen Shachat; Alganesh Piechocinski; Bill Coffin; and Mary Ann Hollinger.**

**Unable to attend were Barbara Chandler, co-chair; Nijole Benokraitis; Amy Gordon; Irmgard Koscielniak; Patricia Langley; Lori Parrish; Elinor Prissman; Karen Rosen; and Marilyn Scholl.**

## Conference from Page 10

us the titles of your books, and we'll keep asking your publishers! In late June you will be sent a flyer about the conference. There is a form for you to fill out about books you would like to have displayed. Return it to me, and we'll take care of the rest.

If you have ideas for other potential exhibitors, please call me toll-free at 888-781-9331, Ext. 15, or e-mail me at winterse@ncfr.com.

**Cindy Winter, CMP**  
Conference Coordinator

### ENHANCE YOUR CLASSROOM! Use NCFR Video and Audio Tapes!



Purchase video and audio tapes of major sessions from the 1996 Conference.  
Great supplemental tools!

#### Family Policy

#96V9. *Families and Politics in the New South Africa*, Naomi Tutu. Plenary Session.

#96V9. *Reaction of Special Interest Groups to the 1996 Election*, Jim Caccamo, Melissa Ness, Bernard Franklin; Moderator: Anthony Jurich. Plenary Session.

#### Gender Issues/Family Roles

#96V2. *The Women's Agenda vs. the Family Agenda: Conflict or Concordance?* Judith Stacey, Norval Glenn. Public Policy Seminar.

#### Health

#96V7. *Collaborative Health Care for Families: Can We Do It Together?* John Rolland, M.D. and reactor panel. Special Session.

#### Minority/International Families

#96V5. *From Plessy vs. Ferguson, Brown vs. Topeka Board of Education and Back Again: Implications for African Americans and Their Families*, Norma Bond Burgess, Kenneth Hardy. Special Session.

**National Council on Family Relations**  
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Phone: 612-781-9331  
Toll Free: 888-781-9331  
FAX: 612-781-9331  
E-mail: ncfr3989@ncfr.com



#### Parenting

#96V6. *Effective, Enjoyable Parenting*, Marilyn M. Rossmann. Research Update for Practitioners.

#### Violence

#96V3. *Intimate and Interpersonal Violence: Politics, Policy, and Practice*, Richard Gelles. Research Update for Practitioners.

#### Welfare Reform

#96V11. *Welfare Reform, Poverty, and Children*, Ann Collins. Research Update for Practitioners.

#### Work and Family

#96V4. *The Missing Middle: Working Parents in U.S. Democracy and Social Policy*, Theda Skocpol. Plenary Session.  
#96V10. *Time Allocation to Family, Home, Work, and Community*, Alice Rossi. Burgess Award Address.

**Video Tapes:** NCFR members: \$39.95 each! Nonmembers: \$49.95. **Audio Tapes:** \$8.50 each. Prices including shipping and handling. Checks payable to NCFR. U.S. funds drawn on U.S. banks only. MN residents add 6.5% sales tax. Canadian orders add 7% GST (123-830-465).

### Future NCFR Conference Dates

1997 - November 5-10  
Hyatt Regency Crystal City  
(Washington DC)

Ralph LaRossa, GA State Univ.  
Program Vice-president

1998 - November 12-17  
Hyatt Regency Milwaukee, WI

1999 - November 9-14  
Hyatt Regency Irvine  
(Los Angeles, CA)

2000 - November 8-14  
Minneapolis (MN) Hilton &  
Towers

## Free Publicity

**H**ere's an opportunity for **FREE** publicity for your institution or company: Donate items to NCFR for use as prizes in the upcoming NCFR Member Recruitment Campaign.

NCFR will begin a three-year member recruitment campaign this fall.

All individuals or companies who participate will be listed in promotional materials.

For more information contact Brenda at headquarters: toll free 888-781-9331 ext. 18.

## ASSIST AT THE NCFR CONFERENCE AND HAVE YOUR REGISTRATION REFUNDED!

Students have a unique opportunity to gain hands-on experience about running the NCFR Annual Conference. Those who work eight hours will qualify to receive a refund of the registration fee. (Checks are mailed two weeks after the Conference). **PRIORITY IS GIVEN TO NCFR STUDENT MEMBERS.** Jobs will be assigned on a first-come, first-placed basis. Accommodations for physical limitations will be made whenever possible. The number of positions is limited.

You will receive notification as to the status, position, and scheduled times you are to work by **October 1, 1997**. You must return the **acknowledgment form** to Suzanne Randolph by **October 10**. If you do not return the form, your name will be removed from the list, and the assignment will be given to another student.

### What are the Responsibilities of a Student Assistant?

- Check in at the Student Assistance desk approximately 20 minutes before your assigned work time.
- Be at your assigned position 15 minutes early.
- Be willing to do any tasks necessary for the smooth operation of your assigned project and the conference as a whole. (Note: Some positions may include moving boxes and audio-visual equipment.)
- Acquaint yourself with the conference program **BEFORE** coming to the conference so that you are able to answer questions.
- Turn in your signed work form to the Student Assistance desk by Monday noon, Nov. 10 to receive your refund.

### STUDENT ASSISTANTS FORM DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 1, 1997

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
School \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_

Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Day (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Night (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the areas in which you are willing to work:

- ☐ Registration ☐ Employment matching service ☐ Special events set-up  
☐ Local information ☐ Workshop registration ☐ Exhibits  
☐ Liaison for emergencies, AV set-up, door monitors (need access to a car)  
☐ No preference

Please rank your preferred **TIMES** (1 is top priority). Place an **X** by the times when you are **UNABLE** to work because of other commitments. A total of 8 hours is required; you must work a minimum of 4 hours at a time. We will attempt to place you in your preferred times, but it may be necessary to place you at other times.

Wed., Nov. 5		<input type="checkbox"/> afternoon	
Thur., Nov. 6	<input type="checkbox"/> morning	<input type="checkbox"/> afternoon	<input type="checkbox"/> evening
Fri., Nov. 7	<input type="checkbox"/> morning	<input type="checkbox"/> afternoon	<input type="checkbox"/> evening
Sat., Nov. 8	<input type="checkbox"/> morning	<input type="checkbox"/> afternoon	<input type="checkbox"/> evening
Sun., Nov. 9	<input type="checkbox"/> morning	<input type="checkbox"/> afternoon	<input type="checkbox"/> evening
Mon., Nov. 10	<input type="checkbox"/> morning	<input type="checkbox"/> afternoon	

Return the completed form by **September 1, 1997** to: Suzanne Randolph, Family Studies, Univ of Maryland, College Park, MD 22015. Phone: 301-405-4012.  
E-mail: SR22@UMAIL.UMD.EDU



## Rapoport from Page 9

invited me to participate in early 1993, his words thrilled me. I was, he stated, one of only a few people he knew who integrated peace studies and family studies in a way that consistently educated families in the ways of peace. To have my own work thus validated was indeed an honor.

As plans for the Budapest symposium evolved, we consulted on a number of occasions, identifying themes for the symposium and possible resource people. We finally met when we were both in Minneapolis, MN for the NCFR annual conference in November 1994, where Robert presented his ideas at a Round Table. A month later we were together again in Budapest, hearing from an international gathering of 30 symposium participants speak of the struggles and challenges facing families and family professionals world wide. Two books based on the work of that symposium are currently in production.

Robert was passionate in his belief that the topic "Families as Educators for Global Citizenship" has implications for family life professionals as well as for the families they serve. He believed that there is an intrinsic connection between family studies and peace studies, and in his work he urged people to understand that link.

Family Studies examines ways that members of a family live together, create and procreate, care for each other across generations, and pass on traditions from one generation to another. Peace Studies examines ways that women and men throughout the world live or fail to live gently with others, and offers possibilities for living peacefully with others on the planet. Family Life Education for Peace programs link the two, providing families as well as family life professionals the opportunity to examine issues, learn new attitudes and skills, and make choices that lead to peacemaking decisions that enhance the quality of life within the family, community, nations and world.

One way to honor Robert's memory is to support his belief that the link between Family Studies and Peace Studies has implications for all of us in our professional work. What are these implications? It was our shared belief that the following suggestions for family life professionals and peace educators and practitioners will benefit all professionals and the families we serve.

### Addressing Global Issues

Family professionals who share a commitment to families and who seek to support them in their efforts to educate their young for global citizenship face a challenge to examine their own disciplines, to discover the link between their own professional work and the work of helping parents build a safer, more secure world for their young.

Family life scholars, researchers, educators, and social service providers will all benefit by taking time to explore for themselves themes related to peace and global citizenship, including cultural, racial and class issues; political, economic, and social justice issues; environmental issues; and the development of a world of peace without armed conflict.

Through such exploration, study and reflection family life professionals can inform themselves of significant

community, national and global justice issues; then, as they engage in providing direct service to families in need they will be better prepared to make the link between their own work and the work of helping parents build a safer, more secure world for their young.

### Addressing Professional Issues

Another way for professionals to address the link between family studies and peace studies is through participation at professional conferences. At the local, regional, national and international level professionals can work to integrate issues addressed in family life education programs with those directed toward education for peace. Working through their own organizations professionals can encourage submission of workshop topics or keynote addresses which link the concerns for peace in the families with the concerns for community and global peace.

### Addressing Scholarship and Research Issues

Scholars in Family Studies, and Peace Studies among others, can examine their academic programs to determine how well courses and degrees address themes of family life education for peace or families as educators for global citizenship. Family Studies scholars and Peace Studies scholars can collaborate on research which examines the impact of war and violence on families, on children within families, and on communities which are no longer able to support their families. Scholars can also collaborate on research which examines the impact of intergenerational and family life education for peace programs on individual families and on the communities in which they reside. There is also a need for collaborative research which addresses the link between healthy families, global peace and global citizenship.

### Addressing Publication Issues

Few family studies publications or peace studies publications publish essays which reflect the connection between families and global peace. For example, family studies journals and books which focus on family studies include few references to issues of peace and social justice or institutional violence as these impact on families, while in Peace Education and Human Development

(Lofgren 1995), none of the more than 30 essays contains a specific focus on peace education and the family. Peace literature in other disciplines and even that which crosses disciplines often fails to link family peacemaking with community, national or international peacemaking. In *Conditions of Peace: An Inquiry* (Shuman and Sweig 1991), which grew out of an eight year Exploratory Project on the Conditions of Peace at Stony Point, New York only one essay out of six addresses the issue of community peacemaking, and none addresses the family connection. Missing almost entirely from the literature is any reference to spirituality as a vital link between peacemaking for families and global citizenship.

As we can see, a commitment to family life education for peace holds a multitude of implications for family life professionals, implications that affect research, publication, participation in professional organizations and conferences, and practice. Robert

Rapoport's recognition that families, for good or for ill, ARE educators for global citizenship offers a challenge to each of us to find ways to link family studies with peace studies in a manner that will lead to a healthy future for all families who share life on this small planet we all call home.

Peace,  
Jacqueline Haessly CFLE

## Member News

**N**CFR member Gregory Brock, director of the Family Center at the University of KY, has received a Fulbright Scholarship to teach and do research in the People's Republic of China.

Brock has been a member of NCFR since 1967.

He will spend next fall and spring at Nanjing University teaching students about the values of American families and about Western professional ethics. He will do research on the modern Chinese family and study how China's changing economy is affecting marriage and divorce rates and ties with the extended family.



**Brock**

The stay abroad will allow Brock to see how his theory on the elements of the family environment applies to the Chinese family.

His wife and children will accompany him. His two college-age daughters will attend Nanjing University, and his son will attend eighth grade at an international school.

The Fulbright Program was established in 1946 by the U.S. Congress and is named for former Sen. J. William Fulbright of Arkansas who introduced legislation to form the program. The grants allow American students, teachers, and scholars to study abroad while allowing foreign counterparts to study in the U.S. Congress is the primary funding source.

**T**om Gullotta, a member of NCFR since 1978, has been appointed the editor of Plenum's new monograph series, "Prevention in Practice."

The series is intended to draw on the wealth of information in the social and medical sciences to promote emotional health and reduce illness. The series is intended to advance the knowledge into daily practice.

Proposals are sought in the area of family wellness. Contact Gullotta at Child and Family Agency, 255 Hempstead St., New London, CT 06320; telephone 860-443-2896; tpgullotta@aol.com.

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**F**our Penn State researchers, including two NCFR members, have been awarded a William T. Grant Foundation grant of \$253,318 to explore relations among testosterone, cortisol, children's family relations and behavioral development.

NCFR member **Dr. Alan Booth**, principal investigator for the study, noted that "testosterone and cortisol are two hormones which hold promise to shed light on linkages between biology, behavior, and environments within the context of the family. The goal of our work is to examine how family relationships and experiences affect the way that biological factors manifest themselves."

Booth's colleagues include NCFR member **Dr. Ann C. Crouter**, and Dr. Susan M. McHale and Dr. Douglas A. Granger.

The study involves 400 families and in-home and telephone interviews of fathers, mothers, pre-pubescent and adolescent children separately.

Hormone data will be obtained from saliva samples collected from all four family members on six occasions. The analysis will be done by Penn State's Behavioral Endocrinology Laboratory.

**OSU**

**Department Head  
Family Relations and Child Development  
College of Human Environmental Sciences  
Oklahoma State University**

**Position/Duties:** Applications invited for Dept. Head, Family Relations and Child Development. Responsibilities include faculty recruitment and evaluation; fiscal management, encouraging/supporting scholarship in teaching, research, and outreach.

**Qualifications:** Earned doctorate required. Candidate must qualify as a tenured professor in the Department. Must have distinguished record in teaching, research, and/or extension with demonstrated administrative ability.

Review of applications begins no later than July 15, 1997. Applications should include a comprehensive letter expressing interest and describing qualifications, a curriculum vitae and names, addresses and phone numbers of references. Send to:

Dr. Lynda Harriman, Chair, Search and Screening Committee, Oklahoma State University, College of Human Environmental Sciences, Stillwater, OK 74078-6112  
405-744-5053; 405-744-7113 (fax);  
e-mail: jlloch@okway.okstate.edu

AA/EEO



# Section News



## Outstanding Sessions on Deck for Conference



**F**ive collaborative teams are engaged in a variety of activities to further the work of the **Education and Enrichment Section**.

Carol Rubino is leading a very active group of members preparing for the 1997 pre-conference workshop (see related article on this page). Plan now to participate in this all-day event scheduled for Thursday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. In the morning, participants can choose a workshop on Parent Involvement with Schools or a second workshop on Grandparents Raising Grandchildren. We will have lunch with representatives from the National Parenting Education Network (NPEN) to learn more about their vision and have an opportunity for informal discussions.

In the afternoon, participants will continue with Parent Involvement with Schools or move to a Family Enrichment workshop. Sign up early for these interactive workshops; space is limited.

Planning for the 1998 pre-conference workshop is already underway. The 1998 committee members will bring their recommendations to the Education and Enrichment Section business meeting in November.

Another group led by Don Bower is studying the results of the survey on use of royalty funds conducted at the 1996 section business meeting. The top three choices were:

1. Support for a special session at NCFR
2. Award for outstanding materials (might enhance the CFLE Teacher's Kit)
3. Award for an outstanding Family Life education program

At the business meeting, we asked the Royalty Committee to identify an initiate a special project using \$1000 from our funds. It will be exciting to learn about their endeavors in November.

Howard Barnes, chair-elect, and I have very welcome news about the Education and Enrichment sessions at the 1997 NCFR annual conference. Our Section received 115 proposals, the largest number in recent history. In addition to six intriguing paper sessions, we will sponsor two workshops, two didactic seminars, a symposium, and four round table discussions. These will cover a variety of topics from marital enrichment to parenting to instructional technologies. Posters and teaching round tables will offer even more choices. Look for further information in our early fall newsletter.

The Education and Enrichment Section sponsors eight Focus Groups: 1) CFLE, 2) Families and Grief, 3) Marriage and Family Enrichment, 4) Mid-life Families, 5) Parent Education, 6) Peace, 7) Sexuality, and 8) Single Parent Families. **We need students to**

**serve as Official Reporters for each Focus Group.** Please contact me if you are interested (smartin@scs.unr.edu or 702-784-6490). Also, if you were at the Single Parent Families Focus Group last fall, please get in touch.

Finally, President Pauline Boss has appointed a committee to work with the National Parenting Education Network. The members are Judy Myers-Walls, Marty Rossman, Wally Goddard, and Irene Lee. As chair of the committee, I will work closely with the NCFR Board of Directors and staff, as well as members of PEN, to facilitate a meaningful dialogue and investigate possible collaborative efforts.

I welcome communication with members. Please get in touch with me if you have ideas, concerns, or suggestions for the Education and Enrichment Section.  
**Sally Martin, Ph.D., CFLE**  
Chair



**T**he **Ethnic Minorities Section** has an exciting program to present at the 1997 annual

### Stay in Contact With Colleagues



### The Updated Roster of 1996 Conference Attendees is now Available.

On-site registrants included. Names, addresses, phone, e-mail, employer, and NCFR Section membership of attendees.

**Cost: \$4.00** (includes postage and handling)

Credit card orders available by phone or fax.

NCFR, 3989 Central Ave. NE, Suite 550, Minneapolis, MN 55421.  
Toll Free: 888-781-9331  
Phone: 612-781-9331  
Fax: 612-781-9348

conference in November. We should be proud of our progress, accomplishments, and contributions to NCFR.

Ten years ago (1987) there were 15 proposals submitted by our Section. Earlier this year we received 39 proposals, and 33 proposals were accepted at the Program Committee meeting held during the NCFR Spring Board meeting. The small rejection rate is a reflection of the outstanding quality of the proposals. I am most appreciative to the 45 Section members who served as ad hoc Reviewers of the proposals. A special thanks to the Section Executive Board members, Francisco Villarruel and Farrell Webb, for their continued patience and assistance during the proposal reviewing process.

A two-part series symposium is being sponsored by the Section, focusing on "Parenting that Promotes Resilient Rural African American Families" (Part I) and "Parenting that Promotes Resilient Urban African American Families" (Part II).

"Familial Experiences and Perceptions of Parenting: Community and Neighborhood Contexts" will be

emphasized in one of the paper sessions, and the other paper session will highlight "Responsible Fathering and Mothering in High Risk Environments." The Section's Round Table is entitled "Child Related Stress: Similarities and Differences Between Mothers of Children with Disabilities." In addition, there will be numerous poster sessions and several teaching round tables. An added feature of the poster sessions this year for the Section is a **Poster Symposium**, in which four papers will be displayed together examining "Contemporary Stress of Pacific and Asian American Families."

Come and be a part of this great conference on "Fatherhood and Motherhood in a Diverse and Changing World."

Finally, I am proud to announce that the Section received approval from the NCFR Board to offer **The John McAdoo Dissertation Award**. The fundraising campaign for this award will begin during the 1997 conference. Also, a special thanks to Reid Luhman for developing and managing the Ethnic

**See Sections on Page 14**

### HAVE YOU WRITTEN A NEW BOOK? DON'T BE SHY - SHARE IT WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES

#### Take Advantage of the NCFR Annual Conference Exhibits to Market Your Book!

Conference attendees are professionals who are always looking for new materials. "The exhibits are one of the major reasons I attend the NCFR conference," say many attendees. Why not have a copy of your book included in the exhibit? It's a great marketing venue.

Contact your publisher and request to have your book displayed at NCFR - or encourage him/her to reserve an exhibit booth. Return this form to the NCFR office by **September 1, 1997**, and NCFR will send exhibit information to your publisher representative.

Book Title \_\_\_\_\_

Author(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Publication \_\_\_\_\_

Publisher \_\_\_\_\_

Representative to Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Have you already spoken to your Rep? ☐ yes ☐ no

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_

Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

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**Mail or Fax this form to NCFR Annual Conference by September 1, 1997,** 3989 Central Ave. NE, Suite #550, Minneapolis, MN 55421. Phone: 612-781-9331, Ext. 15 • Toll Free: 888-781-9331 • Fax: 612-781-9348

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## Sections from Page 13

Minorities Section Listserv. If you are a member and have not received messages from this listserv and would like to subscribe, please send Reid a note at antluhm@acs.eky.edu.

**Velma McBride Murry, Section Chair**  
Dept. of Child & Family Development/  
Institute of Behavioral Research  
The Univ. of Georgia  
Athens, GA 30602  
706-542-4855 or 542-4792  
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**W**e were fortunate to have the annual Spring Board of Directors meeting in the Hyatt Crystal City Hotel, Washington, D.C., site of the November conference. This allowed us to preview the arrangements and, of course, to see the spring blossoms around the Potomac. I hope many of you will be there in November, and that you will be pleased with the program and the setting. The hotel is located 3 short blocks from the Metro with easy access to all of the attractions of Washington, most notably the new FDR Memorial which unfortunately opened the week after the Board meeting.

I was pleased to represent the **Family and Health Section** in our program deliberations and in the Board decisions which might have some impact on our Section as well as decisions concerned with general governance and future directions of the organization. We had a packed agenda for the business meetings and very productive Program Planning meetings which resulted in a program that looks outstanding, and that we believe will do justice to the theme developed by Ralph LaRossa, program vice-president.

The Family and Health program will be highlighted by a Special Session co-sponsored with the Family Therapy Section to be presented by Dr. Stuart Hauser, director of the Judge Baker Children's Center, Harvard University. We are especially pleased to sponsor Dr. Hauser this year because of the importance of his longitudinal studies of mentally ill adolescents as they relate to the conference theme of fatherhood and motherhood. The remainder of the program also looks very good with 4 symposia, all with discussants, 3 roundtables and papers as posters. In all, 49 quality proposals were reviewed. Thanks to all 17 of you who did such an excellent job in reviewing the proposals. I was very grateful for the professionalism of the reviews which helped enormously in making the difficult decisions that needed to be done to insure a varied and quality program supporting the very best of the proposals. Our Section had more international submissions this year than in previous years, a trend noted in all the sections, emphasizing the growing interest of our international colleagues in expanding the reach of NCFR.

We have a partial solution to our newsletter problem. For the issue following the conference, we are developing a format that reports on conference highlights for our Section and reviews Section-sponsored sessions and

events. It is our hope that use of such a format for one issue a year will help those who are not able to attend and will provide an ongoing record of scientific sessions in the Section. Thanks to Marsha Heims of OR Health Sciences University for taking the leadership in this work. Please contact Marsha (HEIMSM@OHSU.EDU) if you would like to provide a review of one of the paper sessions.

I would also like to thank all the Section officers who represent you for the time they spend on management issues. We meet regularly by teleconference to keep up the work of the section.

I hope all of you will have a good summer and look forward to seeing you in Washington, D.C. in the fall.  
**Patricia S. Tomlinson**  
Chair



**W**e are looking forward to the annual conference in Crystal City, VA in November. The **Family Therapy Section** will have four paper sessions which will be on the following topics: Parenting Concerns in Family Therapy, Sexual Orientation Issues in Family Therapy, Working with Children in Family Therapy, and Research in Family Therapy. Each session will have three papers plus a moderator, discussant, and recorder.

In addition to these sessions, we have three roundtables (two of which are teaching roundtables) and seventeen poster slots. We are also co-sponsoring in special session with the Family and Health section featuring Dr. Stuart Hauser, professor of Psychiatry at Harvard University, who has conducted a longitudinal study of early and mid-adult outcomes for a clinical sample of adolescents and their families.

Special thanks to all the reviewers who gave thoughtful and timely responses regarding proposals submitted and to Melissa Morse who coordinated the review process. The members of the Student Submission Committee were very diligent in their reviews. Members of the committee were Thomas Blume, Oakland Univ.; Kathleen Briggs, OK State Univ.; Thom Curtis, Univ. of HI; James Harper, Brigham Young Univ.; Betsy Lindsey, Univ. of NC-Greensboro; Ellie Macklin, Syracuse Univ.; Sandra Stith, VA Tech; and Volker Thomas, Purdue Univ.

This year's award recipients are Gaye Stone, University of TN, for the paper, "Preliminary Development of a Covert Conflict Observational Rating Scale," and Maryann S. Walsh, VA Tech, "Parents of Adolescents Experience in Family Therapy." Both of these outstanding students will be awarded \$250 at this year's annual business meeting.

Good news on the business meeting! We are scheduled to meet on Saturday from 6:45 to 8 p.m. We were previously scheduled in a later slot. This move means that you will still have time for dinner with Section members and friends.

See you at the conference!

**Karen H. Rosen**  
Section Vice president  
VA Tech, Northern Virginia Center  
7054 Haycock Road  
Falls Church, VA 22042  
703-538-8461  
krosen@vt.edu



**I** have just returned from the annual Board of Directors meeting where we finalized the program for November. The **Feminism and Family Studies Section** has a truly excellent array of symposia, papers sessions, round tables and posters. As those of you who reviewed proposals are already aware, the submissions were up both to the conference overall and to our section. We experienced a 50 percent increase from last year. Because the conference has not been lengthened, and we are trying to decrease the number of overlapping presentations, you will see a somewhat higher rejection rate this year than in past years. While this, unfortunately, means some very good proposals were not included in the program, you can be assured that the papers, symposia, posters, and roundtables that were accepted are truly top-notch.

In addition to a host of good papers, posters, and roundtables, there are two special events I want your to make note of. First, Dr. Charlotte Patterson from the University of VA will be conducting one of the Research Updates for Practitioners on Gay and Lesbian Parents. The session will be Saturday afternoon and will be co-sponsored by the our Section.

Second, we will be honoring Dr. Linda Thompson with a reception following the business meeting. As many of you know Linda was a real catalyst in the founding of the Feminism and Family Studies section of NCFR and has truly been a leader in integrating feminist thought and scholarship into the discipline. Linda is retiring this spring from her full-professor position at the University of WI. While we will all miss her presence, her influence on our work will be ongoing. We want to take an opportunity at the conference to thank her for her dedication and wisdom and to celebrate with here as she moves on into other ventures in her life.

As you make your plans for the conference let me strongly encourage you to make arrangements to stay through the end of the conference on Monday afternoon (3:15 to be exact). As the luck of the assignments went, many of our presentations and posters are on Sunday and Monday. Also the business meeting and reception for Linda is Sunday night . . . . So, plan to stay through the duration.

Good news also on the awards front. The submissions for the Jessie Bernard Paper and Proposals Awards are up again this year. Beth Norrell reports that we have 14 papers and 9 proposal submissions as of one week before the deadline. So once again she is assembling two separate committees for the paper and proposal awards. Our thanks to Beth for all her hard work in coordinating the awards for the last two years and dramatically increasing the submission rate.

Let me call your attention to one piece of association business which is of interest to us all. A task force from the Family Science Section spent an enormous amount of time and energy in drafting a set of Ethical Principals and Guidelines for Family Science Professionals. Before the NCFR Board of Directors votes on whether to adopt these guidelines as governing principles for professionals in the field, we want feedback and input from as broad a spectrum of the membership as possible. The proposed draft of the Ethical Principles and Guidelines will be published in the September NCFR Report. Please read it carefully and come to the business meeting prepared to discuss and provide feedback. This is a very important endeavor for the profession as a whole.

Finally as my tenure as Section Chair is drawing to a close let me say how grateful I am to all of you for your support and commitment to the Section. The number of e-mails I get from people volunteering is truly amazing. In my two years in this position I have not had one person say no to any request I have made--that is unbelievable. Thanks for making this a very easy and rewarding job.

Have a great summer and see you in November.

**Leigh Leslie**  
Chair

## Fellowship Status Applications Due September 1

**A**pplications for NCFR Fellowship Status are due at headquarters by **September 1**. The criteria are listed below.

Fellowship Status is an honor awarded to relatively few members of NCFR who have made outstanding contributions to the family field in the areas of scholarship, teaching, application, or professional service. By definition, outstanding contributions occur infrequently. No more than one percent of the number of members in NCFR will be awarded Fellowship Status in any one year.

The program is open only to NCFR members. Here are the eligibility requirements:

1. Must be nominated by another NCFR member.
2. Hold the terminal degree typical of their field of expertise.
3. Have at least five years of professional experience after the receipt of the terminal degree.
4. Be a member of NCFR for at least five continuous years at the time of application.
5. Have made an outstanding contribution to the field.

Persons seeking Fellowship Status may submit the following information to NCFR, 3989 Central Ave. NE, Suite 550, Minneapolis, MN 55421 by September 1:

### Questions on Criteria

Do you meet the first **FOUR** eligibility requirements?

See Fellowship on Page 15



LOUISIANA

# Tools, Techniques Featured in Workshop

**“Practice Makes Perfect: Family Life Education Skills-Based Interactive Workshops for Practitioners,”** is the theme of a pre-conference program on Thursday, November 6 from 8:15 a.m. to 5 p.m. The event is sponsored by NCFR’s Education and Enrichment Section.

The program is designed for professionals seeking hands on tools and techniques to help them work with parents and other caregivers and is a direct result of requests from former conference attendees.

Carol Rubino, MS, CFLE, CHES, family life education consultant and president of Rubino Associates, will deliver the keynote address from 8:15 to 8:45 a.m. She will highlight the seven Cs to successful programming to help parents, schools, and communities to work in collaboration with each other.

Registration is \$40, and attendees may choose between two tracks. All attendees will attend a presentation and small group discussions on the National Parent Education Network by Dana Murphy, Ph.D. CFLE, Harriet Heath, Ph.D., and Glen Palm, Ph.D., during a brown bag lunch from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Here are the two tracks:

**Track 1--Empowering Parent Involvement with Schools--9 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

**Objective:** To provide participants with training activities and materials used in helping to strengthen and empower parents to become more involved with schools and their child’s education and, in particular, with family life education. Attendees will have the opportunity to experience practical activities and techniques they can apply in any setting. Lesson plans for each activity will be provided, and participants will learn and practice facilitation skills, team building, problem solving, cooperative planning, consensus, visioning, goal-setting, and building self-esteem.

**Leaders:** Carol Rubino MS, CFLE, CHES; and Janet Shephard CFLE, training coordinator of Parenting Partnerships Center, MO Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

**Track 2--Second Time Around: Grandparents Raising Grandchildren--9 to 11:30 a.m.**

**Objective:** To familiarize participants with the collaborative process used to develop an interdisciplinary curriculum for custodial grandparents and share in an interactive examination of an eight-chapter curriculum for grandparent support groups. This is an interactive curriculum guide for group leaders who intend to provide educational experiences that will enable grandparents to enhance family life.

**Leaders:** Linda Dannison Ph.D. CFLE; Charles Dannison Ph.D., JD, CFLE; Andrea Smith Ph.D.; Tammi Vachassee Ph.D, Western MI University; and

Anne Nieuwenhuis MA, MI State University.

**Track 2--Family Enrichment Workshop--1 to 5 p.m.**

**Objective:** To introduce participants to a workshop developed to enable families to evaluate their own behaviors and familial relationships, and to teach tools which help families to maintain balance and increase commitment to each other. The workshop will assist participants to develop and implement programming for youth and family through interactive workshops.

**Leaders:** Vickie Nelson, family life educator; Ron Mervis LCSW; and John LaCognata MS, Department of Human Services, UT.

For more information, contact Carol Rubino at 518-792-8425 (phone or FAX) or e-mail: rubino@sage.edu.

## Fellowship from Page 14

**If you do not meet the second criterion, why do you think it should be waived?**

**Which NCFR Section best represents your area of interest?** Choose only one: Family Therapy, Education and Enrichment, Family Policy, Research and Theory, International, Ethnic Minorities, Family and Health, Religion and Family Life, Family Science, Feminism and Family Studies. *You need not be a member of the Section.*

**Provide the names and addresses of three individuals who have agreed to endorse your application. At least two must be current NCFR members.**

**On one double-spaced page,** indicate how your work has made a significant contribution to the field. Relevant areas include, but are not limited to: scholarship; education; development of curricula, programs, interventions, or social policy; and service to NCFR.

**Send a current curriculum vitae.** Make sure that your vitae includes the highest graduate or professional degree you have earned, the institution awarding the degree, and the date it was awarded.

**Submit your signature** with the information, indicating that you wish to be considered for Fellowship Status and attest to the truth of the submitted materials. Date your application.

Forms for references are available from NCFR headquarters.

The LA Council on Family Relations held its spring meeting February 21 at the University of Southwestern LA Student Union. The theme was “Louisiana Speaks to Families.”

Ken Millar, Ph.D., dean of the LSU School of Social Work, delivered the keynote address on “Welfare Reform and Its Impact on LA Families.” He has been a national leader in promoting university-public child welfare partnerships and has received several awards for community service.

Sarah Brabant, Ph.D., last year’s recipient of the Distinguished Service to Families Award, addressed the assembly on the changing family forms in society today entitled, “The Family: Just What Are We Talking About?”

The focus of the meeting was directed to policies and innovative programs that are building healthy families in the state. A panel presentation, “Services to Families,” featured Jacob Aranza, Aranza Outreach, a community support program for youth; Pam Keefer, Covington Family Service Center, with experience in the Head Start program; and Velma Butler, Ph.D., author of *Every Touch Counts*, an education program for new parents and creator of the North East State University’s Family Resource Center.

Participants gained current information and insight about successful programs. Following a luncheon, Marlene Suhrhoff spoke on domestic violence and its effect on families, and Rene Dominique commented on “Special Approaches” to support families.

ILLINOIS

The IL Council on Family Relations held its 1997 annual conference April 17 and 18 in the beautiful springtime surroundings of Robert Allerton Park near Monticello.

This year’s theme was “Families and Service Providers: Partners for the Journey!” Family life educators, service providers, university faculty, and students shared their expertise and talents in a variety of ways, including the topic areas of children, adolescents, family life, older adults, and education.

Participants reported that conference highlights were the variety of sessions offered, quality speakers, friendly atmosphere, and enjoyable entertainment.

The 1997-98 officers are Dr. Jeanne Synder, Northern IL University, president; Dr. Larry McCallum, Augustana College, president-elect; Nancy Gartner, University of IL Cooperative Extension, past president; Dr. Laura Smart, Northern IL University, recorder; and Dr. Carol Armstrong, Eastern IL University, treasurer.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

A new name and new logo mark the BC Council for Families’ 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary year.



The name change (from BC Council for the Family), reflects the organization’s concern with the relationships within the family, not definitions of what constitutes a family. The new name identifies that the Council works for all families in the province.

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### Special Issue on “The Family as a Context for Health & Well-being”

The Editor of *Family Relations*, Jeffrey W. Dwyer, and Guest Editors, Elizabeth A. Vandewater and Toni C. Antonucci, have initiated a Call for Papers for a special issue to be published in October 1998. Submissions that focus on family structure or social support/social networks as they influence the well-being of family members are encouraged. Manuscripts must be submitted for review by October 1, 1997.

If you are interested in contributing to this special issue of *FR*, please send a brief letter of intent, a short description of your proposed manuscript, and a tentative title for the paper. If you will be co-authoring a submission, please provide the names and affiliations of your co-authors, as well as the order of authorship.

The editorial staff is committed to working with authors at all stages of the process. If you would like more information, you may send your request through e-mail (fr@iog.wayne.edu) or direct your inquiry to:

Jeffrey W. Dwyer, Ph.D., Editor  
*Family Relations*  
Re: Oct ‘98 Special Issue  
WSU Institute of Gerontology  
226 Knapp Building  
87 East Ferry Street  
Detroit MI 48202

(313) 873-5032 phone; (313) 871-9383 fax

Visit the *Family Relations* homepage:  
<http://www.iog.wayne.edu/FR>

## Affiliate Connection

### Award from Page 16

stepfamilies and how to assist them," and that they "have taken an interdisciplinary approach to the study of stepfamil(ies)..."

One professor wrote, "I know that I regularly use their work as a foundation for my research; when the Vishers write an article or a new book...I acquire it as quickly as I can because I know that I will gain new insights from reading it."

The Vishers' contributions extend beyond their writings. One nominator noted that "they have taken their message to public policy makers. For example, they served as consultants to the American Bar Association regarding recommended changes in the legal system to accommodate stepfamilies. They spearheaded the effort that resulted in recognition of stepfamilies through the celebration of Stepparents' Day each October in California."

Communication has been an overarching part of the Vishers' careers. "They have been committed to facilitating networking to encourage and facilitate communication between practitioners and researchers in this area," a nominator wrote. "They look to research in inform practice and have been strong supports of the connection between these two, often separated groups of professionals. Their combined energy, enthusiasm, and unfailing commitment to making the

world respectful of and knowledgeable about stepfamilies is contagious."

They have also been credited with observing and documenting change within American families. One nominator noted, "We all know that families change with the pressures put on them, and that pressures today are far different than the pressures of two or three decades ago. We know that the changes proceed every moment. The Vishers have been right in there monitoring the change and helping people adapt to it."

Nominators also noted that the Vishers have defined "the stepfamily enterprise in the U.S....both are tireless in their efforts to education professionals and the general public about stepfamilies. Their efforts to remove the stigma so long attached to divorce and remarriage has been crucial to depathologizing stepfamilies and focusing on positive functioning and normal stepfamily process."

One nomination letter noted that the Vishers "have supported, encouraged, cajoled, and been cheerleaders for anyone showing interest in stepfamilies. Without their exceptional leadership and service, stepfamilies would continue to be understudied, pathologized, and ignored. There is no one alive today who has defined a field within family studies to the

extent that John and Emily Visser have defined the field of stepfamily study. They have become legends in their own time, and they are truly deserving of the Distinguished Service to Families Award."

### Caring for Those Who Care About Families

(Editor's note: This is the first in a new series, "Association of Councils--Caring for Those Who Care About Families," featuring people who work with, and on behalf of, families. AC President-elect James Ponzetti is collecting information for the articles. Please contact him at Western IL University, Dept. of Psychology, 156 Waggoner Hall, Macomb, IL 61455-1396; 309-298-1040; James\_Ponzetti@ccmail.wiu.edu)

Vickie Nelson, B.S., is a graduate of Brigham Young University with a major in psychology, and a minor in family science. She began teaching family life education and enrichment as a volunteer, at the Springville, UT, Youth Corrections, Observation and Assessment Center for the state of UT in 1995.

Along with the director of the Center, Vickie developed and implemented Family Enrichment Workshops (FEW) for incarcerated youth and their families. From her experience in working with at-risk youth, she has put together a Family Life Education and Enrichment Manual, a tool for teachers, family life educators, and families, along with conducting workshops to serve her community.

Vickie, a member of NCFR since 1995, also is an instructor for the Risk Alternative Program funded by Utah County, where she utilizes her materials and FEW training skills. Currently she continues to teach at the Observation and Assessment Center and volunteers as a family life education teacher for the Youth Detention Center in Provo, UT. Her program has been implemented in other youth correction facilities in Utah.

She notes that "the biggest challenge for this program is marketing and reaching families who desire to enhance or develop new tools to be used in relationships. The success of this program is the simple behavior changes which occur because of the new tools taught to youth and families. Change begins with one family member, and the FEW has assisted families to learn tools together which increases commitment, kindness, and trust in relationships."

### Marketing from Page 20:

*Your Members!*, B.A.I., Inc., Ellicott City, MD, 1995.

Sirkin, Arlene Farber and Michael P. McDermott, *Keeping Members CEO Strategies for 21st Century Success: The Myths & Realities*, Foundation of the American Society of Association Executives, Washington, DC, 1995.

## Taking the Conference Home

### 1996 Sessions

Here are three more synopses of 1996 NCFR annual conference sessions. Please contact NCFR toll free at 888-781-9331 for information on ordering the audio or video tapes.

**"The Missing Middle: Working Parents in U.S. Democracy and Social Policy"** by Theda Skocpol; plenary session, audio and video tape.

Social policies affecting families are at the heart of political controversies. Skocpol said that the top 1/5 of the population is educated and makes enough money to make ends met. The poorest 1/3 to 1/4 of U.S. families are poor, but have public policies and programs for assistance. The missing middle are those persons who, in the economic sense, need help; they are the ones whose wages are going down, and few policies exist to help them. If this continues, the bottom 80 percent of the people will be in or close to poverty, and there will be a split between educated and non-educated. The tape offers a history of American public policy, changes, lost opportunities, and speculation for the future.

**"Welfare Reform, Poverty, and Children,"** by Ann Collins; audio and video tape.

This frank discussion by Ann Collins covers many aspects of welfare reform. Highlights include: new federalism--pushing decisions down from the federal level to states and communities. Welfare reform brings a broader change than did the cash assistance programs of the past. Welfare reform is going to affect many families who are working and may or may not be receiving cash assistance. Concerns about welfare reform include an emphasis on adult behavior and little focus on the impact on children and children's services. Research has found that welfare-to-work programs sometimes increase parental earnings, but have little effect on overall family income.

**"The Future of Family Impact Analysis: International Perspectives,"** by Theodora Ooms, Karen Bogenschneider and others; audio tape.

Karen Bogenschneider reminds the audience that Goethe once said that knowing is not enough, we must apply. Willing is not enough, we must do. With this, the presenters discuss family impact analysis--what we have learned, what impact it has had on government decisions regarding the social and family environment, and implications for our work in the future. Facts, issues, and concerns are involved in this thoughtful discussion.

Anne M. Stanberry Ph.D., CFLE

## Families in Focus Series

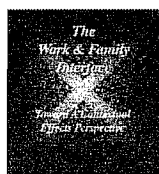
Extracts vital research from *Journal of Marriage and the Family* and *Family Relations*.

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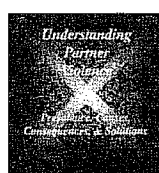
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Sandra M. Stith and Murray A. Straus, Editors  
Jay A. Mancini, Senior Editor

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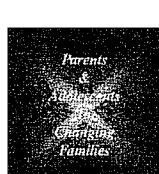
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### Parents & Adolescents in Changing Families Volume 3

David H. Demo and Anne-Marie Ambert, Editors  
Jay A. Mancini, Senior Editor

This volume addresses matters of vital importance to families; to family professionals who work in the areas of teaching, research, intervention, and policy; and to those interested in adolescents. It draws on research and theoretical thinking of the authors of 23 select articles to create a valuable resource and an exciting text. The authors examine the intersection of adolescent development and the family system. Tables, charts, and detailed reference lists. 280 pages. ISBN: 0-916174-51-4.

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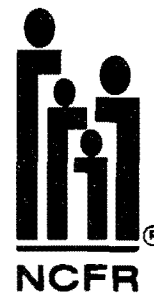
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REP 697

# Affiliate Connection



June 1997

Volume 5, No. 2

## From the President

### Communication is a Challenge

As we begin the summer, let us anticipate the fall. September and October bring cool weather and the NCFR conference!

Washington, DC will be lovely in the fall, but those of us who have been to NCFR conferences know that the conference has so much to offer that we will have a difficult time "conferencing" and sight seeing.



Stanberry

Although the Association of Councils is sponsoring a number of interesting and exciting presentations at the conference, now I want to discuss only one session that we are co-sponsoring with the Student/New Professionals.

"Successfully Establishing and Maintaining a NCFR Student Affiliate," was put together by James Lambert. This fine symposium will cover the different ways Student Affiliates can be organized and managed. As university units receive CFLE Program Accreditation, we will have many students who are at the "teachable moment" to begin participation in NCFR at the affiliate level. What a wonderful opportunity this is for state/regional/provincial affiliates and NCFR!

We have the chance to build dedicated membership by giving to students at the local levels. A positive, professional, active experience at the undergraduate/graduate level has the potential to make the difference in students' personal and professional lives. This is "grassroots" building of the organization.

My students have listened to NCFR tapes, read NCFR journal articles, and heard about the CFLE program. They are "ready" to get more involved in NCFR at the local level. Affiliates and university faculty may want to make a special effort to come to the symposium to hear about the options and steps in beginning an affiliate group.

Another piece of AC business is really a fun idea. Last year at the Leadership Training session, the AC Presidents agreed to have a silent auction at the annual conference. Kathy Gilbert has volunteered to coordinate the auction. Affiliates will be asked to contribute something from their council that reflects their unique character. The items will be

displayed at the AC booth in the Exhibits hall where everyone will have the opportunity to bid. The money from the event will go to the President's Fund--which helps affiliates with special projects. Begin thinking about what your affiliate can contribute!

One of the challenges facing affiliates is communication. How do we communicate with folks in our own council as well as NCFR? One solution to this dilemma is to ask NCFR Section members to be liaisons to the Association of Councils. At the last NCFR Board meeting, we were given permission to ask each Section for a liaison to AC. My vision is for NCFR members to volunteer for this. I see the Section liaisons working with Affiliate Councils to connect their Section members to the councils and the councils to the Sections.

It seems to me that local affiliates could offer opportunities for Section members to make presentations in preparation for writing an abstract for a presentation at NCFR's conference. Section members who present at NCFR could re-present at affiliate meetings. I see the interactive process building membership and interest in Sections, the AC, and NCFR. The process will begin slowly and build. If you wish to be a part of this new venture, please call me at 601-266-4679. I welcome your ideas and participation.

The NCFR Section/Association of Councils liaison is really a mentorship idea. We are expanding the possibilities of mentoring when we make connections. Jennifer Kerpelman, chair of the NCFR Membership Committee's Task Force on Mentoring, has asked me to connect a mentee with a member of AC. Ann Smith from Ohio is in the process of doing this. Isn't this what NCFR is all about?

The purpose of NCFR, according to the by-laws, is, in part, to provide opportunities for individuals, organized groups, and agencies interested in family life to plan and act together on concerns relevant to all forms of marriage and family relationships, promote and coordinate efforts in education and therapy, and disseminate information. The forming of new student affiliates, Section/AC liaisons, and mentoring connections are three ways we are working to fulfill NCFR's purpose. Won't you join me in participating in these exciting opportunities?

**Anne M. Stanberry, Ph.D., CFLE**  
Association of Councils President



Emily and John Visher

### Emily, John Visher Receive Distinguished Service to Families Award

**Emily Visher Ph.D. and John Visher M.D.**, co-founders of the Stepfamily Association of America, are the 1997 recipients of NCFR's Distinguished Service to Families Award.

The Award, sponsored by the Association of Councils, recognizes exceptional national or international leadership or service in improving the lives of families. It carries a \$1,000 cash gift and plaque which will be presented during NCFR's annual conference in Arlington, VA, in November.

The Vishers have been members of NCFR since 1982 and live in Lafayette, CA.

Nomination materials describe the them as "major influences on stepfamily clinical practice and education...their work has taught and nurtured a whole generation of family scholars and educators."

They founded the Stepfamily Association of America (incorporated in 1979) as an advocacy organization to provide education and support for parents and children in stepfamilies. They have trained hundreds of clinicians in the U.S. and abroad to develop the knowledge and skills to address the clinical issues in working with stepfamilies.

They also have written extensively on the subject of stepfamilies. Their first book, **Stepfamilies: A Guide to Working**

**with Step-Parents and Children**, was published in 1978. According to the publishing company, Brunner/Mazel, "it was the first professional treatment of this increasingly widespread phenomenon and was instrumental in training many thousands of professionals over the years...it is not exaggeration to say that this book established the concept of stepfamilies as a special type of family with its own characteristics and its own problems that required differentiated treatments adapted to the special needs of these reconstituted families."

The Vishers published three more books, **Old Loyalties, New Ties: Therapeutic Strategies With Stepfamilies**, **How to Win as a Stepfamily**, and in 1996, **Therapy with Stepfamilies**.

They also developed "Stepping Ahead," a manual used throughout the U.S. and translated into several languages. "Stepping Ahead" outlines the realities of stepfamily living and provides a series of exercises that stepfamilies and practitioners can use to negotiate the challenges of the lifestyle.

Several nomination letters noted the value of their books and scholarly articles, citing that they "...changed the way that researchers and clinicians think about

**See Award on Page 17**



## Affiliate Connection

# Association of Councils Candidates for Office

The slate of candidates for Association of Councils offices has been announced by Libby Blume, chair of the AC Nominating Committee.

Candidates for President-elect are **Lane Powell**, Alabama, and **Norma Burgess**, New York; Program Chair: **Raeann Hamon**, Pennsylvania, and **Connie Steele**, Tennessee; and Secretary-Treasurer: **Tom Bayes**, Michigan, and **Maxine Hammonds-Smith**, Texas.

Affiliate Council presidents will receive their ballots in the mail in June. According to the Association of Councils by-laws, only presidents of each council vote for Association of Councils officers.

The following biographical data includes:

- 1) Candidate's present professional position;
- 2) Candidate's immediate past professional position;
- 3) Past and present participation in NCFR activities;
- 4) Past and present related activities;
- 5) Platform.

### President-elect



Burgess



Powell

### Norma Burgess, Ph.D.

1) Associate professor and chair, Dept. of Child and Family Studies, Syracuse University, NY. 2) Assistant professor of Sociology, MS State University, and National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Memphis. 3) Board of Directors; Ethnic Minorities Section, chair, vice-chair, membership chair; member, Ethnic Minorities, Feminism and Family Studies, Research and Theory, and International Sections; Student/New Professional Representative; Publications committee, member; SE Council on Family Relations, president, former president, newsletter editor, program chair, Board of Directors. 4) Southern Sociological Society, MidSouth Sociological Association, American Sociological Association. 5) Better integration between Sections and the Affiliated Councils is important to ensure some continuity between the goals of NCFR and Sections. Streamlining and strengthening the function while enhancing the responsibilities of the Association of Councils will help ensure relationship clarity between the affiliates and NCFR. Low meeting attendance and membership, (in areas where regional/state affiliates are inactive) warrants much consideration. Representation and an activist role on the Board of Directors is critical to ensure that various points of view of the Association of Councils are represented during the spring and fall meetings and presence on the general program for affiliates.

### Lane Powell, Ph.D., CFLE

1) Professor of Human Development and Family Studies, Chair of Dept. of Family and Consumer Education, Samford University, Birmingham, AL. 2) Director, Family Life Education Programs, Crossroads Samaritan Counseling Center, Lubbock, TX. 3) NCFR conference presenter; Association of Councils presenter; International Year of the Family Summer conference participant; contributor, **Initiatives for Families: Research, Policy, Practice and Education**; AL Council on Family Relations, president and Board of Directors. 4) American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, American Association of Pastoral Care, Association of Couples for Marriage Enrichment, Sex Education and Information Council of the U.S. 5) Continuity and collaboration of leadership are necessary in order to develop long-term goals and activities. I would work closely with the current president to expedite the 1997 recommendations of the Task Force on the Affiliated Councils. I support the formation of regional councils where state councils are not viable/active, so that all NCFR members may have access to the work of colleagues and have opportunity to address issues--political and research-based--that are particular to their area. I would work to develop an officer orientation workshop for local/regional council leadership during the national conference. This would develop stronger units and identification with the Association of Councils.

### Program Chair



Hamon



Steele

### Raeann Hamon, Ph.D., CFLE

1) Associate professor, Family Studies and Gerontology; chair, Behavioral Science Dept., Messiah College, Grantham, PA. 2) Assistant professor, Family Studies and Gerontology, Messiah College. 3) Member, International and Feminism and Family Studies Sections; Secretary/treasurer, International Section; PA/DE Council on Family Relations, president. 4) Gerontological Society of America; International Network of Interpersonal Relations; Caribbean Studies Association. 5) As Program Chair, I would welcome the opportunity to plan the program of the Association of Councils for the 1998 NCFR annual conference. I would hope to solicit exciting proposals and enlist the help of many abstract reviewers. Together I would like to develop a program of interest to a large number of people, especially those involved with Affiliate Councils.

### Connie Steele, Ed.D.

1) Professor and Dept. Head, Dept. of Child and Family Studies, University of TN, Knoxville. 2) Chair, Dept. of Human Development and Family Studies, TX

Tech University, Lubbock, TX. 3) Chair, Program Chair, Religion and Family Life Section; president, past president, program chair, interim treasurer, Board of Directors, TX Council on Family Relations; Vice-president for Finance, SE Council on Family Relations; President, Past-president, vice-president, editor, program chair, Association of Councils. 4) Groves Conference, American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Society for Research in Child Development, American Educational Research Association, National Association for the Education of Young Children. 5) NCFR has a unique opportunity every year to draw on the top resources of persons who are making a difference for families. The Association of Councils takes the best of NCFR's programming and research information to the Affiliates, and the Affiliates provide feedback to NCFR as to how the study of families and work with families is being fostered and supported throughout the nation. I have been a strong voice for the significance of the Association of Councils to provide strength for NCFR's programs, publications, and other supportive activities for families. If elected as Program Chair, I'll seek to enlist a diverse offering of programs at NCFR's annual conference and to support all Affiliates in their provision of exciting programs that challenge our best efforts as we nurture healthy families.

### Secretary/Treasurer



Bayes



Hammonds-Smith

### Thomas G. Bayes, M.Div.

1) Pastor, Judson Memorial Church, Lansing, MI; Ph.D. candidate. 2) Associate pastor, First Baptist Church, Madison, WI. 3) Board of Directors, secretary, executive committee, secretary, MI Council on Family Relations. 4) Ministers' Council Executive Committee, vice-president. 5) I have a commitment to developing ongoing communication with the Affiliates through regular correspondence and e-mail about the business of the Association of Councils and working closely with the President and President-elect to develop an AC budget that supports the work of the Affiliates, President's Fund grants, and support for leadership training. I will carry out the AC Task Force recommendations as a member of the AC executive committee.

### Maxine Hammonds-Smith Ph.D.

1) Associate professor, Dept. of Human Services and Consumer Sciences, TX Southern University. 2) Educational specialist, University of TX Health Science Center, Medical School, Houston. 3) Secretary/treasurer, Education and Enrichment and Ethnic Minorities Sections; Family Life Education Review Committee, chair, member; Family Life Education Continuing Education Committee; Membership Committee; TX

Council on Family Relations, president; recipient of Outstanding Service to CFLE Award. 4) American Association for Family and Consumer Sciences, Association for Gerontology in Higher Education, Association for Gerontology and Human development in HBCUs. 5) I will do all that I can to assist in helping to make NCFR the professional organization that it can be and to support the Association of Councils in the role of Secretary/treasurer.

### PA / DE

The Board of Directors of the **PA/DE Council on Family Relations** is again in the midst of planning its annual conference. The theme is "Healthy Families: A Challenge for the Year 2000," scheduled for Saturday, September 27, on the Messiah College campus in Grantham, PA.

Dr. Pauline Boss, current NCFR president, and a professor in the Family and Social Sciences department at the University of MN, and Dr. Barbara Settles, professor in the Dept. of Individual and Family Studies, University of DE, will deliver keynote addresses.

Four awards will be offered for outstanding student poster presentations. Posters can reflect theoretical ideas, internship experiences or original research on family-related topics. Students in Delaware and Pennsylvania are encouraged to submit their work. Contact Dr. Debra Burke at dberke@messiah.edu for more information.

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Dr. Cynthia Drenovsky of Shippensburg University, is seeking candidates for the following offices: president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer. Persons interested in nominating themselves or others may contact Drenovsky at Dept. of Sociology/Anthropology, Shippensburg University, Shippensburg, PA 17257; 717-532-5646; ckdren@akr.ship.edu.

All PA/DE members are encouraged to attend NCFR's annual conference in Arlington, VA, in November. Dr. Debra Berke, P/DCFR vice-president, will coordinate a time for P/DCFR members to dine together.

**Raeann R. Hamon, Ph.D.**  
P/DCFR President  
rhamon@messiah.edu  
717-755-2511, ext. 3850

### TEXAS

New officers of the **Texas Council on Family Relations** are: Doris Stevens, president; Arminta Jacobson, president-elect; Debora Phillips, membership vice-president; Kimberly Wallet, program vice-president; Wilma Kirk-Lee, program vice-president-elect; Wayne Barnard, publication vice-president; Dorothy James, secretary; Rebecca Glover, treasurer.

Board members are Elaine Ward, Willeen Hogan, Jean Scott, Britton Wood, Sarah Anderson, and Mike Lundy.  
**Doris Stevens**

## Affiliate Connection

(The following report was accepted for filing by the NCFR Board of Directors at its recent spring meeting. Committee members were: Libby Balter Blume, chair; Edith A. Lewis, Judy I. Rommel; Kathy Collins Royce; Roger Rubin; Anne Stanberry; John Toulaitos; and James M. White.)

### Background

The Task Force on the Affiliated Councils was charged by Past-President Michael Sporakowski with studying the affiliated councils' relationship to NCFR. At the Task Force meeting in Kansas City, we reviewed the Walters and Jewson history of the first 50 years of NCFR, spoke to past and current affiliated officers and NCFR members, and reviewed data on the history and effectiveness of the NCFR rebate system and compared it to other professional association structures.

From our continued discussions over the past year by e-mail, phone, and memo, as well as from extensive research by Task Force members regarding affiliate and Association of Council history, current performance, and trends, three related areas of recommendation resulted:

1. AC governance structure and relationship to NCFR Board and Sections.
2. Membership and communication among affiliated councils.
3. Budgeting and finance for the AC, including President's Fund.

The Task Force has found the affiliated councils and the Association of Councils to be an energizing, vital, and active component of the organization. The following recommendations were formulated with the intent of strengthening the relationships among the affiliated councils and NCFR, clarifying the relationship between the Association of Councils and the Board; and developing new relationships with NCFR Sections.

### Membership Recommendations

1. The Task Force recommends the creation of 5 regional **networks** within NCFR for the purpose of increasing communication and cooperation among existing councils and areas where no affiliated council currently exists. Each region will be required to select a representative to the AC business meeting at the annual conference.

#### Rationale:

NCFR affiliate groups currently comprise 10 active local councils, 18 active state councils, and 3 active regional councils (see list below). Inactive states and U.S. territories total 22. If NCFR is to be effective both in increasing membership and also in enhancing local or state initiatives in family policy, we need to increase our active councils. In the Task Force study of other professional associations, we found no one model of affiliated chapters to be predominant. However, organizations that were most effective in utilizing their affiliates for a membership base are those that are geographically distributed.

The NW and SE Councils already exist as Regional Affiliates. Regional networks could serve as a mechanism for increasing communication and membership across existing affiliates as

well as serving those areas where no affiliate organization currently exists or is inactive. In 1995-96, several inactive states asked the Association of Councils and the NCFR staff for help in organizing an affiliate, including many geographically contiguous Eastern states and states nearby to California, a formerly large and recently inactive affiliate. By encouraging a regional structure similar **either** to NW (which serves many areas that do not have local affiliates) or SE (where many state affiliates are members of a region and still retain their own affiliates), NCFR continues to support affiliate diversity and meet local needs, but also promotes institutional growth in affiliated councils--and ultimately in NCFR.

Each region would be free to decide its own arrangement for dispersing or sharing the NCFR rebates. Since the AC is no longer dependent on the inactive state rebates for its survival, the rebates could be used to help establish a regional communication network in the areas of NCFR members where affiliates do not currently exist. A **sample** distribution of states by region follows:

#### SE Region--Council Status.

States: AL, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV.

#### NW Region--Council Status.

States: AK, ID, MT, OR, WA, Alberta and British Columbia, Canada. NEW: Northern CA, CO, ND, SD, WY (inactive).

#### SW Region--New Status.

States (all new): Southern CA, AZ, NV, NM (inactive), TX, UT (active).

#### Midstates Region--State network status.

States: IA, IL, IN, KS, MI, MN, NE, OH, OK (active). NEW: MO, AR, WI (inactive).

#### NE Region--Regional network status.

States: PA/DE (Regional Council), DC (Local Council). NEW: CT, MA, ME, MD, NH, NJ, NY, RI, VT (inactive).

2. The Task Force recommends that each affiliated council be encouraged to collect local affiliate dues, as long as the affiliate's annual income does not exceed IRS limitations on NCFR's non-profit status (\$25,000).

#### Rationale:

To be fiscally viable organizations, affiliated councils need to institute a dues structure at the local level for members who wish to provide additional support to their affiliated organization (e.g., MI, MN). The rebate system was never designed to provide sole financial support to affiliated councils. Rather, it was conceived to provide an incentive and source of revenue for the recruitment of NCFR members among their local membership. In recent years, the misperception that struggling affiliates "have failed" if they cannot survive on their rebates from national has contributed to the inactive status of 22 states. For example, Vermont, Wyoming, Alaska, and Nevada have only 7 NCFR members each as of June 1, 1996. For them to organize a state chapter with only \$35 a year was never intended. However, regional network activity might well increase NCFR membership in those states.

3. The Task Force recommends that in addition to the minimum requirement of 10 members, affiliated councils must demonstrate that 51 percent of their members are NCFR members and that each affiliate elect or appoint a membership chair (five of whom the bylaws currently require to serve on the NCFR membership committee). It is also recommended that all affiliated officers at the regional, state, or local level be NCFR members.

#### Rationale:

Affiliate members are not currently required to be NCFR members (in historic support of the local character and initiatives of the affiliated councils), therefore the membership relation between affiliates and national is unclear. Although some affiliates (e.g., NW Region) have 100 percent NCFR members, many states are loosely affiliated groups that may have more non-NCFR members than NCFR members. The rationale for retaining the affiliated status of such an entity is more historic than economic. If an affiliate desires NCFR services, a simple majority of members should be associated with NCFR. This requirement will encourage active promotion of NCFR to state-only members of "NCFR" affiliated councils. If affiliates are truly "NCFR-affiliated," officers also must be NCFR members. This breach has promoted an apparent lack of understanding and concern for the parent organization in many affiliates.

4. The Task Force recommends that a non-journal student membership category be considered by the NCFR Membership Committee.

#### Rationale:

Affiliated councils often target students and new professionals, serving as a "nursery" for new NCFR members. Students have access to library journals, a lower student fee may encourage more NCFR student memberships, especially among Student Affiliates.

### Governance Recommendations

5. The Task Force recommends that the AC Program Chair as a separate position be eliminated and the duties be assumed by the President-elect.

#### Rationale:

The Association of Councils Executive Committee of elected officers currently consists of the President, the President-elect, the Secretary/treasurer, the Program Chair, S/NP, and the Past-president. We recommend that the AC President-elect take on the duties of Program Chair since the President-elect (but not the AC Program Chair) attends the Spring Board meeting. The Task Force believes that representation on the Program Committee and thus significant AC participation in the program will be thus enhanced. In 1996, no space in the program (besides the Pre-Conference) was allocated to AC because of a lack of proposal submissions and an expressed ineffectiveness by the AC Program chair, who does not attend the very important spring meeting of the Program Committee.

The Secretary/treasurer, who is underutilized during the year, would assume the function of editor of the newsletter (Affiliated Connection), formerly the task of the President-elect. In

addition to revising the AC By-laws accordingly, the AC Executive Committee would write a detailed Executive Officer handbook of responsibilities.

6. The Task Force strongly recommends that each NCFR Section select a representative to the Association of Councils who is an already active Section member.

#### Rationale:

Currently, the AC's relationship to NCFR Sections is unclear, especially in the context of joint planning efforts on the Program Committee. The proposed AC Rep in each NCFR Section would serve as a liaison between the sections and the Association of Councils by attending both the Section business meeting and the AC business meeting at the annual conference. The lack of communication between affiliates and the national organization is a major concern; this recommendation addresses a solution to enhancing mutual interests, planning, and organizational investment.

7. The Task Force recommends that the AC President and President-elect be elected by the NCFR membership at-large--with the continued requirement that the nominee have served previously or concurrently as president of an affiliated council.

#### Rationale:

Both the AC President and President-elect have seats on the NCFR Board of Directors. Unless the overall size of the Board is reduced upon recommendation of the Strategic Planning Committee, it is recommended that both NCFR Board members be retained and that the AC President also serve on the NCFR Executive Committee. Similar to S/NP, the AC is an at-large organization. It is strongly felt by the Task Force that the AC needs to have continuity on the Board of Directors and a vote on the NCFR Executive Committee, particularly if Recommendation #1 above is adopted.

Election of the NCFR Board representatives by the NCFR members in the spring election would eliminate a previously expressed concern that a member of the NCFR Executive Committee is not elected at-large. It will also serve to strengthen the AC's visibility and accessibility to the broader NCFR membership while retaining the AC President's required past experience as a affiliate president. Note that the AC Past-President should continue to chair the AC nominating committee which, in turn, should continue to select eligible nominees.

8. The Task Force recommends that all NCFR literature and policy statements and all board members and NCFR staff refer to the organization representing the affiliated councils as the Association of Councils, as currently stated in the bylaws.

#### Rationale:

The Association of Councils (AC) has been referred to as the AC, the AOC, the Affiliated Councils, the Associated Councils, and (historically) the State Conferences. The Association of Councils

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## Affiliate Connection

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is unique among comparable professional organizations in providing a governance structure—in addition to the NCFR Board—for group coordination of the affiliated councils. This organization is reflective of not only the relative independence of councils from the NCFR Board (e.g., Military Families Council and BC Council for the Family have joint sponsorship with government) but also the philosophical values in accepting and supporting diversity. However, consistency in name undeniably will lessen the confusion of a two-tiered structure.

#### Budget Recommendations

9. *The Task Force recommends that the \$5.00 rebate for its NCFR members be allocated to the affiliate of the NCFR member. If a student is a member of a student affiliate, the student Council should receive the rebate, either directly from NCFR or passed on by the state or region.*

#### Rationale:

Affiliated Councils need the \$5.00 rebate to continue or be increased in the future. In states where student affiliates exist, the state affiliates should not use the rebates for members of an active student Council. Student Affiliates are the fastest growing (up 29 percent) type of council in the past year and to date have not had a mechanism for financial support from NCFR. The assumption that the sponsoring department or university support would be sufficient for NCFR-related activities has not been the typical case. This proposed change would encourage student affiliates to campaign for more NCFR student members among their ranks and promote NCFR activities, publications, and conferences.

10. *The Task Force recommends that an annual affiliate orientation session be held at the NCFR fall conference budgeted by the Association of Councils.*

#### Rationale:

Affiliated Councils should continue to pay a \$40.00 annual fee for NCFR services, including membership materials, mailings, newsletters, linked web pages, list servs, and consultation. In years when the AC has offered officer training, the feedback from affiliated councils has been positive, and NCFR staff report greater understanding of its services and reporting requirements. More sense of connection and shared responsibility between NCFR and its affiliated councils will enhance mutual membership. Other professional associations with affiliated chapters routinely offer local officer leadership training, supported by the national organization (AAFCS, AAMFT, APA, NASW).

11. *The Task Force recommends that the President's Fund (a restricted account to support affiliated council projects that are submitted to the AC Executive Board as competitive proposals) be endowed upon the recommendation of the NCFR Long Range Planning Committee.*

Association of Councils budget should continue as a line item in the NCFR budget and be submitted annually for Board approval (similar to Sections).

The NCFR Board of Directors passed a motion in 1996 to fund the AC through the regular budget, thus successfully eliminating the dependence of the AC on the unrebuted funds of inactive councils. While the AC has replenished its President's Fund through active fundraising at the annual conference the task force recommends an institutional solution to the fund's continuation, similar to the support recommended by the LRPC and approved by the Board in 1995 for other awards funds within NCFR.

## Build Affiliate Membership Through Marketing

Like most professional associations, your local, state, or regional affiliate is probably trying to build membership. Not an easy task given that membership recruitment for your association is most likely a volunteer activity and your association has a limited budget. To add to the difficulty, recruitment no longer relies on the standard, "improving your community / profession / field" theme. Membership recruitment has to be more personalized and sophisticated in today's glutted market place.

Establishing a plan of action is the first agenda item in any successful membership recruitment campaign. Without a plan of action, membership committee members have a tendency to drift from one program to the next hoping that something will work.

A plan of action also maintains continuity in the membership function even if committee members change or the budget is altered.

To create a membership recruitment plan, you must establish who, what, where, and when. So pull out a scratch pad and let's get started with your affiliate's membership marketing plan.

**Benefits (what):** Key items your association offers or wishes to offer to members.

According to Mark Levin, CAE, the three benefits professionals are often looking for when they join a professional association are peer recognition, job opportunities/career advancement, and continuing education. Do those benefits apply to your organization? What are the top five benefits in your organization? Are those benefits highlighted in your promotion pieces and other marketing efforts? Never assume that the people hearing or reading your message will translate how it applies to them. All copy and verbal messages need to be brief, personal, and to the point. Few professionals have time to wade through extensive copy or lengthy messages to find a hidden benefit.

Effective recruitment plans are based on what the prospect wants or needs, not on the wonderful organization. If you can get prospects to believe that you know who they are, and you will provide benefits to help them, you have a good chance of getting them to join.

**Target Segments (who):** Now that you've established the key benefits and personalized them for current and potential members, it's time to determine

**Northwest Council on Family Relations** now has a listserv. To subscribe, send a message to:

listproc@u.washington.edu

In the message text type:

subscribe nwcfr your name

To send messages to the listserv, address them to nwcfr@u.washington.edu.

The Council will hold a reception for its members on Saturday, November 8 during NCFR's annual conference in Arlington, VA.

**Gretchen Zunkel**  
President

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who is most likely to be interested in those benefits. A good message aimed at the wrong market is as effective as giving a good speech to an audience who doesn't speak your language.

**Who are your current members?** Develop a profile. How, if at all, would you like to change that membership base? Do your benefits address the needs of your members or are they more likely to be of interest to a different grouping of people? If the benefits don't match your members' needs, what should be changed—the benefits or the members?

**Segmenting:** Establishing a target market leads to segmenting or delineation of those targets. Like most organizations, budget and time limitations will probably force you to target those segments of the population most likely to respond to your message. For example, segmenting may lead to a target population such as: We will target all 45 year-old family professional males with a master's degree earning at least \$30,000 per year and working in a 50 mile radius of your location. In the example just given, segments delineate income, age, geographics, professional achievement, and gender. Additional segmenting might include religion, family size, life cycle stages, region, city, neighborhood, urban/suburban, lifestyles, and identities such as yuppies or the pool and patio set.

Sources you can access to recruit members include referrals from current members, nonmembers who participate in your affiliate's programs, unsolicited inquiries, former members, various government lists, and purchased lists. Purchased lists usually cost about \$110 per thousand names.

**Marketing Strategies (how):** The number of marketing strategies (or how you are going to relay your message) is almost endless. That is why you need to know the amount of money you have earmarked for marketing and how best to use those dollars. Once you become involved in marketing, your organization will be bombarded with sales pitches for novelty items, directories and hundreds of other strategies for spending your marketing dollars. A marketing plan and budget will give you the focus you need to stay on target and within the budget.

Depending on your target population and your message, flyers may be appropriate for one association and totally inappropriate for another. The wisest rule of thumb is to use a variety of strategies with an emphasis on one or two. For example, the largest outlay of NCFR

marketing dollars is currently in direct mail because our targets include international family professionals. We also depend on exhibit pieces, e-mail, novelty items like pens and pads, ads, and a website.

#### A few ideas:

- ☐ Post flyers in area non-profit and/or related organizations.
- ☐ Contact the media to schedule media presentations/interviews by association members.
- ☐ Give new members a free ad in your publication or other opportunities to promote their product and services.
- ☐ Let members attend their first meeting for free.
- ☐ Publish a directory of members and promote networking and the exchange of ideas.
- ☐ Make up a form that reads, "Here's what you get for 1/365th of your dues."
- ☐ Have a member services booth at your annual meeting or conference.
- ☐ Set up a speakers bureau and arrange opportunities for members to talk to other organizations within your profession, community, or industry.
- ☐ Hold an annual workshop and highlight topics of interest to your community.
- ☐ Send a press release with photo to the local newspaper when someone becomes a member.
- ☐ Send congratulatory notes to potential members when they are recognized for service to their company, community or other organizations.
- ☐ Send your newsletter to related organizations in the community.

**Review and Revise:** Marketing plans need to be reviewed to determine how effective your efforts have been. Reviews usually occur annually. The review will be more quantifiable if you code as many items as possible, especially membership application forms.

**Call NCFR offices:** If you would like additional help in creating your marketing plan, contact me toll free at 888-781-9331 extension 18.

**Brenda Hoffman**  
NCFR Marketing Coordinator

Watch for "Now That You Have Them, How Do You Keep Them?" in the September issue of REPORT.

#### Bibliography/Resources

Levin, Mark, CAE, *Membership Development: 101 Ways to Get and Keep*

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