



**COMMITTEE ON FAMILY RESEARCH
(CFR) (RC06)**

**INTERNATIONAL SOCIOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION (ISA)**

CFR GAZETTE

Volume 38, Issue 1, 2012

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1. **President's Column**

There are some new developments in our group which I want to call your attention to. First of all: the blog. Several authors have contributed so far on a variety of topics. Tessa LeRoux started with thoughts on the critical and public functions of family sociology, considering the role of sociology in society. Emiko Ochiai gave some insights on the issues discussed at the Kyoto seminar which was held last year with the theme *the reconstruction of public and intimate spheres*. Special mention is made of the stimulating ideas raised by Todd's introductory lecture that the nuclear family is the primitive family type and the joint family the newer one. Susan McDaniel introduced the aspect of long lenses, considering processes in family over the life course. Our last blogger, Barbara Neves, stressed the use of new technologies in family life. The discussion in the Committee will perhaps be more vibrant if people share their opinion on issues raised. We would, therefore, like to encourage and invite members to do so. These few blogs already showed the variety of problems dealt with by family sociologists. We could perhaps get an assemblage of those until the next world congress in Japan in 2014. Please let us know if you would like to make a blog contribution. You are welcome to contact either Bárbara Neves (barbara@bbneves.com) or Ria Smit (rsmit@uj.ac.za) in this regard.

Another important thing is to promote researchers at an early stage in their career. This is why we introduced the Early Stage Family Scholar Award. We hope that we can make this award the first time at the seminar in Leuven. You will find more information on our homepage.

Finally, we would appreciate it if members can send us information on special education programs in family sociology such as summer schools. This years Marie Jahoda Summer School in Vienna will be on reconciliation of work and family. It will take place at the University of Vienna in July. I think it was the result of announcing the school on the website of our Research Committee that there will be participants from all over the world. Nearly a small RC06 conference for early stage researchers! You are invited to make use of such opportunities.

Those of you who will participate in Buenos Aires at the ISA Forum, I wish you fruitful discussions and contacts. Please remember to identify yourself as a member of the RC06. This time we preferred to have our annual meeting in Leuven, Belgium, which is in line with the tradition of seminars organized by members of our committee.

Rudolf Richter

2. ***Honorary President's Column***

We are some who early, meaning several decades ago, have asked ourselves and others “What is Family?”

In 1991 the CFR organized an international seminar in Oslo with that theme (organized by Irene Levin and myself). At the same time Jaber F. Gubrium and James A. Holstein published a book with the same title. At that time we did not know each other and thus we worked independently.

The question is still quite reasonable as can be seen in the president's column in the CFR blog recently. The way I see it, there is no reasonable answer to be given by any serious scholar of today. But, or and, the question still remains. Or, may be, we should or would say that there are plenty of answers.

In an article in *Family Review*, 1992, 41, 348-351, entitled “Understanding the Concept of Family” Irene Levin and I discussed three ways of looking at the term family. We did not intend to define the concept since there is no concept connected to the term — there are many concepts; the term homonymous. But we showed that in people's mind there is one concept knitted to the question “What is my family?”, another knitted to the question of “What is a family?”, and finally “What is the family?”

In some countries, like Sweden, there has been a tendency especially among politicians to talk about the need to care for the family. What do they mean? Mostly they do not at all talk about family but about minor children. Sometimes they talk about minor children and their parents. Also, mostly, these politicians are of religious background. But it seems as if the term family legitimizes their argument better than if they would speak out. The term family should not be used as a kind of a euphemism for something else (according to my humble opinion).

How are we family sociologists to handle this complex and also sometimes complicated issue of the meaning, the concept, of family? What are we studying? It can't be family or *the family*, can it? We could go on using the term as a vernacular, meaning without any specific concept attached to the term. That's what I would prefer us all doing, using the term family as a kind of umbrella for all varieties we might be interested in. In my column a year ago I wrote about all the varieties of family matters now taken over by other research committees of the ISA (to say that they have taken over might be an exaggeration; these areas still belong also to the CFR and its members).

JT

jan.trost@soc.uu.se

3. *From the Secretary*

Dear Members

It is with much anticipation that we near the date for the upcoming CFR seminar to be held in Leuven this coming September. We would like to thank Koen Matthys, Graziela Dekeyser and the other members of the local organising team for all their hard work. The seminar programme and other related news will be published in the next issue of the CFR Gazette.

As many of you might know, George Kurian, managing editor of the *Journal of Comparative Family Studies*, has been a longtime supporter of the activities of the CFR. Through his relationship with the Committee, several special issues of JCFS have consisted of a compilation of papers presented at CFR conferences. We would like to thank George for his continued support and his involvement in the activities of the Committee. George recently extended, once again, his invitation to us that local organising committees of CFR seminars are welcome to approach him for publication possibilities in special issues of the JCFS.



Based on the positive response received from our members regarding our online blogger contributions, we have decided to include the most recent bogs in this issue of the Gazette.

As always, I would like to bring a few matters to your attention:

- Please inform me if any of your contact details have changed. You are welcome to send me an email, using the following address: rsmit@uj.ac.za
- Currently the CFR has 314 members, of which 165 are also ISA members in good standing.

Best wishes,
Ria Smit

4. CFR Blogger Contributions

One „family“

By Rudolf Richter



Rudolf is Professor of sociology at the University of Vienna, Austria. He also holds the position as President of the CFR (RC06)

Who belongs to the family? Who is invited to family gatherings like Christmas holidays, New Year celebrations, Chanukah, Thanksgiving, end of Ramadan? This year at our dinner table at home in Vienna we had four languages: German (Austrians speak German, yes – I am always asked on international conferences), English, French and Spanish. This is because of the partners of our daughters and nephews. Nearly at each yearly meeting we have someone at our place we do not know: the cousin of a partner from England, the mother-in-law of another one from Colombia and so on. What is considered to be a family is rather widespread and people belonging to it change from time to time.

Now, this above might not be an example of extensive variety. I have not talked of stepfamilies or patchwork families, and we have talked only of a very small region: middle Europe. Looking, let's say, at Scandinavia we will find different compositions – probably neighbors and friends might also participate. Neither have we talked of the south of Europe where, what we traditionally call the extended family, prevails. And we have not talked about the families in the Arab world, in different states in Africa and the Asian family. (Does the latter exist? Can one even group together countries such as Thailand, India, China, Japan?)

During our last meeting in Kyoto a colleague introduced an international project and used family and kinship synonymously. On my question why not distinguish between the two concepts, he found no real answer except to say that the project members did not care about those differences – probably too difficult to deal with (I thought: what does that make for a science: using different terms – but it does not matter?).

In a PhD course taught last semester we read a paper about the meaning of theory by Gabriel Abend from Northwestern University. He discusses the use of seven different meanings of theory in sociology. The consequence: more or less senseless debates in

reviews about an article having a theory or not when authors have different notions of theory – from hypotheses to ideology.

I have the same experience when attending international conferences and everyone is speaking of family pretending that we all attach the same meaning to the concept. Don't we need a reflection on these different meanings? Do we use family as a primitive concept stemming from the background of Parsonian analyses during the fifties in the US and measure different forms from the standpoint of this definition? How do we deal with different concepts? Should we deal with them at all? Or let's stay there: using a vague concept and pretending we share the same meaning? Does it make sense though speaking of a global change of family with a local perspective?

Is this – at all – worthwhile considering? The French group around Bruno Latour promoted the so-called *Actor-Network Theory*. ANT has a flat view on society, looking what actors are doing and how they define their everyday living themselves. It would not matter who sociologists say belong to the family, it would just matter which items, communications, information and traditions – narratives! – constitute a family event –from Los Angeles to Shanghai. Should we promote an ethnographical turn in family sociology? Can it contribute to our knowledge? How?

Families 2012: Pressed and Stretched **By Susan McDaniel**



Susan is Canada Research Chair (Tier 1) in Global Population & Life Course, Prentice Research Chair, Professor of Sociology, and the Director of the Prentice Institute in Global Population & Economy, at the University of Lethbridge in Canada.

My research tends to be both longitudinal, i.e. life course focused, and comparative. In this blog posting, I draw on both from my ongoing longitudinal, comparative research on family changes and challenges in various parts of the world.

The quotes are from real people interviewed about their challenges in today's economically precarious environment.

"I feel like I am stretched and stretched, being pulled in a million directions..." notes a respondent in the U.S. who is facing challenges in a multi-generational family, each

member of which is facing various economic difficulties, and the respondent is called upon to help them out.

“Unless I win the lottery, I can’t retire. My mortgage is for 40 years”, Midlife respondent in my Canada/US study, looking toward the older years in the Great Recession.

These two quotes are exemplary of many family members who feel pressed and stretched in 2012, particularly as they live in multi-generational families, whether or not they share the same household.

We talk a lot in family sociology and in public discourse about family choices increasing. I wonder... Do we say, shall I be a lone parent living on low income, an older divorced woman/man, in a lesbian/gay couple, wed or not, a widow/widower or a child of divorced parents? I tend to think not. Do we long for a multi-generation family that is both pressed and stretched in a world-wide recession where much of what we worked for and dreamt about may be threatened? I tend to think not.

Yet, we all carry with us family baggage, images and dreams of what families should be, and what our children should achieve that we did not or could not. We try to make good decisions but those decisions turn inside out as jobs decrease, debt increases (both personal and state), and mobility options reduce. Instead of dreams of a better future for our children, they live as adults increasingly with midlife and older parents, as ‘cellar-dwellers’ or ‘boomerangs’ whose parents’ lifestyles they emulate by being supported by the parents. Canadian economist, John Kenneth Galbraith, notes wryly that ideals about anything, maybe particularly about families and what they should be, change very, very slowly, if at all. “Faced with the choice between changing one’s mind and proving that there is no need to do so, almost everyone gets busy on the proof. “ We try to act as if our families are not pressed and stretched but managing. We cover over, cover up and huddle together to ‘make do.’

Long lenses can help in understanding families in 2012 that are increasingly pressed and stretched. Long lenses are of three types, the first being a life course lens. My comparative longitudinal research has several important findings when we look at families in generations with a life course lens. With linked lives in families, people carry generations and generational expectations with them to their interactions over time. As families are pressed and stretched, conflicts are likely to escalate, particularly when younger generations face economic challenges their elders never dreamt of. What affects us going into family transitions, which are built into family life, are events years earlier and events now. The intersection of biography and history matters ever more in families that are pressed and stretched. Lastly, we find that income inequalities in societies at crucial life stages and at family transition points matter significantly to opportunities, successes, and life trajectories overall.

The second way that long lenses matter is seeing families assembled or reassembled into generations, with long lenses built in. We see how long lenses help us to understand families and change over time in another of my current projects, looking at diverse families living on low income who are deeply stressed and pressed. We find that they make family for themselves. They rely on grandparents to help in all kinds of ways,

even if those ‘grandparents’ are not blood relations at all. These families reach out across time to connect with other generations.

The third long lens approach comes from very new research on child development. From the Developing Child Project, Harvard University, five significant findings are worth noting: 1) Getting things right the first time is easier and more effective than trying to fix them later; 2) Early childhood matters because experiences early in life can have a lasting impact on later learning, behavior, and health throughout life; 3) Highly specialized interventions are needed as early as possible for children experiencing toxic stress; 4) 4. Early life experiences actually get under the skin and into the body, with lifelong effects on adult physical and mental health; and 5) All of society benefits from investments in early childhood programs.

These findings have already had an effect on policies and approaches of the American Academy of Pediatrics who recommend the “leveraging of science to inform the development of innovative strategies to reduce the precipitants of toxic stress in young children and to mitigate their negative effects on the course of development and health across the life span” (Published online January 1, 2012 PEDIATRICS Vol. 129 No. 1 January 2012, pp. e224-e231, from the American Academy of Pediatrics).

The Family Factor **by Bárbara Barbosa Neves**



Bárbara is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at the Technical University of Lisbon in Portugal (ISCSP-UTL). She is also a research fellow at the Centre for Public Administration & Policies.

My research has been focused on the social impact of technology, mainly of the Internet. And although I have been immersed in the field of sociology of technology, family studies have always had a significant influence on my work.

The “family factor” on my work is twofold: First, Information & Communication Technologies (ICT), such as mobile phones, computers, and the Internet, shape family life. Second, “family” seems to be a determinant factor for ICT adoption and perception, at least for the elderly population.

The societal effects of ICT usage, especially at the family and community level, have been a major concern for social scientist and society alike. Fears of social isolation and

alienation have been constantly associated with new technology. In the words of Steven Pinker:

“New forms of media have always caused moral panics: the printing press, newspapers, paperbacks and television were all once denounced as threats to their consumers’ brainpower and moral fiber. So too with electronic technologies. PowerPoint, we’re told, is reducing discourse to bullet points. Search engines lower our intelligence, encouraging us to skim on the surface of knowledge rather than dive to its depths. Twitter is shrinking our attention spans. But such panics often fail basic reality checks.”

Despite a prominent dystopian view of the Internet – clearly visible in the public discourse, from popular culture to political narratives – research has been supporting a positive relationship between ICT and family life. ICT are not dividing and isolating family members; on the contrary, the evidence shows that ICT are facilitating social interaction among its members. Besides providing connection among family members, ICT are used to articulate different schedules and to coordinate family life. For instance, a Pew report on North-American families concludes that mobile phones allow family members to stay more regularly in touch; and that the Internet is used by many members of married-with-children households to view online material together.

Moreover, as I could conclude in my doctoral research, Internet usage is a strong predictor of social capital and of bonding. Bonding is a dimension of social capital related to the resources that are potentially available and can be mobilized from our strong ties, which are composed of close family members and close friends. The probability of having a high level of bonding increases with Internet usage.

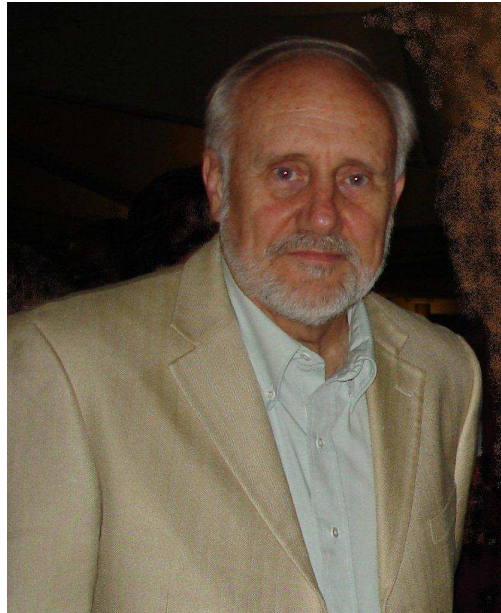
In a study of usage and perception of ICT by a representative sample of 500 Portuguese elderly, a colleague and I found that one of the main reasons to have a mobile phone was a family request. In addition, in the qualitative phase of our study, we could grasp that there was a clear emotional family connection with mobile phones. One of our interviewees, Ana, said that she always carries her mobile phone around for two reasons: first, it allows her to permanently be in contact with her family; second, it has pictures of her and her grandchildren, which makes her feel closer to her family. As I noted elsewhere, the mobile phone represents a kind of a “family memory box”.

Similarly, the respondent’s grandchildren visibly influenced their usage and perception of computers and the Internet. The grandchildren encouraged grandparents to adopt new technologies, which accentuates the importance of inter-generational relationships. The positive perceptions of these ICT were also fueled by the grandchildren’s account: they would tell their grandparents about the usefulness and convenience of ICT.

Even more interesting was that besides Internet users and non-users we found another type of users: the “faux users”. A faux user is a person that considers himself or herself a non-user but intermittently uses a technology with assistance of others. For instance, Ana has a daughter and a baby grandchild living in France. Ana sees pictures of them on a family member’s computer and communicates with her daughter through Skype, a peer-to-peer video conferencing program. Ana’s family members setup the computer and the Internet for her. She depends on her family members to facilitate this social experience. So, once again, the family is an important factor for the access and use of ICT.

Of course this intersection of family and ICT or of family and new technology is extremely complex and multifaceted. Rejecting any kind of technological determinism, what do you think ICT can tell us about contemporary family life? How does technology shape families and how families, in turn, shape technology?

5. Rudy R. Seward ...On the Occation of His Retirement



By Ria Smit

Nelson Mandela once said:

“A good head and a good heart are always a formidable combination.”

These words ring true whenever one thinks of Rudy. Not only is he a knowledgeable person and a scholar of note, but he is also a kind human being.

Rudy retired earlier this year after 38 years of service. A reception was held in his honor by the Department of Sociology at the University of North Texas (UNT) in Denton, USA. I had the pleasure of attending this reception and was moved by the sincere words spoken by many of Rudy's colleagues and students. Before I left home, I asked CFR president, Rudolf Richter, to give me the 'snap shot' mental picture he has of Rudy. He replied by saying: *“Rudy combines friendliness and sociability with professional scientific activity.”* I thought that this was a spot-on description – one which was echoed in the words of one and all who attended Rudy's retirement reception.

The Committee on Family Research of the International Sociological Association would like to thank Rudy for his dedication and the contributions he has made in the Committee especially as an executive board member. Rudy was instrumental in establishing the Early Stage Family Scholar Award in the Committee and was also

invaluable in organizing the CFR program at the ISA world congress held in Sweden two years ago.

We appreciate his hard work and continued involvement even during times when he experienced personal challenges and health concerns.

We look forward to Rudy's continued participation in the activities of the Committee – working with him as a revered colleague and spending time with him as a friend.

6. Upcoming Interim CFR Seminars (2013) [Updated]

Call for Papers:

***“Demographic and Institutional Change in Global Families”
To be held at Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan
March 28th to 30th, 2013***

This international conference is co-sponsored by the Institute of Sociology, Academia Sinica, Taiwan and the Research Committee on Family Research (RC06) of the International Sociological Association. The conference will take place from March 28th to 30th, 2013 at Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan. On behalf of both sponsors, the local organizing committee cordially invites family sociologists, demographers and other interested social scientists to participate in this event.

There will be three plenary sessions on family change around the globe. We are pleased and honored to have Frank Furstenburg (University of Pennsylvania), Stephanie Coontz (Evergreen State College), and Philip Morgan (University of North Carolina) to each deliver a keynote speech. Parallel sessions will allow up to 60 oral presentations, in addition to several concurrent poster sessions, for the conference.

The conference theme encompasses a wide range of potential research topics on the families from sociological, demographic, historical, psychological and educational perspectives. To list several possible session titles:

- Changing family structures and family relations
- Union formation and dissolution: fertility, divorce, widowhood
- Changing marriage patterns
- Family transitions and well-being for children and adults
- Aging families: grandparenthood, elderly care
- Family values: ideational shifts on family change
- Balancing work and family in the global age
- Family influences on educational and occupational attainment
- Intergenerational relations
- Kin interactions: family network, kin obligation and practice
- Emerging youth issues on the transition to adulthood
- Institutional impacts on the family and policy responses to family changes

The local organizing committee also welcomes other suggestions. Please write to Chin-Chun Yi (chinyi@gate.sinica.edu.tw), Professor/Research Fellow, Institute of Sociology, Academia Sinica, and member of the Executive Committee, International Sociological Association.

If you're interested to participate, please observe the following timetable:

Deadline to submit an abstract: **September 15th, 2012**

Notification of the status of your submission: **October 1st, 2012**

Due date for the full paper: **March 15th, 2013**

(Please send your abstract to Mr. Robert Chang: robert@gate.sinica.edu.tw)

For international scholars:

If your abstract is accepted and your paper received in time, the local organizing committee will provide on-campus housing (subject to availability) for up to five days, meals during the conference, and a half-day tour of Taipei and its vicinity. A post-conference tour to eastern or southern Taiwan from March 31st to April 2nd will be arranged (self-paid) if enough attendants register. More specific information regarding the logistics will be posted on the conference website after October, 2012:

<http://www.ios.sinica.edu.tw/dicgf>

***Announcement: Upcoming CFR Seminar
"Family and Migration"
To be held in Vilnius, Lithuania
July 17th to 19th, 2013***



Organizers

Irena Juozeliuniene (Lithuania) & Jan Trost (Sweden)
Laura Kanapieniene (laura@optimal.lt) (contact person)

Details about the seminar will be available in September 2012. A seminar website is under construction.

The number of participants is limited to 30.

7. Call for Papers

7.1 International Conference on Parent Education and Parenting (2013)



**University of North Texas
College of Education, Center for Parent Education**

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

**International Conference on Parent Education and Parenting
University of North Texas, Denton, Texas, U.S.A.
April 24-26, 2013**

Online Submission deadline: October 1, 2012

(Online portal open July 15, 2012)

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

Description: The International Conference on Parent Education and Parenting is a two-day interdisciplinary conference that will bring together regional, national, and international scholars, policy makers, parent/family educators, early childhood interventionists, family support professionals, school/parent liaisons, students, and child and family advocates. The Conference on Parent Education has met annually on or near the campus of the University of North Texas and is unique as an annual conference focused on educating and supporting parents. Scholars and practitioners from around the globe will present the latest in knowledge, research, educational strategies, curriculum, and parent education and support models. The keynote speakers are nationally or internationally recognized as having specialized knowledge relating to parenting and family support.

Globally, families are coping with major societal changes. Economic distress, shifting resource allocation, and other societal pressures challenge families. The 2013 International Annual Conference on Parent Education will focus on issues that most affect families in an ever changing world. Strategies for educating and supporting parents and families of diverse cultures and nationalities will be highlighted. Issues related to program evaluation and research will also be featured.

CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

- To provide training in core knowledge and skills for parent educators
- To present a spectrum of program models, curriculum, strategies, and knowledge related to parenting, parent education, parent involvement, and parent/family support.
- To present primary research and research reviews related to parenting, parent education, parent involvement, parent/family support and the changing family.
- To dialogue about evaluation and support of family education and support programs.
- To provide knowledge in specialized areas related to family life.
- To provide training in parent education and family support curriculum and methods.
- To provide international perspectives and cross-national research on parent education and parenting.
- To promote interaction and exchange of ideas among conference participants.
- To provide a resource and book fair.
- To recognize best practices in parent education, parent involvement, and family support.

Invitation to Present:

Those who would like to part of the program at the International Conference on Parent Education and Parenting are invited to complete our **online proposal form** for presentations in interactive workshops, research-to-practice and special interest sessions, topical symposiums, and “Meet the Scholars” research posters. All submissions are blind reviewed by professionals for inclusion in the program. Selection criteria are designed to serve the interests of the conference attendees, while maintaining a high level of quality and serving a variety of interests. All submissions will be acknowledged in writing by November 15.

Notification and Registration

Presenters will be notified no later than **December 3, 2012** of acceptance or non-acceptance of proposals and tentative date and time assignments for presentations.

Co-presenters who will not be able to attend the conference are requested to notify the Center for Parent Education at 940-369-7246.

Presenters are expected to complete and send a speaker registration form and pay a reduced speaker fee to cover food and other attendee expenses. Presenters not participating in luncheons and not attending other presentations can request to have the fee waived.

Online submission Guidelines:

Beginning **July 15, 2012**, proposals may be submitted online using link at <http://parenteducation.unt.edu/conferences>. Submissions must be complete by October 1, 2012. If you have any questions please contact Arminta.Jacobson@unt.edu or Twila.Farrar@unt.edu.

Complete all information. Please note: The last two entries require you to enter a 500-800 word summary of your presentation and biographical sketch. Please have this information ready in a word document, then copy and paste your information into the fields provided on the online form as you will not be able to edit your information in the

fields. Proposals for reporting primary research symposiums and research posters should include: objective or problem, methodology (sample, measurement, procedure or design, type of analysis), results, and conclusions. Proposals are limited to 5 presenters.

For more information about the call for proposals contact:

Arminta Jacobson (arminta.jacobson@unt.edu)
UNT College of Education, Center for Parent Education
1155 Union Circle #311335
Denton, TX 76203-5017
Phone: 940.369.7246, Fax: 940.369.7955

7.2 Call for Papers: Contemporary Perspectives in Family Research

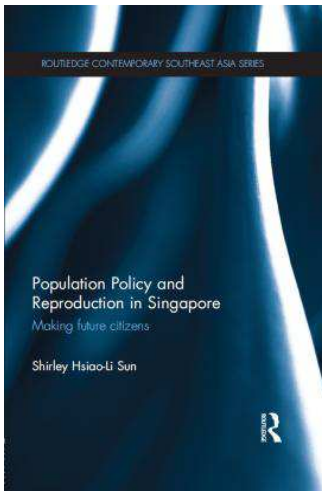
Contemporary Perspectives in Family Research, an annual series which focuses upon cutting-edge topics in family research around the globe, is seeking manuscript submissions for its 2013 volume.

The 2013 volume of CPFR will focus on the theme of 'Visions of the 21st Century Family: Transforming Structures and Identities.' In every society, social, political, religious, or economic influences have led families to adapt, evolve, and change, moving beyond traditional forms and behaviors. The 2013 volume of CPFR will examine these changing structures and behaviors, and attempt to better illustrate the ever-changing nature of families. The volume will address topics such as: cohabitation, gay and lesbian relationships, parenting within alternative family forms, grandparents raising grandchildren, the merging of nuclear and extended family forms, and other related issues.

The 2013 volume will be coedited by Patricia Neff Claster, of Edinboro University and Sampson Lee Blair, of The State University of New York (Buffalo). Manuscripts should be submitted directly to the editors (pnclaster@edinboro.edu and slblair@buffalo.edu), preferably in MS WORD format. Manuscripts should not exceed 40 double-spaced pages (not including tables, figures, and references). Submission of a manuscript implies commitment to publish in CPFR. Manuscripts should adhere to the APA format. Manuscripts should represent previously unpublished work. An abstract of 150-200 words should be included at the beginning of each manuscript. All manuscripts will undergo peer review.

The deadline for initial submissions is January 10, 2013. Any questions may be directed to the editors at pnclaster@edinboro.edu and slblair@buffalo.edu.

8. Recent Publications by CFR Members



Sun, Shirley Hsiao-Li (2012). *Population Policy and Reproduction in Singapore: Making Future Citizens*.

London and New York: Routledge.

208 pages, ISBN: 978-0-415-67068-5.

Routledge Contemporary Southeast Asia Series.

This book examines the relationship between population policies and individual reproductive decisions in low-fertility contexts. Drawing on personal interviews and focus groups with more than 200 Singaporeans, it demonstrates that the effectiveness of population policy is a function of competing notions of citizenship, and the gap between seemingly neutral policy incentives and their perceived and experienced disparate effects. The need to take individuals' perceptions of state policies seriously gains greater urgency in the context of potential conflict of interest between the state and citizens regarding human reproduction. Should citizenship status confer rights independent of an individual's economic standing? Who is the idealized citizen and idealized by whom? What is the relationship between a particular conceptualization of citizenship and the nation-state's challenge of confronting the global order? This book answers these questions and offers a significant contribution to the literature on population studies, sociology of reproduction, citizenship and development, social policy, East Asian and Southeast Asian studies.

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1. Introduction: Making Future Citizens
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3. Economic Development, Social Investments, and Population Governance
4. Class Differentiated Pronatalism
5. Privileging the Citizen-Worker
6. Constructing Children's Multidimensional Qualities
7. Conclusion

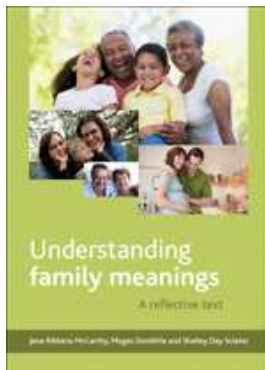
A **library recommendation form** at the following location – see

www.routledge.com/resources/librarian_recommendation/9780415670685 for more details

Seeberg, M., Levin, I., & Lenz, C. (Eds.) (2012). *Holocaust as Active Memory: The Past in the Present*. In series: *Memory Studies: 20th and 21st Century Philosophy, Methodology and Ontology, Vol. 1* (Series editor: Kennet, M.). Farnham: Ashgate Academic.

ISBN 978-1-4094-5108-2

(This is the second publication flowing from the CFR Seminar held in Oslo, Norway in 2009. The first publication was a special issue of *Journal of Comparative Family Studies*, 42(3). Edited by: Irene Levin, Nicole Hennum, Claudia Lenz and Tone Schou Wetlesen (2011). Title: “*Families and Memories - Continuity and Social Change.*”)



Ribbens McCarthy, Jane; Doolittle, Megan & Day Sclater, Shelley (2012). *Understanding family meanings: a reflective text*. Bristol, UK: Policy Press.

(An audio linked to the book is available at: <http://itunes.apple.com/us/itunes-u/theories-concepts-in-family/id380231496>)

Ribbens McCarthy, Jane (2012). The powerful relational language of ‘family’: togetherness, belonging and personhood. *Sociological Review*, Vol.60, 68-90.

Ribbens McCarthy, Jane (2012). Caring after death: issues of embodiment and relationality. In: Rogers, Chrissie & Weller, Susie (Eds.) *Critical Approaches to Care: Understanding Caring Relations, Identities and Cultures. Relationships and resources*. London: Routledge, (In Press).

Ribbens McCarthy, Jane, Doolittle, Megan & Day Sclater, Shelley (2012). *Understanding Family Meanings: A Reflective Text*. Published by Policy Press.

(An audio linked to the book is available at: <http://itunes.apple.com/us/itunes-u/theories-concepts-in-family/id380231496>)

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9. *New Members*

The CFR welcomes the following members:

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USA

Kadri Taht
Estonia

Erika Busse
USA

Esra Demirkol
Turkey

Kay Cook
Australia

Eileen Trzcinski
USA

Florencia Herrera
Chile

Futoshi Taga
Japan

Tina Miller
United Kingdom

Amy Brainer
USA

Rosalina Pisco Costa
Portugal

Geoffrey Hobbis
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Alex Masardo
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Please send address and other corrections to the CFR secretary/treasurer.

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Editor's address:

CFR-Gazette
c/o Ria Smit
Department of Sociology
University of Johannesburg
P.O. Box 524
Auckland Park, 2006
South Africa
rsmit@uj.ac.za
fax: +27 11 559 3787
office ☎: +27 11 559 2319

President's address:

Rudolf Richter
Department of Sociology
University of Vienna
Rooseveltplatz 2
1090 Vienna, Austria
rudolf.richter@univie.ac.at
office ☎: +43 1 4277 48240

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