



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

**INTERNATIONAL SOCIOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION (ISA)**

CFR GAZETTE

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1. **President's Column**



Dear colleagues,

It is my great honor and privilege to be elected as the president of RC06, ISA, the Committee on Family Research (CFR) for the 2014-2018 term. I'm also most pleased to have the opportunity to serve with outstanding board members you appointed during this term.

The vice president, Mark Hutter (professor at Rowan University, USA), has a long association with this committee and he'll serve as the program coordinator for the 2018 ISA congress in Toronto, Canada as well as to lead the committee for several "Early Stage Family Scholar Award" to be held during our annual meetings. Barbara Barbosa Neves (Research Associate and Associate Director at the University of Toronto, formerly assistant professor at the University of Lisbon), our secretary and treasurer, who has helped set up our website and blogs will continue her expertise in this area and will inform us of upcoming events. Three prestigious members are Susan McDaniel (professor at University of Lethbridge, Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, former Vice-President of the Publication, ISA), Sylvie Fogiel-Bijaoui (associate professor at Academic Studies and head of the Kibbutz Gender Research Project, Israel) and Margaret O'Brien (Director of Thomas Coram Research Unit at the University of London, England). Together we look forward to exciting years of intellectual exchanges and cultural dialogues among all our members.

As I mentioned in my previous statements, ISA is experiencing quick expansion in number of research committees and congress participants. For RC06/CFR, the coming years will be critical for our continuing growth, especially with regard to competitive resources with other committees. Hence, I proposed two possible directions that this board is committed and will try very best to make progress:

1. **Strengthen the scientific involvement and social solidarity of family scholars.**

The annual meeting of CFR has been our proud tradition which should be maintained with all our efforts. Over the years, it's clear that this is the best venue to recruit new members and to greet old friends. The inter-rim Sociological Forum, sponsored by the RCC of ISA, will have its 3rd conference in Europe. From the 2012 Buenos Aires conference, more than 4000 participants from nearly 50 RCs recognized the opportunity to learn the local and regional sociological development. If the next board agrees, attending the future Sociological Forum

may benefit our members as well. In addition, we can consider investing more resources in the [CFR website](#). Since 2011, there has been a blog for all interested colleagues to engage in scientific discussion of various family related subjects. This could be a feasible way to attract the younger generation and to encourage the debate between generations. Newly developed family subjects may receive constructive comments from colleagues too.

2. **Expand CFR's scientific involvement in the ISA.**

The conventional practice of CFR annual meetings tend to be small in size and usually with a specific theme. We could utilize these opportunities to explore possible [collaborations](#) with colleagues from other committees, such as education (RC04), aging (RC11), migration (RC31), youth (RC34), women (RC32), population (RC41) etc. To hold joint meetings with other RCs may produce interesting collaboration for the future. We could also consider attending the [regional sociological meetings](#) in Asia, in Europe or in Latin America so as to publicize our committee to local family scholars.

A concrete outcome of the above proposals is reflected in our plan of future meetings. Just to give you a brief on this (you'll hear more from our secretary, Barbara Neves):

2015 June 3rd -6th (University of Syracuse, USA), co-sponsored with RC11 on aging families and the deadline is [Dec. 15th, 2014](#).

August 20th to 22nd (University College Dublin, Ireland), deadline: [Jan.12th, 2015](#)

2016 Spring (Beijing, China, in progress)
July 10th-14th (University of Vienna, Austria), ISA Forum of Sociology

2017 Singapore (local organizer: Jean Yeung, ARI, National University of Singapore)

Israel (on Sociology of Religion, local organizer: Sylvie Fogiel-Bijaoui)

2018 summer, Toronto, Canada, ISA Congress

RC06/CFR is one of the most important research committee in ISA. I sincerely hope we will continue to grow and will make significant contribution to this changing academic community. With a committed board and the collegial support from previous boards as well as all engaged members, let us welcome another exciting and stimulating years!

Best regards,
Chin-Chun Yi
chinyi@gate.sinica.edu.tw

2. *Honorary President's Column*



Some days ago one of my daughters, one of my grandchildren and I went to the Ericsson Globe in Stockholm. For those who do not know what the Globe is can be said that it is an enormously big construction and is in fact a globe. The Globe is used for sports events, like ice hockey, theater performances and whatever.

We went there to see *Carmina Burana*. *Carmina Burana* is based upon poems from the 12th and 13th centuries and deal with various aspects of life – written by students. Nature, desire, wine, love's beauty, and the carnal lust, sadness, and as also how hurt can be wonderful; are all transformed into music, instrumental music as well as vocal songs. *Carmina Burana* was first played in 1937 with music composed by the German Carl Orff.

Special with the performance saw was that there was not only very beautiful music played by an orchestra, solo singing, an enormous mixed choir, a youngster choir but also seven ladies in their eighties and nineties. These latter were selected from regular elderly women in the area. One after the other told us a part from their own lives, a part of love at young ages, of love at older ages, of grief, of betrayal. Nothing strange. Just what we all experience, some of us many times and others more seldom. However, in regular life we do not openly tell others about such experiences. Here these ladies did.

As family sociologists we all know that we all have such experiences and that we personally are silent in these matters. So, how come that I write about this in my column?

One answer is that I enjoyed the performance so much that I want to share my pleasure with you. Another, and maybe more important, answer is that the stories told by the old ladies are of the kind we find in interviews and observations for study – and here we had them on stage and not as usual back stage. Furthermore, we all use our knowledge of the past, some of us manifestly and others latently. And here we were served them through the songs written several hundreds of years ago. The young persons of that time were not different from what they are now. In some respects our societies have changed but when we are speaking about emotions and relations: they are the same whatever happens.

JT
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3. *From the Secretary*



Dear members,

This is the first time that I am addressing you as secretary and treasurer of RC06. The elected board for 2014-2018 took office at the XVIII ISA World Congress in Japan. I am delighted to have this opportunity to work with our new president, Chin-Chun Yi, our new vice-president, Mark Hutter, and our wonderful trio of members at large: Sylvie Fogiel-Bijaoui, Susan McDaniel, and Margaret O'Brien.

It has been a pleasure to serve RC06 as a member of the previous board (2010-2014), and I am looking forward to continuing to contribute to our community in my new role. I would like to express my deepest appreciation to Rudolf, Rudy, and Ria for their amazing work in the past eight years. I am also extremely grateful for their support and for everything they taught me along the way. When I was elected member at large in 2010, I was still a doctoral student. I was not specializing in family studies, but working in an interdisciplinary sociological area that intersects technology, social networks, social capital, family, and aging. Although that might have been a challenge for some more traditional communities, since I was not a 'conventional' sociologist of family, RC06 and its board always valued my executive and scientific input. In particular, I want to thank Irene Levin, Barbara Settles, and Jan Trost for their constant encouragement. Now in this new position, I will work hard to achieve Ria's level of excellence. Ria has done such a superb job as secretary and treasurer that she will be a tough act to follow.

In this newsletter, you will find a report on the XVIII ISA World Congress prepared by our extraordinary program chair. Rudy Ray Seward shares his vivid personal account of our stimulating sessions and of his adventures in Japan. We are also including in this Gazette, Rudolf, Rudy, and Ria's guest blog post, available since October on our website. In addition, the new board is organizing two exciting RC06 meetings next year: a seminar in Dublin and a conference in Syracuse. You can find both call for papers in this Gazette, as well as a call for the early stage family scholar award for the best original paper accepted for presentation at the Dublin seminar. Additionally, please check the list of other conferences and a list of publications of our community. Finally, we also welcome our new members. By the end of November 2014, our membership total stood at 370 of which 240 members are ISA members in good standing.

Best regards,
Barbara Barbosa Neves
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4. XVIII ISA World Congress of Sociology - A personal narrative by Rudy Seward

Typhoon warnings for Japan were dominating the weather news as Jean and I packed for our trip. Fortunately the flight from Dallas to Narita airport north of Toyko, express train ride to Yokohama, and taxi to hotel were uneventful. Our arrival Thursday evening was only greeted by light rain and moderate gusting winds. Typhoon Neoguri hit hardest very far south of the principal island of Honshu, where Yokohama is located on a bay shared with the capital Tokyo. Yokohama is the second largest city in Japan after Tokyo with a population of 3.7 million and is a major commercial hub of the Greater Tokyo Area. Yokohama developed rapidly as the prominent port city following the end of Japan's relative isolation in the mid-19th century.

Arriving several days before the World Congress allow us time to acclimate to the time difference and leisurely explore our surroundings. Our hotel was part of the Pacifico convention complex and was located near the port on the bay. We were surrounded by almost all new shiny tall buildings with lots of shopping areas, restaurants, museums, especially related to ships, shipping, and ship building. Cosmo World, a large amusement park was next door. Through our room window on the 24th floor the giant Ferris wheel appeared so close that we could easily see people in the gondolas. The wheel and the digital clock in the center, which was about eye level with our window, were the largest in the world when built.

About 4:30 am on Saturday, we were abruptly awakened by creaking sounds and slight shaking. These were manifestations of an earthquake out in the Pacific northeast of Tokyo. The news described the earthquake as strong and hitting hardest Japan's northern coast near the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant and tsunami warnings were quickly issued. This plant was the one crippled in 2011, by the most powerful quake and tsunami ever recorded in Japan. We had been warned to expect quakes during our stay, but fortunately our welcoming quake only triggered a small tsunami and no damage was reported.

The International Sociological Association's World Congress started Sunday evening, with an elaborate welcoming ceremony with many speeches followed by native entertainment. All moved along according to schedule until President Burawoy. His insightful address went over time against the clearly stated wishes of the Japanese 'timer.' This was the first instance of many where being on time were stressed both at the start and at the end of events. His delay moved every other event of the welcoming back so by the time the excellent intense music performances ended, the reception at another location had already begun. On time arrivals to the reception demolished most of food and drink by the time those of us who stayed for all of the welcoming events entered. Most importantly we were able to happily meet and greet many of our CFR colleagues, some we had not seen since the last seminar or last congress. We also got to greet Don Swenson, the new editor of the Journal of Comparative Family Studies.

Monday was opening day of the Congress and a plethora and variety of sessions were offered including the first three CFR sessions. The first two sessions ran smoothly but our first ever congress roundtable's start was chaotic. The previous roundtable went over

time and several CFR members who asked politely for them to wrap up were told to stop talking or were ignored. To get the other group's attention, I walked as closed as I could to the tightly encircled constellation of chairs and tables and shouted we needed to start our roundtables! The need to rearrange (separate) tables and chairs, assignment tables, and get presenters to the proper table, resulted in a 15 minute delay in getting our session started. After we settled in the session progressed nicely including Jean's presentation on fitness, health, families, and communities.

Next we were rewarded at the long planned and anticipated grand reception following a very short CFR business meeting. Our hosts were officers and members of the Japan Society of Family Sociology. They welcomed us verbally and provided a wide variety of food and drinks, including many traditional Japanese treats, to ease conversations and exchanges.

On Tuesday five CFR sessions were held; one more than most days. The evening closed with one of the largest and best attended poster sessions.

Besides the many sessions, the LOC (local organization committee) provided several special events throughout the week related to Japanese culture. Jean and participated in the Tea Ceremony demonstration. The elaborate and refined ceremony lived up to its billing relaying respect through grace and good etiquette. We took a lunch break from the congress and went to the 69th floor observatory in the nearby Landmark Tower. The tower is the tallest building in Yokohama, maybe even Japan, with great views all-around of the city and country side. Unfortunately it was not clear enough to see the major tourist attraction, Mt. Fuji.

At the convention center and elsewhere the constant efforts to conserve energy were impressive. Limited use of the air conditioning was soon felt and evident in the meeting rooms. This was no surprise as signs were posted about the raised thermostatic temperatures and why this was being done. Hand Dryers in wash rooms were almost always turned off and usually no cloth or paper towels were provided either. Even nearby moving walkway linking trains stations to shopping areas only were operated during busy traffic daylight hours.

The four CFR sessions on Wednesday included our second roundtable in the morning. Fortunately the organizers had attended the first roundtable and put together guidelines that were effectively implemented for a smooth session. In the last session of the day I presented a paper co-authored with Judy Landesman on long distance commuting to a packed room.

Closed the evening sharing a nightcap with Michael Rush in one of the many nearby eating and drinking establishments in the extensive shopping malls between the convention center and the Landmark Tower. Hundreds of shops and restaurants of every kind and fulfilling any need lined up to five levels of the buildings in many sections. Michael commented that it was the first academic conference he had attended that felt like it was being held in a shopping center.

On Thursday, while I attended or look in on CFR's four sessions, Jean devoted her time to attending some of the health and medical sessions. Around noon, we took the subway to Chinatown, touted as the largest in the world. After an extensive walk, we lunched leisurely in a classy restaurant. For some extra exercise we walked part of way back to the convention center.

The evening closed with the CFR reception where the new officers were to be recognized and their terms of office begun. Rudolf, Ria, and I were wrapping up 8 years of service. We hoped that our stewardship had enhanced the CFR a bit beyond the great organization we inherited and wished the new officers even more success. One addition during our tenure was an award to attract young scholars to the CFR. Consequently, Katarzyna Suwada was recognized as the third recipient of the CFR Early Stage Family Scholar award, for her paper on fathers in Poland and Sweden. Already plans were being made for two seminars next year. One on aging and families at Syracuse University in the USA and the other on families and social policies in Dublin, Ireland. Rudolf Richter issued a special invitation to participate in the 2016 ISA Forum in Vienna, Austria, as the chair of the LOC.

On Friday, CFR again had four sessions. During a break from the Congress, we caught the Akai Kutsu (red shoes) tourist bus, which made stops at major tourist points in the surrounding area. Screens inside the bus provided explanations of key sites in multiple languages. At the furthest stop, we explored the hilltop neighborhood where foreigners had lived exclusively in the last half of the 19th century. We toured the British House, which was the official residence of British Consul General before the 2nd World War, and the surrounding gardens and enjoyed the expansive overview of the harbor.

The name of the bus refers to the red shoes worn by a child in the song of the same name. Most observers believe the song was based on the life of a Japanese girl born in 1902 who was adopted by a U.S.A. couple. Their plans to take her to the U.S. were altered at the last moment, when she was diagnosed with tuberculosis. Fearing she would not withstand the journey, she was left in a church orphanage where she died in 1911. Near the bus stop in Yamashita Park we observed the exquisite bronze statue of a little girl wearing red shoes. She gazes out to sea, presumably musing over the journey and future she missed. Similar statues have been erected at Yokohama Station and elsewhere in Japan.

That evening we caught the subway with Rudolf to attend the grand ISA Congress Farewell Party. After walking through a light rain, long lines awaited us just to get in the door. Once inside the very crowded room offered few open spaces. Food disappeared quickly after it was delivered to the tables but drink was plentiful. Someone even took food off of Jean's plate after she put it down on a table. Some of the guests appeared to be pretty desperate. Despite these challenges we engaged in some great visiting with Anna-Lena Almqvist & Christer from Sweden; Lisa Zottarelli and family from Texas; Mark and Loraine Hutter from New Jersey; Carmel Hannan from Limerick; and Irena Juozeliuniene from Lithuania among others. Jean conversed at length with a French researcher Cherry Schrecker about home hospitalization. She considered Cherry's session the best one she attended during the congress.

On Saturday, the last five CFR sessions were held with the last two having to share the same time slot. We had tried to reschedule one of these to an earlier and solo time slot but to no avail. After checking in on the early sessions, we head to the Kamakura with Mark and Loraine Hutter by train. Kamakura was recommended as a good substitute for the much more distant historical Kyoto. Along the way we learned many details on the right way to catch multiple trains with help from Japanese Railway (JP) staff and three young angelic Japanese girls. Without their help we would not have found our reserved seats in

the more private and quieter green car. Michael Ferrell was correct, the extra cost of riding in these cars was well worth it.

Kamakura is often described as the former de facto capital of Japan because it was the seat of the Shogunate and of the Regency during the Kamakura Period. After arriving we walked from train station along Shopping Town Street to the Tsurugaoka Hachiman-gū, which is the most important Shinto shrine in the city. This Hachiman shrine has also been a Tendai Buddhist temple for most of its history. The extensive campus invited us to spend several leisure hours viewing the variegated gardens, outbuildings, and pausing for lunch at a café by a lovely pool filled with water lilies and supervised by beautiful birds.

Due to the off and on rain after walking back to the train station, we caught a taxi to The Great Buddha of Kamakura. This monumental outdoor statue is located at the Kōtoku-in Temple. The bronze statue probably dates from 1252. At one time, the statue was gilded but all that remains are traces of gold leaf near the statue's ears. Several halls surrounding the statue have been destroyed by storms. The last building housing the statue was washed away in the tsunami of September 20, 1498. The Great Buddha has stood in open since. The statue is approximately 44 feet or 13.35 meters tall including the base and weighs approximately 93 tons or 186,000 pounds. The statue is hollow and for a small charge all but Jean viewed the interior.

A thoughtful notice at the entrance to the grounds reads, "Stranger, whosoever thou art and whatsoever be thy creed, when thou enters this sanctuary remember thou treads upon ground hallowed by the worship of ages. This is the Temple of Buddha and the gate of the eternal, and should therefore be entered with reverence."

We caught the local tourist bus to the train station and headed back to Yokohama, where we regrettably dined at an English style pub (what were we thinking?). The fired greasy food made us (at least me) appreciate the Japanese cuisine we had been enjoying during most of the week.

On Sunday, we and the Hutters caught the JR train to Tokyo. Alighting at the main station we walked to the Imperial Palace where the emperor and family resides. We were not invited in and the grounds were mostly closed but we were able to tour the east garden. Next we toured the Modern Art museum with varied and informative displays dealing with many aspects of Japanese history. Of interest was the Japanese perspective of WWII and exhibits dealing with the devastation of the 2011 tsunami.

While heading back to Tokyo Station, the rain started to pour and increased in intensity the further we walked. So we decided to try going underground as much as possible. After returning to ground level we were by the Palace hotel about half way to the station. Mark after several tries got the hotel doorman to provide direction to walkways to get us all the way to train station underground. It was quite a maze but we had lots of company. After our return to Yokohama we watched the spectacular and lengthy fireworks display for the opening night of the Sparkling Twilight festival in nearby Yamashita Park. Afterwards we adjourned to a Japanese restaurant, which offered a great variety of traditional foods.

On Monday we expected a quiet day for touring but our ignorance as tourists was confirmed. Monday turned out to be the Summer Holiday commemorating the end of the school year and beginning of summer break. Parents and their kids were everywhere. No matter where we turned we ended up dealing with dense crowds of parents and children. Maybe not too wisely, we decided to go to the nearby CupNoodles Museum. Several

colleagues who had survived on ramen noodles in college had recommended we attend. The Museum's founder, entrepreneur Momofuku Ando's first major invention was the Chicken Ramen in 1958, followed by the CUPNOODLES in 1971. If we had only read the blurb beforehand that this was an "interactive museum designed to stir the creativity and curiosity within every child," we might have chosen to go elsewhere as dense crowd dominated the venue starting at the entrance.

Next we decided to try the hopefully more sedate and less dense Silk Museum. On the walk to the museum, we stopped for lunch at Skandia Restaurant, which provided a nice mix of Japanese and Scandinavian cuisine. At the museum we were not disappointed with the demonstrations of the turning silkworm into fabric process, history of silk trade, and displays of Japanese silk clothing from most historical periods. The Museum Shop offered an array of beautiful scarfs and many other silk-related products and books. Below the museum were several nice shops with one specializing in American antiques, especially from the 1950s. Many childhood memories were triggered as we roamed the aisles. Back at the hotel we finalized arrangements for return to Narita airport.

On Tuesday, we started the day with a quiet leisurely stroll along the bay. After a while the air warmed up rather quickly, so we headed back to the hotel to pack. We caught the limousine bus to Narita Airport to get a contrasting view from our inland train trip. The road were packed. We skirted Tokyo Bay most of the way and passed Japan's Disney World near Tokyo. The bus was not crowded so we chose the best seats for viewing the sites as we passed them.

At the airport in a rush to buy something before going to the gate for our return flight, I chose to enter the most crowded duty free store on purpose. My thinking was the throng indicated the best place to get the greatest choice with the most reasonable prices. While once again navigating a dense crowd, a display of colorful garments caught my eye. I thought I was buying a Kimono for each of our four grandchildren but was surprised to find each labeled as a Yukata later upon closer inspection. I learned that both garments are traditional Japanese clothing that share some characteristics but with clear distinctions. A Yukata is made from cotton fabric while a kimono is made from silk fabric, thus explaining why they were affordable. A Yukata is worn during the summer season or as a bathrobe. Well it was July after all. Also, Kimonos have unique and more elaborate designs. Still the Yukata did make for colorful and unique gifts.

As we smoothly flew home, we took time to relax and reflect on our rewarding journey. This was the most expensive trip we have ever taken for a CFR event. Based on our admittedly limited experience, it would be very costly to live in Japan. Almost everything seemed to be more expensive than in the U.S., especially the food. One exception was that most museums admitted those 65 years or older free of charge. The CupNoodles Museum was an exception, but we were granted a reduced rate. Despite staying in the most expensive convention hotel, we had to pay extra for almost all of the services often included elsewhere. Extra fees were charged to use the pool, the fitness center, and the business center. Still we considered the trip a real bargain, primarily due to how friendly and helpful the Japanese were during our stay. When trying to meet unexpected challenges or when confused on what to do, someone always came to our rescue. Maybe many the Japanese, especially the young, have a sensitivity or radar for bewilderment. Our short introduction to Japan lead us to hope we are able to return soon to visit many more sites and get to know better the lovely people of Japan.

5. Farewell from Rudolf, Rudy, & Ria (RC06 board, 2006-2014)



Rudolf Richter, former President (2006-2014)

As a kind of farewell I encourage us – the Family Researchers: Be cumulative!

Back from Yokohama I read a book, which caught my attention at the book exhibition on the conference site. It was Robert Smith's Cumulative Social Inquiry. He pleads for more accumulation of knowledge in sociology. In the last decades "originality" and "novelty" have dominated research endeavors. The strong tendency to be "original" and to look for "novelty" brought a mess of not related results to sociology, and I think to family sociology as well. (I found it very characteristic that in my own session in Yokohama we had a presentation on lunchboxes in England as well as multivariate secondary analysis of big data sets like the gender and generation survey, both thrilling). An innumerable amount of research questions with unrelated methods has brought chaos in results rather than a progression of knowledge. Cumulative science does not mean reproducing the very same, researching what has been researched before. Building on research results and specifying them might, according to Robert Smith, be the foundation of innovative knowledge. Thus cumulating knowledge is what brings us forward rather than a chaos of originality.

I think these are more than just inspiring ideas, it could be the mission of the Committee of Family Research. An international research committee is the right place to cumulate knowledge. Not necessarily in cooperative research – though this might be the ideal – but more so in seeing what sociologists in other countries deal with, what the problems in other countries are and which questions are being raised, waiting for an answer which might be answered by raising these questions globally.

I have enjoyed staying in a central position in the Committee for Family Research and would like to encourage the new board to continue promoting the integration and cumulation of global knowledge.

Thank you, members, for all your help and enthusiasm in putting forward family sociology through the last eight years during which I was able to serve as president. We had several seminars world wide, sometimes two a year, a lively committee you are in.



Rudy Ray Seward, former Vice-President (2006-2014)

During the first meetings of the new CFR board held during the XVI World Congress in 2006, I felt fully adopted into a very special family. These meetings on the patio outside the International Convention Centre in Durban, South Africa during cool July days in 2006 contributed to an appreciation of the rich and diverse history of CFR. My long time mentor, colleague, friend and Honorary President Jan Trost expanded my research horizons in the 1970s, during my visiting fellowship at Stockholm University. Several SU colleagues stressed the need to contact the leading family scholar in Sweden. As a result I joined Jan's family study group, which led to joining CFR. Active participation in the CFR began as part of the 2000 Uppsala seminar hosted by Jan. The seminar so rewarding and stimulating to my research that I made CFR membership and meetings my top priority.

The transition of the new 2006-2010 board was greatly facilitated by previous President Bernhard Nauck and long serving Secretary/treasurer Irene Levin. Fortunately, Irene continued to serve on the new Board and her sage advice was valuable beyond measure. Our goal was to build on the success of our preceding officers and members whose efforts had created one of the largest, most active, and innovative ISA research committees. During our tenure with help from too many people to thank a variety of interim meetings were held even two during several years, full programs were developed at two World Congress with the number of joint sessions with other RCs increased, from the meeting papers many books and special editions of journals were published, a special award for early stage scholars to help pay travel expenses was established and awarded, grants obtained from the ISA help many members fund their trips to the World Congress, our constitution was rewritten and later revised to become our statutes, and most importantly many collaborations and friendships were fostered. The 2006-2010 officers continued to serve on the 2010-2014 board and were joined by Members at Large Tessa LeRoux, Bárbara Barbosa Neves, and Emiko Ochiai. Like Christina Gomez and Irene Levin on the previous Board besides Board duties they each hosted one of the interim meetings.

On a very personal note, I will always be grateful for the CFR Boards and members for their understanding during my bout with advance aggressive prostate cancer diagnosed in 2007. You all became an important part of my health network and team that helped successfully treat and survive with flourish still testing cancer free. I will always be most grateful. So my hope is that this is NOT a farewell note but a wish to continue the journey together as long as possible. To the 2010-2014 board I wish you all to "fair thee well" as you go forward.

Proud to be one of the 3 Rs.



Ria Smit, former Secretary and Treasurer (2006-2014)

My association with the CFR started under the African winter sun in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa in 1996 when I attended the CFR seminar held at Itala Game Reserve. Here I met, amongst others, longtime RC06 members Chin-Chun Yi, Jan Trost, Wilfried Dumon, Ruth Katz, and Barbara Settles. I remember how I was struck by the combination of vibrant intellectual debate and warm collegiality. I immediately realized that this is a network of academics and researchers that I would like to become a part of. Since I joined RC06 I have not only met many colleagues doing interesting work, learned a lot from them, but also made good friends.

Reflecting on the two terms I have served as Secretary/Treasurer of the CFR between 2006 and 2014, I can honestly say that it has been an absolute pleasure serving the Committee in general and working with Rudolf Richter and Rudy Seward in particular in their capacity as President and Vice President respectively. I am excited about the planned future activities of the Committee and the work the new board has already done. I wish them all the best.

So, as I paged through many pictures taken at CFR seminars and events, I once again realized how much I appreciate being part of this 'extended family' of family researchers.



RC06 Board (2010-2014): Emiko, Barbara, Rudy, Rudolf, Ria, and Tessa at the ISA World Congress in Japan (from left to right)

6. Conferences

“Aging Families, Changing Families: An International Conference” – Call for papers, RC06-RC11 Conference in Syracuse, NY, June 2015

This conference will provide a forum for scholarly papers on aging in the context of family life with an emphasis on social change and global perspectives. Co-sponsored by the Research Committees on Aging and Family Research of the International Sociological Association and the Aging Studies Institute of Syracuse University.

Dates: 3-6 June 2015

Keynote Speakers:

Andrew Cherlin, Johns Hopkins University,
Martin Kohli, European University Institute
Ingrid Arnet Connidis, University of Western Ontario

Topics include (but are not limited to):

- Intergenerational, spousal and sibling relations over the second half of life,
- Caregiving, grandparenting, filial piety
- Widowhood, changing family forms (divorce, remarriage, step-relations, cohabitation),
- Intersections of older families with race, class, gender, sexuality, and/or transnationalism
- Implications of family life for well-being,
- Welfare-state policies as they relate to older families,
- Historical, demographic, comparative, and developmental perspectives on aging families.

Abstracts are due December 15, 2014.

For more information and online abstract submission, visit the conference website:

<http://asi.syr.edu/event/agingfamilies2015/>

Email questions to: AgingFamilies2015@maxwell.syr.edu

Co-Sponsored by: Syracuse University Aging Studies Institute, Maxwell School of Public Policy and Citizenship, Falk College of Sport and Human Dynamics.

“Individualisation, Internationalisation and Family Policy” – Call for papers, RC06 Seminar in Dublin, August 2015

“Individualisation, Internationalisation and Family Policy” is an international seminar co-hosted by the School of Applied Social Science, University College Dublin and the Research Committee on Family Research (RC06) of the International Sociological Association. The seminar will take place between Thursday 20th and Saturday 22nd August 2015 in the purpose built, and state of the art building known as the Quinn School of Business, on the UCD Belfield campus.

Increased opportunities for individuals to exercise autonomy across the life cycle are transforming family life for parents and children and for single people without children. Individualisation also brings a new sense of agency for individuals within a plurality of family forms and therefore presents new challenges for demographic and family policy makers. This new sense of agency and family pluralism is allied to a decline in patriarchy, increased access to contraception and to changing patterns of fertility and demographic change. This seminar recognises the role of epistemic communities of research scholars in contributing to the development of knowledge about the nature of family pluralism and to support family policy transfers across the European Union and between advanced and emerging welfare states and welfare systems within and beyond the OECD. The seminar theme encompasses a wide range of potential research topics on families from sociological, demographic, historical, psychological and educational perspectives.

On behalf of the ISA Family Research Committee and the School of Applied Social Science, the seminar organizing committee cordially invites scholars from the disciplines of sociology, social policy, gender studies and other interested social scientists to participate in this event. The conference theme encompasses a wide range of potential research topics on families from sociological, demographic, historical, psychological, comparative social policy, gender studies and children’s rights perspectives. The local organizing committee also welcomes other suggestions. Please write to Dr. Michael Rush (michael.rush@ucd.ie) or Professor Tony Fahey (tony.fahey@ucd.ie) at the school of Applied Social Science, UCD.

If you are interesting in participating please observe the following important dates:

Deadline to submit a (300 word) abstract: Monday, January 12th 2015

Notification of the status of your submission: Monday, February 9th 2015

Registration: from Monday 16th February – Friday 20th March 2015

More information regarding the seminar including events and accommodation will be made available in the coming weeks.

Submit abstracts to michael.rush@ucd.ie

Important note: A participation grant may be awarded to an early stage family scholar who is judged to have authored the best original paper accepted for presentation at the RC06 2015 seminar in Dublin. See the guidelines on page 16 of this newsletter.

“Education Resilience among Asian Children in Challenging Family Environment”

National University of Singapore,
4-5 February 2015

Organizers: Dr. Haibin Li and Prof. Wei-Jun Jean Yeung

For more information:

http://www.ari.nus.edu.sg/events_categorydetails.asp?categoryid=6&eventid=1573

7. Early Stage Family Scholar Award (ESFSA) – Call for the RC06 2015 Dublin Seminar

A participation grant may be awarded to an early stage family scholar who is judged to have authored the best original paper accepted for presentation at the RC06 2015 seminar in Dublin. This seminar is co-hosted by the School of Applied Social Science, University College Dublin, and will take place between Thursday 20th and Saturday 22nd August 2015 in the Quinn School of Business (UCD Belfield campus). Please check the call for papers on page 13 of this newsletter.

Early stage scholars must submit completed papers by April 30, 2015. Papers should be sent to the chair of the *Early Stage Family Scholar Award (ESFSA)* committee, Professor Mark Hutter, Rowan University: hutter@rowan.edu.

The amount awarded will not exceed US\$1,000. Early stage scholars include graduate students currently completing a PhD degree or recent recipients of a PhD in sociology or in a related discipline.

The ESFSA committee and RC06 President and board may nominate the winning paper for consideration for publication in the *Journal of Comparative Family Studies (JCFS)*. The editor of JCFS will decide if further review is needed and make the final decision on acceptance of the paper for publication.

Deadlines:

Papers due: April 30, 2015

Announcement of results: May 31, 2015

Guidelines of the ESFSA

Early Stage Family Scholar Award to support participation in ISA World Congress and Seminars has been instituted in 2010 by the Research Committee on Family Research (RC06 CFR) of the International Sociological Association.

Eligibility

Early stage scholars include graduate students currently completing a PhD degree or recent recipients of the PhD in sociology or in a related discipline. Scholars with equivalent graduate degrees are also eligible. Recent recipients of the PhD must have earned the degree within the 3 years prior to dates of the World Congress or CFR Seminar. In case of joint or multiple authors, this rule applies to all authors of the submitted paper. Early stage scholars candidates must be members of CFR.

Award

A participation grant may be awarded to an early stage family scholar who is judged to have authored the best original paper accepted for presentation at the World Congress or CFR

Seminar. Early Stage scholars must submit completed papers at least six months before the World Congress or CFR Seminar to allow adequate time for evaluation. Amount awarded will not exceed US\$1,000 and must be used to cover travel and conference expenses. When the paper has more than one author, the amount may be used by the first author or shared among the authors.

Submission

Candidates must submit an **original** paper that has not been previously published, accepted for publication, or presented elsewhere. The paper should not contain more than 6,000 words not counting references, notes, tables, and figures. The paper must be typewritten, double spaced, on one side of the paper with margins of 3 cm or 1 inch, and the pages numbered. References, notes, tables, and figures and should appear at the end of the paper in that order. For each table and figure, insert a location note (i.e., Table 1 about here) in the text of the paper. Style should follow the *Journal of Comparative Family Studies*' guidelines (<http://soci.ucalgary.ca/jcfs/welcome/submission-guidelines>). Papers not conforming to these rules run the risk of being rejected. Papers must be written in English or an English translation provided. An electronic version as either a .doc or .pdf file should be e-mailed as an attachment to the RC06 secretary. Include "early stage family scholar paper" in the subject line of your message. The paper must be received at least six months before the World Congress or CFR Seminar. To remain anonymous during the evaluation process, authors should not put their name on the paper itself but include a separate title page with their family name (capital letters), first name, sex, date of birth, first language or mother tongue, degrees awarded and dates completed, address where they can be reached, and their present occupation (or this information can be put in the text of an e-mail message). When the paper has more than one author, the contributions by each author should be noted. An electronic acknowledgement of submissions will be provided.

Evaluation

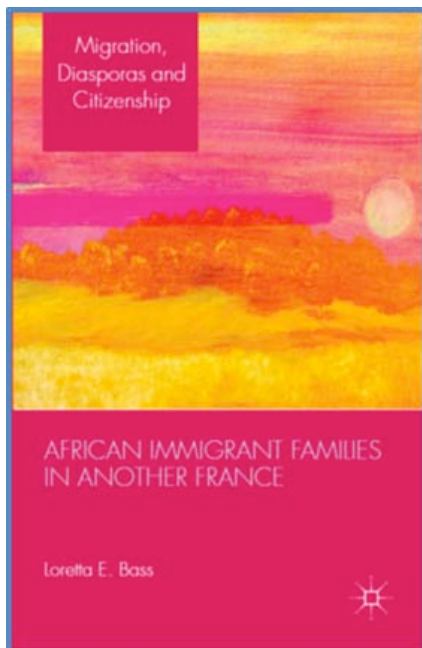
Papers will be evaluated according to perceptiveness with which issues are treated, the quality of materials presented, the consistency with which an analytic framework is used, the originality of ideas, and the clarity of style. At least three CFR members will be appointed by the President in consultation with the Board to serve as referees to determine the winner. One member of the Board will serve as the Coordinator of the process. Papers will be judged anonymously and the recommendations will be presented by the Coordinator to the President and Board for final approval. The CFR Referees, President, and Board reserve the right not to select a winner.

Publication

The winning paper may be nominated by the CFR Referees, President, and Board for consideration for publication in the *Journal of Comparative Family Studies*. The editor of JCFS will decide if further review is needed and make the final decision on acceptance of the paper for publication.

8. Recent Publications by CFR Members

Books



African Immigrant Families In Another France

Loretta E. Bass

2014

In many European countries tensions have arisen between the demands of the labor market and the caregiving responsibilities workers must fulfill at home. Examining these tensions, *Work and Care under Pressure* focuses on two groups of people who must juggle work and caregiving: parents of young children who work nonstandard hours and working adults who care for older parents. Based on empirical evidence from six European countries, this volume sheds light on the social effects of national policies

and the choices made by caregivers. It is an essential resource for researchers, scholars, and policy makers interested in social policy.

The incorporation of Sub-Saharan African immigrant families is a key issue for France and Europe at large. Using the voices of first and second-generation immigrants to describe their integration experiences, this book illustrates how racial and immigrant statuses are assigned simultaneously and inseparably for those of African-descent in France, and in turn limit employment and social cohesion, often irrespective of an individual's qualifications or citizenship documents. First- and second-generation African youth report being, "French on the inside, African on the out," because they hold a French mentality but are continually treated as outsiders. At the same time, this research connects individual-level cultural and religious factors that shape varied levels of resilience and immigrant outcomes. This book explains how the practices of French universalism and secularism together have become a straightjacket and ostrich policy for France, as the difficulties of incorporation are obfuscated by data regulations that limit the ability to measure social inequalities patterned by ethnic or immigrant descent.

To view a free, sample chapter from Dr. Bass' new book, visit: http://www.palgrave.com/resources/sample-chapters/9780230361959_sample.pdf.

Individuals may get a 30% discount with code PM14THIRTY until Dec. 31, 2014. US and Canada use: http://www.palgrave.com/page/detail/?sf1=id_product&st1=544985&loc=us.

Outside the US and Canada use:

http://www.palgrave.com/page/detail/?sf1=id_product&st1=544985&loc=uk.

For a review copy, send request on letterhead to: Fax: 212-674-6132 or St. Martin's Press, Publicity Department, 175 5th Avenue NY, NY 10010.

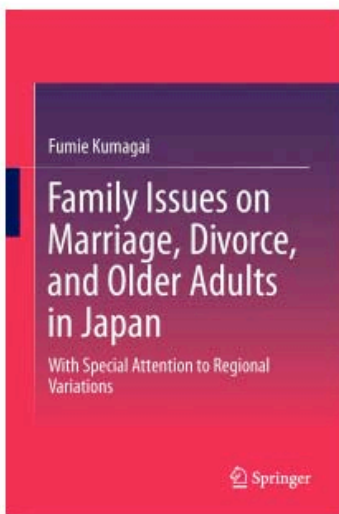
Family Issues on Marriage, Divorce, and Older Adults in Japan

Fumie Kumagai

2014



springer.com



2015, X, 219 p. 54 illus., 31 illus. in color.

 **Printed book**

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- ▶ 99,99 € | £90.00 | \$129.00
- ▶ *106,99 € (D) | 109,99 € (A) | CHF 133.50

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F. Kumagai

Family Issues on Marriage, Divorce, and Older Adults in Japan

With Special Attention to Regional Variations

- ▶ Approaches Japanese demography and families from a regional variation perspective
- ▶ Challenges Japanese family issues through the dual perspective of traditional and modern natures
- ▶ Builds on demography and families in Japan from historical, cultural, and qualitative perspectives
- ▶ Contributes a Japanese perspective to understanding of the Japanese family

This book provides insightful sociological analyses of Japanese demography and families, paying attention not only to national average data, but also to regional variations and community level analyses. In analyzing Japanese family issues such as demographic changes, courtship and marriage, international marriage, divorce, late-life divorce, and the elderly living alone, this book emphasizes the significance of two theoretical frameworks: the dual structure and regional variations of the community network in Japan.

By emphasizing the extensive cultural diversity from one region to another, this book represents a paradigm shift from former studies of Japanese families, which relied mostly on national average data. The method of analysis adopted in the study is qualitative, with a historical perspective. The book is thus an invitation to more in-depth, qualitative dialogue in the field of family sociology in Japan.

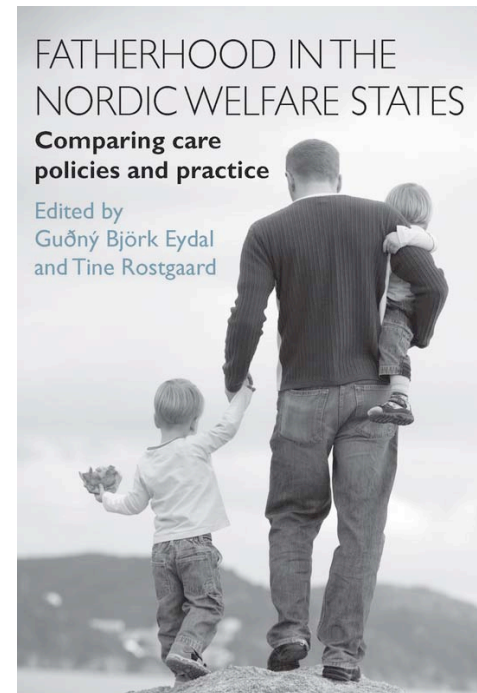
This book will be of great interest not only to Asian scholars, but also to other specialists in comparative family studies around the world.

Fatherhood in the Nordic Welfare States

Edited by Guðný Björk Eydal & Tine Rostgaard

2014

The five Nordic countries, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden, are well-known for their extensive welfare system and gender equality which provides both parents with opportunities to earn and care for their children. In this topical book, expert scholars from the Nordic countries, as well as UK and the US, demonstrate how modern fatherhood is supported in the Nordic setting through family and social policies, and how these contribute to shaping and influencing the images, roles and practices of fathers in a diversity of family settings and variations of fatherhoods. This comprehensive volume will have wide international appeal for those who look to Nordic countries and their success in creating gender equal societies.



Articles

Zartler Ulrike: **Children's imagined future families. Relations between future constructions and present family forms in Austria.** *Childhood*. Online first.

Existing research on children's depictions of their future families has primarily focused on gender aspects. In contrast, this study highlights children's family structures as an arena of differentiation. The research is based on qualitative interviews with 50 Austrian 10-year-old children and relies on a social constructionist approach. Results indicate considerable differences with regard to family structure: Children living in non-nuclear families emphasised their wish to correspond to the norm, presented less detailed ideas about future partnerships, ascribed more agency to children and constructed parental roles differently from those living in nuclear families. However, distinctions were less pronounced in terms of gender roles.

Zartler Ulrike (2014): **How to deal with moral tales. Constructions and strategies of single-parent families.** *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 76 (3), 604-619.

This study explored how normative understandings based on the nuclear family ideology are linked to constructions of single-parent families and sheds light on the strategies single parents and their children adopt in dealing with negative accounts. Guided by social constructionist and configurational approaches, the in-depth analysis is based on an Austrian qualitative study,

comprising interviews with 50 ten-year-old children and their 71 parents, living in nuclear, reconstituted, and single-parent families. The results showed that single-parent families are constructed predominantly in terms of deficits and disadvantages, with the nuclear family serving as an ideological code along the dimensions of normalcy, complementarity, and stability. To deal with negative accounts, single parents and their children use three basic types of strategy: (a) imitation, (b) compensation, and (c) delimitation.

Zartler Ulrike, Richter Rudolf (2014): **My Family through the Lens. Photo Interviews with Children and Sensitive Aspects of Family Life.** *Children & Society*, 28 (1), 42-54.

We elaborate on an aspect of photo interviews with children that has so far not been considered sufficiently: Photographs may encourage children to talk about sensitive aspects of family life. The potential and limitations of this aspect are discussed along the lines of visibility and invisibility. Visualisations support children in verbalising their thoughts, but also stimulate narrations on issues that are not displayed. Data are drawn from interviews with fifty 10-year-old children who took photographs in their families, and their parents ($n = 71$). We conclude that visual methods and their combination with a multiple perspectives approach may generate substantial benefits in childhood and family research.



**Journal of Family Issues, 35(12), 2014 October,
'Marriage in Asia'**

**Gavin Jones, WJ Jean Yeung (Eds.),
National University of Singapore**
<http://jfi.sagepub.com.libproxy1>

Asian Family Matters: Research Brief Series

This research brief series is intended to provide an overview of research produced by the Changing Family in Asia Cluster at the Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore. It acts as a platform to disseminate research findings and up-coming research to academics, policy makers, and researchers.

Issue 17 (Jul 2014) – “Leftover” Women and “Surplus” Men in China?

Issue 18 (Aug 2014) – Hoping for a Phoenix: Shanghai Fathers and their Daughters

Issue 19 (Sep 2014) – Divorce in Asia

Issue 20 (Oct 2014) – Marriage in Asia

Available here: http://www.ari.nus.edu.sg/article_view.asp?id=18

9. *New Members*

We welcome the following new members:

Rima Sabban
United Arab Emirates

Lake Liu
USA

Aniela Matei
Romania

Andra-Bertha Sanduleasa
Romania

Tureikyte Danute
Lithuania

S.K. Bardhan Roy
India

Hannah Brüeckner
United Arab Emirates

Tony Fahey
Ireland

10. Other Announcements

A new center of interest to our members was founded at the National University of Singapore: the **NUS Center for Family and Population Research (CFPR)**.

Website: <http://www.fas.nus.edu.sg/cfpr>

11. Board of the CFR (2014-2018)

President	Chin-Chun Yi
Vice-president	Mark Hutter
Secretary and Treasurer	Bárbara Barbosa Neves
Members at large	Sylvie Fogiel-Bijaoui Susan McDaniel Margaret O'Brien
Honorary president	Jan Trost

CFR home page:
www.rc06-isa.org

Facebook group: *ISA Research Committee on Family Research*

Twitter account:
[@sociofamilyISA](https://twitter.com/sociofamilyISA)