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Committee on
Family Research
(RC06/CFR)

*International
Sociological
Association*

Contents

President's Column.....	2
Honorary President's Column.....	6
From the Secretary.....	7
2017 RC06 Seminar in Pretoria (CFP).....	9
Publications.....	11
Obituary: Leslie Stanley-Stevens.....	17
Other Announcements.....	22
New Members.....	22
RC06 Board.....	23

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President's Column



Dear colleagues,

For Committee on Family Research (RC06, ISA), there were two exciting events taken place for the first part of 2016. Both are our first experience from the organizational or group perspective. For those who were unable to participate either one, below is my brief report, which hopefully, will provide interesting information.

2016 RC06 Beijing Conference

2016 RC06 annual conference “*Social Change and Family Developments*” was held in Beijing, China from May 25th to 28th, 2016. We’re honored to have the most prestigious sociological research institute in China-- Institute of Sociology, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS)-- to be our co-sponsor. Prof. Zhang Yi, deputy director of the institute, along with Prof. Zhao Ke-Bin (also deputy director) and Dr. Yu Chia formed the local organizing committee. With their persistent and indomitable efforts, an impressive scientific as well as social program was offered to all participants. The opening started with two prominent speakers presenting social changes (Prof. Pei-Lin Li) and family changes in China (Prof. Ju-Hua Yang, Dept. of Sociology, Renmin University of China). Prof. Pei-lin Li is a leading sociologist in China and is the vice-dean of CASS. He first highlighted the overall trend of economic development and distribution patterns in China for the last few decades, then discussed changing structural influences on the construction of social classes in China. He proposes that to achieve an olive-shaped society in the year 2020 will be the major national goal. In order to attain that goal, specific steps include a quick expansion of the middle-income classes as well as to increase 100% of income for the lower-middle income groups, etc. Due to the widening disparity between rich and poor in the recent decades appeared, I think the realization of this ideal in China will become a real national challenge.

The scientific program of the Beijing conference was carried out by keynote speakers in two mornings, 14 parallel sessions and a poster session. LOC invited our former president Prof.

Bernhard Nauck to deliver a plenary talk on “*The Value of Children and the Transition to Adulthood in Cross-Cultural Comparison*”. Analyses from his studies on China, Taiwan, U.S. and Germany, Bernhard confirmed the significant effect of cultural norms on fertility and life course related life aspects, especially for societies in various developmental stages as well as with different welfare systems. The 2nd keynote speech was presented by Prof. Robin Hognas from University of Louisville on “*The Changing Context of Families in the United States*”. Prof. Hognas briefly introduced the recent family trend in the U.S. (e.g., marriage, cohabitation, divorce and grandparenting), then focused on the racial difference and emphasized the importance of family stability on children’s welfare.

Parallel sessions range from union formation, family migration, elderly care, family and labor market, intergenerational relations to gender inequality and family policy. Most notably, two sessions addressing family issues at the local and regional context are arranged: “Family and Marriage in East Asia” and “Research Based on Chinese Family Panel Study”. The deliberate efforts of the LOC along with the advantage of the conference venue invited a substantial number of family researchers from various provinces of China, Hong Kong and Taiwan. Of course, the attraction of Beijing extends to South Asia, South America as well as different parts of Europe. As Prof. Zhang Yi pointed out at the closing ceremony, Beijing conference is characterized by two distinctive features. One is the diversification of participants and the other is the inclusion of family scholars of different generations/cohorts. We were most impressed with many high quality presentations of graduate students from China, Hong Kong, Spain, etc. Hope these junior family scholars will contribute to our future growth.

Lastly, to support the RC06’s welcomed tradition, LOC also planned two social events in the afternoon. A visit to a rural village expands our horizon with a delightful surprise of the nearby “Wild Long Wall” (pertains to the larger amount of dilapidated and unrepaired Great Wall, see photo on the next page). The delicious farm meals afterwards will certainly become our fond memory. The side trip to the most ancient temple in Beijing--Tan-Zhe Si—brought fresh experiences to many participants. Tan-Zhe temple was first built between 265-420 AD and has been restored from Tang, Song, Yuan, Ming to Qing dynasty. The view from the highest structure of the temple was indeed magnificent (see second photo on next page). Social events help members to get acquainted with each other and the Beijing experience echoed this positive fruit.



2016 The Sociological Forum in Vienna

According to the ISA requirement, each research committee must meet at least once between two World Congress (i.e., once every 4 years). While RC06 benefits from member's enthusiastic support and has held annual conference, many other RCs face the problem of finding a meeting venue. Hence, a mid-term Sociological Forum was initiated in 2008 in Barcelona which invited more than 30 RCs to participate. The 2nd Sociological Forum took place in Buenos Aires and attracted the majority RCs to attend. The 3rd Sociological Forum was decided by ISA's executive committee in 2013 and University of Vienna was chosen as the venue for 2016 Sociological Forum.

This is the first time for RC06 to participate in the Sociological Forum. Along with nearly all RCs, the 2016 Sociological Forum was a great success in numbers of attendants (more than 4000 registrants), in organization of sessions (e.g., each RC has own room) as well as in detailed logistics (there were actually food left for both opening reception and the closing party!). The program coordinators for RC06 are our board members: Margaret O'Brien and Barbara Neves. A big and warm applause must acknowledge here to their huge efforts in organizing the inspiring and well-attended 20 sessions from more than 300 abstracts (some RC06 sessions have more than 70 attendants). Margaret also represents RC06 to give a plenary talk on "Do Father-Targeted Policy Measures Improve Gender Equality and Child Well-being?" at the common session.

In addition to scientific sessions, the board decided to hold a reception on the 2nd day of the Forum. We are most pleased to have Institute of Sociology at the University of Vienna to co-sponsor this social event. Prof. Ulrike Zartner who is the chair of the institute and also a family researcher welcomed our members and encouraged to have more intellectual interactions in the future. Special thanks go to Barbara Neves, with the help from our local liaison graduate student—Eva-Maria Schmidt, prepared lovely food and desserts for the occasion. The cozy atmosphere at the gracious arcaded courtyard facilitated the smooth dialogue and exchange among our members.

The success of a conference, especially in a magnitude as the Forum, relies heavily on the responsive, reliable and competent local organizing committee. We are most proud that the chair of LOC is our former president, Prof. Rudolf Richter (he was Dean of Social Sciences at University of Vienna for 10 years). Because of his superb leadership and his team members' contribution, the outstanding organization of the 3rd Sociological Forum has surely lifted the bar very high for the following ISA meetings. On behalf of RC06, I cordially thank Rudolf for his collegial support and great help in many aspects of our sessions, activities, venue selection and the generous timely advice!

As always, I sincerely hope that family research will continue to grow inside as well as outside of the ISA umbrella. For those of you who missed the Vienna Forum, hope you'll join us for future RC06 meetings!

Sincerely yours,

Chin-Chun Yi

Honorary President's Column



At the end of June I went by car down to southern Germany, a drive of about 2,200 km (1,300 miles), to visit my family there. Meaning my cousins still alive on my father's side, I don't have any one left on my mother's side. There are four of them and they all are married. I had not met them before I retired and still I call them "my family." And I feel that we are family the nine of us (my cousins, their spouses and I).

When at home in Uppsala "my family" is different and it usually consists of my children, their husbands and all my 12 grandchildren. Quite a big family.

These ways of using the term family is very common as are other ways; there are an almost unlimited amount of concepts connected to the term. My two examples of which family members I have are examples of a person's (in this case I am the person) definition of her/his family. A person can also have ideas or opinion about the meaning of the term generally or specifically for other person's families.

As some of you can see I am returning to what I have written about for about 40 years: the question of "What is family?"

Evident is that the concepts connected to the term family are bound to the person's definition of the situation. And that in its turn means that a person's family is not, technically speaking, stable; on the contrary it is flexible and the meaning, the concept, can change frequently. Many legal systems use the term family but seldom (if ever) there is a clarification of the meaning of the term. Mostly, I guess, the term family is just a political jargon to satisfy some people.

Some years ago at in international seminar I asked the participants, about 25 persons almost from all over the world: "Please, write down who are members of your family." Three of them, all from India, said that there was no meaning for them all to do what I asked them to do. The reason was simply, according to them, that everyone in India means the same with the term "family". Therefore, it would be enough if just one of them did what I asked them to do. So, I asked them again to be so kind to do what had asked them. Nice persons as they were, they obeyed my wish. 6

When all in the group had finished I asked them to report to all of us who were included. As I knew would happen there was variation of what kind of members they included or not. Some meant that only household members could be family members, others that only what usually is called nuclear family members could be included in their family. Some included pets, some deceased persons, some friends, and so on. The three persons from India also showed clear variation among themselves despite that they had “known” that they meant the same, that they had the same definition of their own families.

One might draw the conclusion that the definition of one’s own family would not at all be culture bound. I would not draw such a conclusion but one of my conclusions would be that there is great variation of the meaning of the term “my family”. A friend of order might say that there is no order at all. That’s one of the problems with homonyms within scientific work.

Jan Trost
jan.trost@soc.uu.se

From the Secretary



Since taking office, this has been the first time that I only get positive feedback about a big ISA conference. Our members were extremely impressed by the stellar organization of the ISA Forum that just took place in Vienna (July), the local hosts, the scientific program, the overall quality of sessions and presenters, the social program, and even our business meeting.

Margaret O’Brien and I, as the RC06 Program Coordinators, were pleased to see how well everything worked out in the end. For that, we need to express our deepest gratitude to the amazing group of session organizers and chairs and to the vigorous work of our dear colleague Rudolf Richter and his team. A special word of gratitude to Eva-Maria Schmidt: thank you for accommodating all our requests and for your assistance during the RC06 reception.

At the Forum, we had a well-attended business meeting, where we discussed our next seminars (Pretoria and Singapore), the *Early Research Career Family Scholar Award* as well as a new initiative to attract graduate students. This new initiative is being devised to fund a graduate session during the ISA World Congress in Toronto for ten doctoral students. During the meeting, we also considered our need to have one additional member supporting us with the newsletter and our social media strategy. Other (smaller) RCs (such as RC11, for instance) appoint different board members to the newsletter, to the website and social media, to membership, and even to finance. Our committee still relies on only one member – the secretary and treasurer – for all these tasks. ⁷

As demands increase with social media and related online dissemination, we need help to keep our community active and engaging in the digital sphere. As such, I am calling out to our tech-savvy members to send me an email if you would like to assist me with our social media, website, and newsletter.

Finally, we took the opportunity at the business meeting to honor and celebrate the life of our member and friend Leslie Stanley-Stevens. Leslie passed away a few weeks before the Forum. I have met Leslie in 2011 at our RC06 seminar in Kyoto and we shared adventures and reading lists ever since. I have asked Rudy Seward, our former Vice-President and long-time friend of Leslie and her family, to write an obituary for our newsletter. Please find his heartfelt tribute on page 17. As Rudy notes: we are more than a scientific community; we are a community of friends. In this spirit, I would like to share this picture of us in Japan (from left to right: Chin-Chun Yi, Barbara, Leslie, and Ria).



In this Gazette, you can find the call for papers for our RC06 seminar in Pretoria (April 2017) and a list of recent publications of our members. Please note that the Singapore joint-conference with RC41 was postponed. However, we have a RC06 member in Mexico enthusiastically preparing a call for 2017 (early December). We will send out more information as soon as possible.

Please don't forget to follow us on Twitter (@sociofamilyisa) and to join us on Facebook: ISA Research Committee on Family Research.

Best regards,

Barbara Barbosa Neves

barbara@bbneves.com or barbara.barbosa@unimelb.edu.au

We have great pleasure in inviting you to a conference focusing on **‘Families and patterns of care’**

The conference will take place in **Pretoria, Tshwane in South Africa** from **24 to 26 April 2017** at the **University of South Africa (UNISA)**. Family and gender specialists are invited to participate in the conference by presenting papers covering aspects related to this theme.

If you are interested to participate, please submit an abstract of between 300 and 600 words before **15 January 2017** to rabeme@unisa.ac.za

You will be notified of the outcome of your abstract by 15 February 2017.

Various forms of physical, emotional and financial care are required by individuals over their life course. Family members are usually the prime caregivers and caregiving may take place with or without external support from other individuals or institutions. Apart from expected caregiving over the life course (for example care needs of young children and frail elderly people), various other forms of temporary care (for example short illnesses) and long term care (for example chronic illness of a severe handicap) may also confront families. Families may also have to take on such caring tasks under difficult circumstances such as displacement or within a context of family conflict. We propose the following sub-themes for the conference but additional themes are also welcomed:

Intergenerational care; Feminist ethics of care and work-life balance; Support and care for sick and disabled family members; Migratory families and patterns of care; African families in different contexts; Families, kin networks and external support of care; Paid care; Exploitation of paid and unpaid caregivers; Care within separated families; Siblings taking on care activities; Family policy; The interplay between health care and families.

RC06 Junior Scholars Award

Evaluation process to determine the recipient

Please observe the following important dates:

31 January 2017: Papers submitted
1 March 2017: Winner confirmed

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.

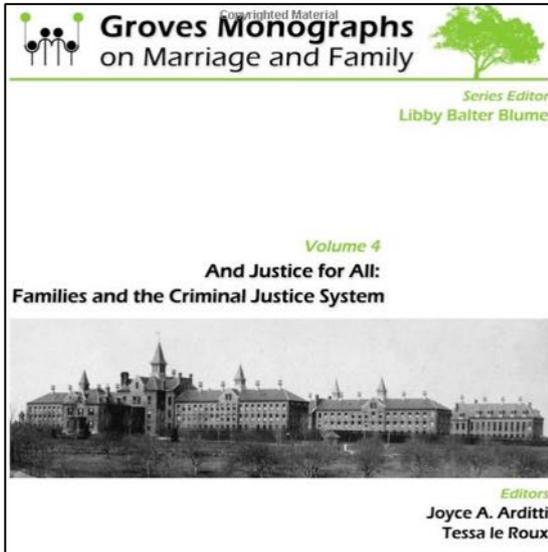
At least three RC06/CFR members will be appointed by the President in consultation with the Board to serve as referees to determine the winner. One member of the Board will serve as the Coordinator of the process.

Papers will be judged anonymously and the recommendations will be presented by the Coordinator to the President and Board for final approval.

The RC06/CFR Referees, President, and Board reserve the right not to select a winner.

PUBLICATIONS

Books



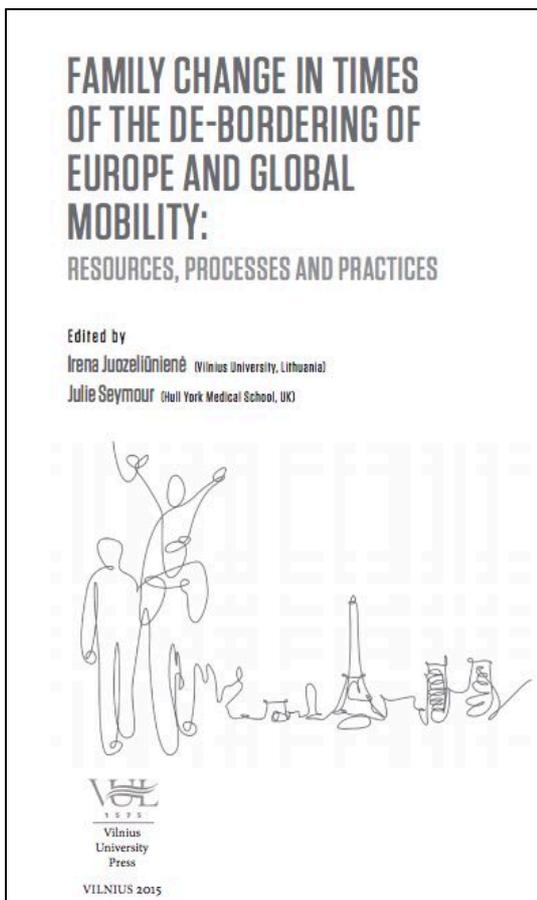
And Justice for All: Families and the Criminal Justice System 2015

Groves Monographs on Marriage and Family. Volume 4. Ann Arbor: Michigan Publishing.

Book co-edited by our member **Tessa Le Roux**

This publication is available here:

<http://quod.lib.umich.edu/g/groves/> and for purchase at Amazon.com.



Family Change in Times of De-bordering of Europe and Global Mobility 2015

Vilnius: Vilnius University Press
UDK 930.2(474.5); ISBN 978-609-459-198-3
(in Lithuanian and English)

Book co-edited by our member **Irena Juozeliūninė**

The aim goal of this edited volume is to reveal the possibilities for applying three theoretical perspectives – intergenerational solidarity, family practices, and symbolic interactionism – to the study of family changes produced by global migration. Earlier studies demonstrated that families undergo changes on different levels, which sparked the idea of analysing families by invoking different theories and research methodologies, more specifically the perspectives of intergenerational solidarity, family processes, and family practices.



Balancing Work and Family in a Changing Society: The Fathers' Perspective
2016

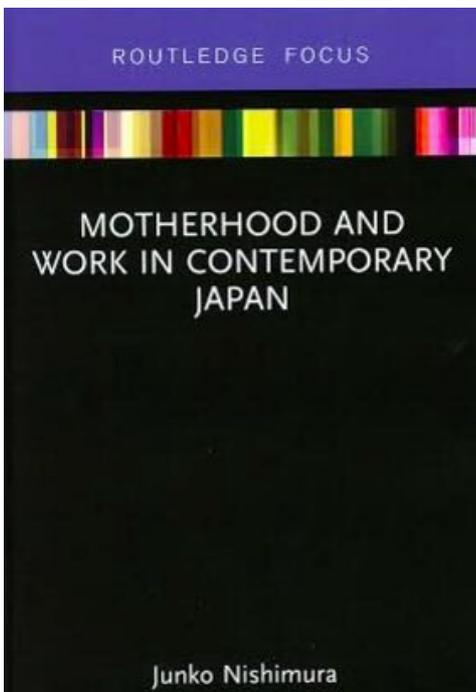
Palgrave

Book edited by our members **Isabella Crespi** and **Elisabetta Ruspini**, including several chapters by RC06 members. Fruitful result of a roundtable organized by the editors at the last ISA Congress.

Both research and policy on balancing work and family life have tended to focus on mothers' lives. There has been a general lack of comparative research to the complex intersection between old and new forms of masculinity; and between fatherhood, work-life balance, gender relations and children's well-being. As a result, men's fathering roles and their struggle with work-life balance have often been neglected. These cultural challenges should be better theorized within family and social policy research. This volume examines how fathers fulfill their roles both within the family and at work and what institutional support could be of most benefit to them in combining these roles.

This publication is available here:

<http://www.palgrave.com/br/book/9781137595270>



Motherhood and Work in Contemporary Japan
2016

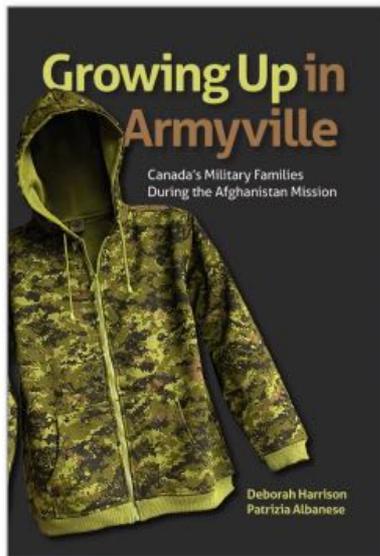
Routledge

Book authored by our member **Junko Nishimura**

This book explores the employment of Japanese women born in the 1960s and 1970s who experienced childbirth and raised children in the 1990s and the early 2000s. During this period, the Japanese economy experienced a severe recession. It has affected the firm-specific internal labour market and on employment practices, which in turn are thought to have greatly influenced Japanese women's employment. On the other hand, the fertility rate declined and social policies to support women's employment began to be implemented after the 1990s. This book explores how these labour market structure and social policies interact to affect Japanese women's employment.

This publication is available here:

<https://www.amazon.com/Motherhood-Contemporary-Routledge-Research-Gender/dp/1138943665>



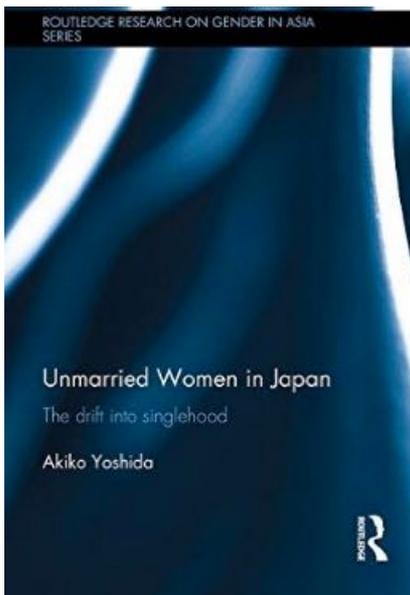
Print | October 2016 | 215 pages | 6 x 9 | paper | \$38.99
 Studies in Childhood and Family in Canada series
 978-1-77112-234-4 | ebook available

Growing Up in Armyville 2016

Wilfrid Laurier University Press

Book co-authored by our member **Patrizia Albanese**

It was 2006, and eight hundred soldiers from the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) base in pseudonymous “Armyville,” Canada, were scheduled to deploy to Kandahar. Many students in the Armyville school district were destined to be affected by this and several subsequent deployments. Beyond its research findings, this pioneering book considers the past, present, and potential role of schools in supporting children who have been affected by military deployments. It also assesses the broader human costs to Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) families of their enforced participation in the volatile overseas missions of the twenty-first century.



Unmarried Women in Japan: The drift into singlehood November 2016

Routledge

Book authored by our member **Akiko Yoshida**

This book addresses the common misconceptions of single, never-married women and aims to uncover the major social and cultural factors contributing to this phenomenon in Japan. Based on interviews with married and never-married women aged 25-46, she argues that the increasing rate of female singlehood is largely due to structural barriers and a culture that has failed to keep up with economic changes.

Love and Intimacy in Online Cross-Cultural Relationships: The Power of Imagination October 2016

Book authored by our member **Wilasinee Pananakhonsab**

In this book, the experiences of Thai women are used to explore how they initiate, develop, and maintain love and intimacy with Western men across distance and time.

This publication is available here: <http://www.palgrave.com/gp/book/9783319351186>

Articles

Bertogg, Ariane, and Marc Szydlik. 2016. *The Closeness of Young Adults' Relationships with Their Parents*. Swiss Journal of Sociology 42(1):41-59.

Abstract: How close are the relationships between young adults and their parents today? Which factors account for closer or less close relationships between the generations? The theoretical model considers opportunity, need, family and cultural-contextual structures. The empirical analyses draw on the Swiss TREE survey ("Transitions from Education to Employment"). They reveal remarkably close ties between the generations. However, we also find a number of strains, such as the separation of parents and unemployment of adult children, that contribute to family relationships being less close. The findings provide insight into the reality of intergenerational relationships during a dynamic period of life.

Crespi, Isabella et al. (2015): **Family, Work and Old Women's Situation in Italy and Spain: New Gender Inequalities**. AG AboutGender, 4 (8):20-52.

Abstract: The discussion about women's situation in old age has often been restricted to their employment biographies. For women, however, family factors play a large role in connection with welfare state models. The key research question is: "How has the condition of older women, including their retirement, been influenced by family- and job-related factors in Southern Europe?" Italy and Spain, particularly, exemplify the Mediterranean, familistic welfare model. This paper shows results from the Survey of Health and Retirement in Europe (SHARE) relative to these two countries (Wave 1). The data analysed highlight the impact of different experiences of motherhood, marriage and career, on women's retirement years. SHARELIFE contains standard questions concerning job and family life aspects. The samples thus obtained provide cases for further research on the situation of ageing women, including those who live alone. SHARE data show that, since the beginning of 2000, women have had shorter careers compared to men, with many career breaks. These differences, which were not followed by any balancing policies in the Lisbon agenda decade, are now affecting women's retirement and creating new gender inequalities.

Zanier, Maria Letizia, and **Isabella Crespi** (2015). **Facing the Gender Gap in Aging: Italian Women's Pension in the European Context**, in *SOCIAL SCIENCES*, 4: 1185-1206.

Abstract: The purpose of this paper is to provide an overview of the phenomenon of increasing gender inequalities that happen at old age regarding women's pension. Moving from recent life-course theories and studies, this study analyzes the reasons behind gender-biased pension levels and how their cumulative effects result in (continuous) significant gender gaps. The article presents a European overview of pension gender gap, focusing on family and work-life issues in Italy. This is one of the first critical reviews of the small but growing literature and national data concerning the effect of gender inequalities related to pension gaps in Italy. In the past, research on the balance of welfare provision between State, family, and market has ignored gender, while more recent studies have barely explored how gender roles, changing over time, interact with the shifts in pension policies. Considering the effects of work-life balance policies since the 2000 Lisbon agenda process and its development, the study especially focuses on the Italian case within the European context. The article examines how the choices in work-life balance policies vary between different national contexts and welfare regimes, by highlighting the Italian case. In this country, welfare and social policy regimes remain very unbalanced, showing a lack of awareness of family and women's needs, as in many Southern countries, and Italy is not able to give appropriate answers to these problems and to the question of the growing gender gap. This article finally shows the poignancy of structural and cultural reasons for gender differentiated pension levels in Italy, within the European context, according to patterns of employment, marital, and maternal status between earlier and later generations of women.

Book Chapters

Crespi, I. (2016) **Living in multicultural families: Education, values and relationships in a globalized society**, in *Trust and conflict in intercultural processes. Experiences, practices and reflections*. Macerata, EUM; pp. 137 – 152.

Seward, R.R. and Rush M. (2016) '**Changing fatherhood and fathering across cultures towards convergence in work-life balance: Divergent progress or stalemate?**' In Crespi, I. & Ruspini, E. (eds) *Balancing Work and Family in Changing Society: The Fathers' Perspective*, (pp. 13-31), Series: Global Masculinities. New York: Palgrave MacMillan.

Rush, M. and Seward, R.R. (Spring 2016) '**Parental leave in the U.S.: International Outlier riding a new wave among cross-currents**' in *National Council for Family Relations' Report: Cultural Sea Change and Families*, FF67, pp. F15-F18.

Other Publications

- The **Wiley Blackwell Encyclopedia of Family Studies** was published recently (March 2016) and includes several contributions by our members. For example, “**Families in Israel**” by **Sylvie Fogiel-Bijaoui** and “**Families in Portugal**” by **Fausto Amaro** and **Barbara Barbosa Neves**.
Available here:
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/book/10.1002/9781119085621>
- Wei-Jun Jean Yeung and Hyunjoon Park edited a new double issue entitled “**Growing Up in One-Parent Families in Asia**” in **Marriage and Family Review**, which contains ten articles examining one-parent families in East Asia, South Asia, and Southeast Asia.
Available here: <http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/wmfr20/52/1-2>
- In the **Journal of Family Theory and Review** (Volume 8, Issue 2, 2016), **Tessa Le Roux** edited a collection of reviews of eight classical works in feminist family scholarship including Ann Oakley (*The Sociology of Housework* – reviewed by our own **Ria Smit**), Jesse Bernard (*The Future of Marriage*), Audre Lorde (*Sister Outsider*), Lillian Faderman (*Odd Girls and Twilight Lovers*) and others. The books are discussed in light of contemporary social conditions and literature in the field. The reviewers considered the impact these works had when they were first published, and the way they shaped scholarship.
Available here:
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jftr.2016.8.issue-2/issuetoc>
- **Irene Juozeliūnienė** co-edited in 2016 a special issue of the **Journal of Comparative Family Studies** entitled “Reshaping Families in Northern Europe” (47, 1).
- The **2016 edition** of the annual **International Review of Leave Policies and Research** is now available, and can be accessed at: http://www.leavenetwork.org/lp_and_r_reports/review_2016/ This year the review covers 39 countries (with new entries for Korea and Romania), providing individual country reports as well as comparative tables. Country reports provide detailed information on a wide range of statutory leaves (maternity, paternity, parental, for care of sick relatives etc.), as well as sections on the relationship between leave and early childhood services, recent policy developments, take-up of leave, and recent publications and research.
- **Jianghong Li** and Matthias Pollmann-Schult’s article “**Fathers’ Commute to Work and Children’s Social and Emotional Well-Being in Germany**”, published in the **Journal of Family and Economic Issues** (2015) has been receiving considerable media attention in Europe.

Obituary



Leslie Stanley-Stevens

May 15, 1961 – June 22, 2016

Faculty, alumni, and students at the University of North Texas (UNT - Denton) are celebrating the life of Leslie Stanley-Stevens, who died quietly surrounded by her family on June 22nd at age 55. Leslie's rise to a star alumna started when she was admitted unconditionally into the sociology Ph.D. program in 1989. Her intellectual capacity, determination, and positive attitude made her a great student both inside and outside the classroom. She earned a perfect 4.0 GPA in her course work with philosophy and computer science complementing sociology courses. Before becoming an independent teaching fellow, she served successfully as a research assistant and teaching assistant. The birth of fraternal twin sons, Forrest and Parker, and co-parenting with Christopher, while working towards the Ph.D., contributed greatly to her interest in parenting, family, and gender. Because of high marks from faculty mentors and on students' evaluations, Leslie was one of the few teaching fellows asked to teach upper level advanced courses. The faculty's high evaluation marks and praise were acknowledged and rewarded when Leslie swept all awards possible by the time she was graduated with her Ph.D. in 1994. These included UNT's Outstanding Teaching Fellow Award, Outstanding Graduate Woman Award, and the most prestigious Robert Toulouse Award. Department awards included the Hiram Friedsam Award and Outstanding Teaching Fellow, which she was awarded twice. Leslie's Professors strongly agreed with her Major Professor Dale Yeatts' assessment that Leslie was one of the most outstanding sociology Ph.D. graduates ever.

At Tarleton State University (TSU) in Stephenville, Texas; faculty, alumni, and students are also celebrating Leslie's life, where she diligently served on the faculty for 20 years in a variety of roles. At TSU she continued her outstanding performance in all these roles, which again were acknowledged with many awards. Leslie's great and varied experiences in academia as a student, teacher, researcher, scholar, and author led to her being nominated for the pinnacle TSU faculty award: Texas A&M University System Regents Professorship. Leslie was awarded the system wide Regents Professorship in 2014-15.

Leslie's colleagues attending the July International Sociological Association's (ISA) 3rd Forum in Vienna, Austria were shocked and deeply saddened to learn of her untimely death. Several commented on the family like relationships between scholars who study the family. Of the many academic groups to which Leslie belonged, the ISA's RC06 or Committee on Family Research (CFR) provides the greatest opportunities for building close and productive relationships. The annual, usually small, intimate seminars that move around the globe provide opportunities for great collaborations and lasting friendships. Even at the Forum with just under 5,000 attendees, CFR's common meeting places, reception, and special events enhanced as usual opportunities for closeness. Leslie was part of the CFR family and so joining in the celebration of her life is most appropriate.

Several CFR members at the Forum sent pictures and comments to share: Barbara Barbosa Neves, University of Melbourne, Australia wrote, "Wonderful Leslie Stanley-Stevens, family sociologist extraordinaire. Such an immeasurable loss. We met in Japan around this time of the year, back in 2011 – and since then we've shared great adventures (including getting lost in Kyoto...twice, celebrating getting back on track in one case with a rice burger), aspirations, reading lists both fiction and non-fiction, feminism, passion for teaching, and the same birthday. The last book she told me to read was *Dear Committee Members*. I just bought it, my dear. Thanks for everything. Rest in peace." Ria Smit, University of Johannesburg, South Africa, wrote, "Shared fun times with Leslie in Kyoto and in Phoenix AZ. We got soaking wet after walking 14 blocks in the rain in Kyoto, sharing an umbrella after a lovely day spent together in Nara, Japan. We also attended a Phoenix Suns basketball game

during the 2012 National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) conference in Arizona. She is truly missed.”

Long before our shared CFR memories, I learned that Leslie was a great collaborator and enhancer in shared projects starting while she was a UNT student. Our first joint research effort occurred in a graduate research methods class taught by Dale Yeatts. The class designed and conducted telephone interviews of randomly sampled parents in the Denton area. She successfully turned her class paper on religious agreement between parents and their adult children into a published article in a peer refereed journal and generously included Dale and me as co-authors. This was the beginning but multiple collaborations followed. Many of these were part of participation in several other family and sociology groups including the NCFR; Sociological Association of Ireland (SAI), Southwestern Sociological Association, and UNT’s Parent Education Conferences, especially 2011 joint meeting with ISA’s CFR).

Sifting through a very stuffed manila folder on shared projects brought back a flood of grand memories of which I will comment on two. Our paper was selected for presentation at the SAI’s 2006 conference at Institute of Technology in Sligo, Ireland. I arrived on the second day of the conference and joined Leslie for lunch to discuss our presentation scheduled for early the next morning. In our haste to finish the paper, organize end of semester obligations, and get ready for travel, we had failed to prepare complementary screen slides. That evening the always-elaborate conference meal and ceremony promised to be an even more grandiose adventure as guests would cruise down the river to a highly touted restaurant for drinks, dinner, and drinks. What a conundrum; dinner or devise slides? We agreed that Leslie would represent us at the dinner while, as senior author, I would outline key points on a series of slides. That was the last I saw or heard from Leslie until she arrived right before our early Sunday morning session was scheduled to start. Most attendees arrived late and a few appeared to need the hair of the ‘dog’ that had bit them the night before. Leslie provided an explanation, which made our decision to split responsibilities a good one. The excursion and meal were grand and complemented with plenty of drink, but several mishaps led to a lengthier adventure than planned resulting in the return bus arriving back to the IT campus around 2 AM.

Leslie's persistence complementing her writing and scholarly skills is illustrated by her efforts to get a book published based on her research: In 1999, she interviewed expectant mothers and fathers about their values, expectations, and practices regarding paid work and family work. Follow-up interviews of the same parents, now with small children, were completed 5 years later. Informative and insightful findings from these interviews were the basis for several academic papers and journal articles but Leslie was determined to reach a broader audience outside sociology. Her background, resources, and research synergized into ideas, practices, and exercises that would help expecting and new parents. The manuscript documented and explained behavior plus suggested practical applications to deal with challenges along the way. Getting the book *What they didn't know when they were expecting ...and how they became better parents* (2012) published took some time in the more competitive non-academic publishing business. At the time many publishers reported they currently were not looking for any more books like Leslie's. She persisted and got an agent, who saw the value of her work, and the results wanted. She had accomplished something highly touted but not often achieved by social researchers, that is, applying research results in real world situations. Consequently Leslie's research had an impact beyond the discipline of sociology. To help new parents further, Leslie started a successful Facebook group based on the research and book.

While I was sharing a Stanley-Stevens family type high adventure with my brother and two sons near Manti-La Sal National Forest and La Sal Mountains outside Moab, Utah, word arrived of Leslie's death. A text sent to my youngest son Erik from a lifelong friend Jeremy Sale brought the news. Jeremy's family became friends with the Stanley-Stevens family while both resided in Denton and later father Richard Sale joined the TSU faculty. Leslie's death stimulated recurring reflections about her bravery, optimism, tenacity, and shared experiences and challenges. Leslie had become an important part of my family research family. Her name appears on my vita as a co-author more than any other colleague stretching back to 1992. Our joint successes at publishing and presenting research at regional, national, and international meetings only represent the tip of the too-numerous-to-mention grant applications, paper drafts, and data output iceberg. Parts of the iceberg were early attempts that were temporary failures that eventually Leslie's writing and editing skills turned into

successes. Because of my close relationship with Leslie, I am far from objective when it comes to her accomplishments. I am honored to have played an active role in some of them and confident that many other, more objective observers will agree with my glowing assessments.

Anyone interested in acknowledging and extending Leslie's Legacy is encouraged to make a donation to the Dr. Leslie Stanley-Stevens and Dr. W.H. Stanley, Sr. Scholarship Fund at TSU. Make a check payable to Tarleton State University with reference to Leslie Stanley-Stevens Scholarship in the memo line and send to: TSU, Box T-0260, Stephenville, TX 76402, USA. Donations may also be made by credit card online by going to: <http://www.tarleton.edu/giving/> and following the prompts to Give Now (link below will take you directly to the giving site for making a gift to a specific scholarship):

https://epay.tarleton.edu/C20203_ustores/web/product_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=5&SINGLESTORE=true.

Rudy Ray Seward

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August 10, 2016

Other Announcements

The University of Louvain (UCL, Belgium) is recruiting **3 PhD students in Sociology** for the ERC Starting Grant project 'MobileKids: Children in multi-local, post-separation families', under the supervision of **Prof. Laura Merla**.

MobileKids is a research project funded by an ERC Starting Grant. The major goal of this project is to understand the experience of children who live in divorced or separated families practicing shared custody arrangements, and identify their specific needs through the children's own accounts of their lives. This means determining how, and under what circumstances, children appropriate their multi-local lives and develop new forms of habitus that incorporate the capacity to maintain social relations in a multi-local context and to appropriate mobility and virtual connectedness. This project focuses on the experience of two cohorts of children aged 10 and 13 at the beginning of the study and who are living in multi-local, post-separation families in Belgium, in France and in Italy. This study will mainly rely on a qualitative, in-depth study of the lived experiences of 90 children (with innovative methods including auto-photography and the production of short videos).

Three 4-years doctoral fellowships are available on this project. The doctoral dissertations will be located at the cross-section of the sociology of childhood, family, space and ICT. The first fellow will conduct fieldwork in Belgium (Brussels metropolitan area), the second will conduct fieldwork in France (metropolitan area of Lyon), and the third fellow will conduct fieldwork in Italy (metropolitan area of Turin).

Deadline for applications: 26 September 2016

See full details here:

<http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/index.cfm/jobs/jobDetails/34096702>

New Members

We welcome the following new members:

Cristy Newman
Australia

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