



CFR COMMITTEE ON FAMILY RESEARCH
ISA INTERNATIONAL SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

CFR-GAZETTE

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

We have had a wonderful experience in the CFR meeting here in Newark, Delaware this March 28-31. Although I was not able to bring spring weather and flowers to the campus that week we had 24 presenters and had research that reflected a broad range of countries and family care giving research across the life course. In addition to the presenters and chairs of sessions about a dozen local staff and faculty and a visitor from the Ukraine in education joined us for some or all of the sessions and social occasions. Countries represented by participants and/or their research included Belgium, Poland, The Netherlands, Iran, South Africa, Germany, Turkey, Lesotho, Spain, Israel, India, China Korea, Panama, Czech Republic, and the United States. Ten new members and six new student members joined us for the conference.

We had support from the University of Delaware (Department of Individual and Family Studies, Center for Community Development and Family Policy, Center for Disabilities Studies, Institute for Public Administration, College of Human Services, Education, and Public Policy) and the Delaware/Panama Partners of the Americas. With the participants' registration fees this support allowed the conference to be self-sustaining and to be able to support student registration and student interns for the conference.

The theme of "*Families as They Interact with Care Giving Institutions*" was responded to by a wide diversity of papers that addressed issues across the life course, with medical, educational, economic, and community institutions. In addition to the cross cultural and national contrasts there were clearly many overlaps theoretically and practically in the problems addressed and the ways institutions can meet family needs. Family sensitive policies and programs were described and discussed in many settings. Demonstrations of strategies to improve the connections of families to care giving institutions were reported. The roles of family researchers in policy and program interventions were also discussed. Important ideas about more refined analysis within national boundaries as well as more detailed cross national analyses were seen as being useful in fine tuning policy and interface problems in families interactions with agencies that may be helpful. As is usual for our meetings much of the discussion continued during the social activities and breaks. These opportunities for family scholars to meet and get to know others from around the world that

care about excellence in family research and programs are especially needed and enjoyed.

This meeting was dedicated to the memory of Dr. Bernard Farber a long time member of the CFR. He last participated at our conference in Annapolis, Maryland, where he presented "Perceptions of their own Parents' Marital Happiness and Differential Mortality Rates of Men and Women Under Enduring Stress." his work include many contributions to understanding families' approaches to meeting their challenges and to providing care and support. Dr. John Mogeey, also a long term member and leader in the committee sent this greeting to the CFR: "As this gathering begins in Newark, Delaware, I send warm wishes for the success of the interactions to Prof. Barbara Settles and all participants: Dedicated to the memory of the late Bernard Farber, may all the information turn into knowledge for the careers of everyone involved in the International Committee for Family Research.

As often happens, a few who had hoped to join us for the seminar had to cancel at the last moments. The conference topics were reflected in their reasons for not coming. All had some aspect of our theme happening in the real worlds of everyday life. From being told to go to China to complete an adoption, to helping an adolescent cope with stress, to emergency caring for sick children or caregivers being ill, to caring for an elder whose recuperation from hospitalization was slow the reasons were tied to care giving and institutional requirements. Families are the first and last resort under stress for care and quality of support to their members. We missed their papers and contributions , but look forward to their future participation in CFR. Family life is lived as well as studied by our group.

We look forward to next year's opportunities to participate in the International Sociological Association World Congress in Brisbane, Australia. Dr. Rudolf Richter is chairing the program committee and has assembled a broad based committee to organized the sessions. There will be ample opportunity for membership participation and we hope to build the membership in the region as well. If you know scholars who may be encouraged to join us, please let me know and I will be happy to correspond with them about the possibilities. Dr. Bernard Nauck, <Bernhard.Nauck@phil.tu-chemnitz.de> president-elect is interested in arranging and confirming meetings and activities for the next four years. We believe that long range planning can help us encourage members to

join us on a more regular basis and meet more of their needs. Please send us both ideas and details about potential conferences.

May I suggest that anyone of our members who is over 60 years of age consider taking a lifetime membership of the International Sociological Association. It is no more expensive than a four-year membership and provides a good ongoing base for our being counted as a major committee entitled to the greatest number of sessions at the ISA World Congress. Since participation at the congress requires ISA membership in addition to the committee membership this is a good time to consider the lifetime membership.

Again our thanks to all the participants who created the ideas and interchange that made this XXXVIIIth seminar so appealing. Of course my husband Andy was the major actor in getting the operation of the seminar underway, providing hospitality and coordinating the students who were helping us with all the details. He enjoys the interaction and stimulation of our seminars and is a friend to the committee's work.

Barbara H. Settles

HONORARY PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

The CFR has been a very calm and peaceful organization over all its more than 40 years. It was established as a committee within the frame of the International Sociological Association in 1959. According to my knowledge Reuben Hill (University of Minnesota, USA) was the first president of the CFR. He remained so until the World Congress in Varna, Bulgaria, in 1970.

During the last few years of the 1960's some opposition came toward the fact that the board was never elected. From 1965 John Moge (USA) was appointed secretary of the CFR and Reuben Hill and John Moge ran the CFR until 1970. The opposition ended in 1969 when eventually Joan Aldous (USA) and some others wrote a draft for a constitution for the CFR. This was made the constitution of the CFR in Varna – mainly the same constitution we now have. Gerrit Kooy (The Netherlands) was the first democratically elected president of the CFR with John Moge as elected secretary/treasurer.

After them came Moge as president and Wilfried Dumon (Belgium) as secretary, in 1978 the late Veronica Stolte-Heiskanen (Finland) came as our president, with Dumon still as secretary. Four years later Laszlo Cseh-Szombathy (Hungary) became president and Örjan Hultåker (Sweden) secretary. At the ISA Congress in New Delhi, 1986, I took over as president for eight years and Don Edgar (Australia) was secretary until 1990 when Barbara James (USA) took over for eight years. As we all know Barbara Settles (USA) has now been president for seven years and Irene Levin (Norway) is secretary.

When I became a member of the CFR in the beginning of the 1960s there were no real memberships. Invitation to attend the international seminars was on a personal level. This was changed with the new constitution aiming at guaranteeing all members (and now we were members by registration and paying our dues) the right to be informed about all of the activities of the CFR. Not only informed but also to have the chance to attend any of the seminars.

* * * * *

The first international seminar that I attended was held in Oslo in 1963, when I was a new assistant professor and fairly young. The membership has grown in age, which it does in almost all organizations if members remain members and do not drop out. But we need to recruit more young members. That kind of recruitment seems to have started when more young new colleagues with a doctoral degree are invited. Good is also that doctoral candidates join us.

As I wrote above, the atmosphere of the CFR's seminars have been peaceful and calm – I hope we will go on like that. Another trait of the seminars has been the emphasis upon high quality of both the presentations and the discussions. Sometimes they have to be tough in order to maintain quality.

Jan Trost

FROM THE SECRETARY

The CFR has now 313 members. The seminar in Delaware gave many new members, especially student members. Some of our old members have not paid their dues. I really do hope that those with the 1999 or 2000 after their names on the labels of the envelope will pay as soon as possible. Otherwise your name will be deleted from the list. If you for one reason or another do not want to

remain as a member, please inform me through e-mail or otherwise. That would help the work tremendously.

Some of you might have observed that I did a mistake with the last Gazette. On the front page I wrote volume 28 instead of 27. This issue is back to the right volume number: 27.

Brisbane is coming closer. In this issue you will find information of all the various sessions. I hope that many of CFR's members will participate with presentations. Please inform also non-CFR members about our sessions! Rudolph Richter is in charge of the arrangements in Brisbane. Contact him if you have any questions. I am looking forward to seeing you in Brisbane! The next Gazette will come this fall and will contain an updated list of the membership.

Irene Levin

FORTHCOMING SEMINARS

The XVth World Congress of the International Sociological Association will be held in Brisbane, Australia, July 7-13, 2002. The CFR plans for a pre- or post-seminar in Melbourne

The general theme of the World Congress is *The Social World in the Twenty-first Century: Ambivalent Legacies and Rising Challenges*. Among of a lot of other activities there will be five plenary "thematic sessions":

Inequity and Exclusion

Knowledge, Creativity and Communication

Sexuality, Families and Forms of Intimacy

Ambivalence of Social Change

Difference and Politics.

The CFR organizes the following sixteen sessions.

Session	Organizer(s)
1 Sociological theory and family sociology	Bernhard Nauck & Thomas Voss Bernhard.Nauck@phil.tu-chemnitz.de
2 New Family Forms	Jan Trost & Irene Levin Irene.Levin@oks.hio.no Jan.Trost@soc.uu.se
3 Female Work and Family linkages	Chin Chun Yi chinyi@gate.sinica.edu.tw
4 Work, family and gender roles	Ria Smit rsm@lw.rau.ac.za
5 Work and family interactions	Christine Millward chrism@aifs.org.au
6 Gender, work and family issues in predominantly male occupations	Mady W. Segal Joint Session, RC 01 & 3 msegal@socy.umd.edu
7 Transnational families	Cora Baldock baldock@central.murdoch.edu.au
8 Migration and family	Bernhard Nauck & Ursula Mehrländer Bernhard.Nauck@phil.tu-chemnitz.de
9 Family in countries of the Third World	Maria Christina Siquiera mccampos@usp.br
10 Intergenerational Relationships	Jennifer Kunz jkunz@mail.wtamu.edu
11 Youth and the family	Chin-Chun Yi & Rudolf Richter rudolf.richter@univie.ac.at chinyi@gate.sinica.edu.tw

12 **Business Meeting**

13 Families and later life relationships

Rachel & Ben Schlesinger
Maximiliane Szinovacz
rachels@mailrelay.yorku.ca
maxres@visi.net

14 Family Policy

Wilfried Dumon
wilfried.dumon@soc.kuleuven.ac.be

15 Welfare state and the family

John Eriksen
John.Eriksen@isaf.no

16 Family sociology and intervention

Barbara Settles
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17 Families, Social Capital, and Community Involvements

Mark Hutter
Hutter@rowan.edu

18 Fatherhood

Rudy Ray Seward
seward@scs.cmm.unt.edu

More information on the World congress can be found at:
<http://www.ucm.es/info/isa/congress2002>.

NEWS FROM MEMBERS

Barbara James has a new e-mail address: barbara.james@med.unc.edu

NEW MEMBERS

The CFR welcomes the following new members:

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ABSTRACTS FROM THE DELAWARE SEMINAR

Arlene Dallalfa, Lesley University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA.

Middle-Eastern Immigrant Families in the United States: Social Services and Gender Dynamics.

Based on qualitative field research and survey data gathered in California, in this paper I explore adjustment processes of Middle Eastern Immigrants in the United States. I address the dialectical relationship among structural, cultural and historical contexts in understanding the experiences of these immigrants taking into account dynamics such as host country conditions (such as discrimination and stereotyping of Middle Easterners in the U.S.), and how it impacts notions of incorporation in the host society; differences in the social construction of gender, culture and family roles that impact that shape and mediate responses of immigrants to broader decisions regarding health, work and educational opportunities . I will explore issues of marginality and displacement, issues of language and "cultural "access to social services, experiences of prejudice and discrimination (mothers, children and fathers narratives), among Iranians and Egyptian to illustrate the complexity of this immigrant population and the importance of not essentializing these experiences to embody all Middle Eastern immigrants in the United States. Examples from the sample survey and the qualitative data will be used to illustrate and examine the above themes.

Barbara Lobodzinska-Lien, New Brighton, Minnesota, USA.

A Polish Comparative Study 1964-1998: Priorities of Values Associated with marriage in Poland Under Socialism and During Transition to Democracy and Capitalism.

A representative sample of the Polish adult population was questioned in a public opinion poll about values (benefits and pleasures) associated with institution of marriage in a multiple choice questionnaire in 1964,

and repeatedly, in 1998. These two research studies were conducted not only in an interval of 34 years – but also – in the same society under two different political, economic and social systems. As a second in importance (after the most important "as a twosome it is easier to make ends meet and to achieve goals") an answer was chosen: "marriage gives (results in) children, creates a home and socializes them".

The primary questions prompting this comparison were: Did values change? If so, what kind of changes took place after political, economic and social changes after the 1989 events? An assumption that recent responses will be influenced by changes taking place during the transition period was ventured: postmaterialist values like self-expression and an improved quality of life as opposed to materialist values of personal and economic security characteristic for the pre-1989 period were presumed.

Surprisingly, significant differences between the 1964 and the post-1989 public opinion poll appeared. The gender gap is more pronounced in 1998 than in 1964, whole generation gap is almost nonexistent in 1998, contrary to the 1964 data. The generation gap was an assumed hypothesis (post-1989 changes supposedly should affect more the younger generations' ways of thinking than values of the older), which was not confirmed.

More respondents (men-women and younger-older alike) placed a value on parenting and socializing children in 1998 than in 1964. In this picture, the family becomes the main care giving institution. Such opinions are not corresponding with behavioral patterns since birth rates and natural increase rates dropped dramatically (natural increase from 8.5 per 1000 population in 1964 to 0.5 in 1998).

Another finding of a puzzling quality are responses in regard to "regular sexual intercourse" as a benefit in marriage. The 1998 respondents almost ignored this advantage, while the first survey responses point to much higher values associated with sex.

There are several possible interpretations, derived from the profound changes during transition to democracy and capitalism:

1 - There was a general consensus among social science experts before 1989 that under socialism a generation gap was unusual. Most of the children followed in the footsteps of their parents as far as their values and beliefs were concerned. Generations were united in their fear of the imposed by foreign power system and were restricted within its limitations. During the post-1989 period, such fear is being lifted and new strategies in finding opportunities – economic, as well as others – are developing. Younger people are more open to changes.

2 - There is a significant segment of the society that does not approve of the (previously socialist introduced full employment and fringe benefits for all of the working classes) now – under capitalism – takes place growing unemployment, revocation of privileges for working mothers, and disappearing workers' fringe benefits. More women are unemployed than men and mothers – even potential mothers – cannot find work and are forced to stay at home. At present, the socialist version of patriarchal protective state function vanishes – not without protests, strikes, and unrest – and leaves citizens to solve problems on their own. Some of those citizens are unwilling/unable to work out their new options and retreat into so called "internal migration", a trend of limiting themselves to family life and making ends meet, as the only social involvements acceptable (a retreat from social functions and political participation).

3 - During the transition period, the Polish society shifted from secular ideology imposed under socialism to the state slavishly tied to Catholicism. As a consequence, religious emphasis on having and caring for children in the family as an obligation of a good Catholic became a beacon for the many church-goers. According to statistics, the numbers of practicing Catholics increased during the State/Church union post-1989 transitional period. Under such circumstances, obeying the church instructions seem more common. This explanation may also apply to ignoring in 1998 survey the advantage of sex in marriage: sex could be understood basically as a means of reproduction, more marginally as an expression of love between spouses.

All those factors are coming into play when relationships between the family with their working members and the new, surfacing, capitalist state are concerned. An influence of a political-economic and social system on the family as a social institution becomes obvious when given

an opportunity to analyze the Polish society after the post-1989 changes. In this context, the family with its private resources is considered a main factor in taking care of children. According to national data, care giving institutions represent only a marginal percentage of cases, and child care centers as well as care centers for the aged are practically non-existent, they are very expensive and available only to the well-to-do. In lieu of such data, the trend of encumbering the family with all care-giving functions (children and the elderly as well) seems not only an ideological (or moral), but an economic tendency of limiting state budget to "more important" items. It is cheaper to leave care giving functions to the family. It remains surprising to see the majority of the 1998 respondents going along with such trends.

Comparing survey's data with macro-level statistics on marriage, the family and women's issues during the transitional phase is difficult: a disadvantage is created by a lack of more in-depth statistical analysis of marriage and the family and a persistent disregard for the gender variable in official statistical analyses. This approach is also characteristic for most of the Polish sociological research studies.

Ivo Mozny, Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic.

The family in demography, surveys and TV.

This paper puts two sets of data into a juxtaposition: demographic indicators depicting postponement of age at first childbirth, higher rate of voluntary childlessness, decay in fertility, high divorce rate and other well known indicators of decay of the family in Western societies on one hand and data from polls and surveys showing high priority for family life and children in value systems of the same societies. A way in which the family is represented in public discourse by mass media (particularly film and TV) is considered for a tentative explanation for some inconsistency between attitudes and behavior in this matter.

Kristina Orfali, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, USA.

Families as they interact with care giving institutions: mothers experience in neonatal intensive care units.

Albeit a large literature takes into account families role in medical matters as well as interactions with care giving institutions, little has been done concerning families experience in high-tech settings such as intensive care units. Most of the literature focuses on decision-making, responsibility, lay-medical definitions and interactions with physicians and nurses. Only but a few studies attempt to focus on parents, and these studies are often pure ethnographic descriptions. In general, there is a lack of data in terms of parents' experience in the NICU.

We first describe various methodological issues around data collection that can explain the paucity of literature on families in such specific settings. We then present the first results of an ongoing research in two culturally different but technologically identical units. Our focus is on mothers experience in NICUs. In this qualitative study we adopt the mother's perspective as a starting point.

First results show a duality of mothers' experience. On one side, mothers have to face a technologically sophisticated organization, a care system with its specific rules and codes. On the other side mothers try to deal with the almost impossible experience of motherhood. A number of apparently inconsistent, or even contradictory attitudes can in fact be explained by this duality. This finding is consistent with other studies on patients experience in hospital settings. Despite cultural differences, the mothers experience tends to follow the same pattern. Mothers attempt to unify their experience by giving "meaning" to it. In this attempt, another interesting finding is the specific organization of temporality from mothers' perspective; their experience is firmly located in the present. This can explain preferences which otherwise would seem inconsistent.

We finally explore some implications of these results and question the "premature infant" as a new, yet undefined social (family?) category produced by medical technology and care.

Tessa LeRoux, Sharon F. Terry, & Patrick Terry, Lasell College, Newton, PXE International, Sharon, Massachusetts, USA.

It's all in the family: PXE International as a new model for patient advocacy.

This paper examines the formation and expansion of a patient advocacy group for a genetic disease, PXE or *pseudoxanthoma elasticum*. It is argued that the family can be a key link between health care providers, research community, policy makers and people affected by disease. PXE International, established in 1996, as a home-based non-profit organization has grown into an international organization with 50 offices world-wide. While the hub of this extensive network originated from the needs a single family, the network formed by its multiple activities, is also largely family-based. Thus, the needs of affected and at risk individuals, gathering and dissemination of information, fundraising and eventually patient support, are all family-driven. On the other hand, the organization forms a link between these families and formal research public policy and external funding activities that are equally essential to the success of the venture. The operation of this and other similar foundations will be discussed to demonstrate the pervasiveness and importance of the family and family networks in genetic research, epidemiological studies, the dissemination of information, patient registry and fund-raising as alternative to conventional approaches to the study and care of disease, where the individual is merely the beneficiary of an independent formal program. It is argued that this kind of interaction between families and care giving institutions puts a new perspective on the private-public divide.

Bernhard Nauck. University of Chemnitz, Chemnitz, Germany.

Social capital and intergenerational transmission of cultural capital within a regional context.

German social reports identify astonishing regional differences in children's living conditions. For example, official statistics show considerable regional variations among birthrates as well as among socio demographic characteristics of children. Regional social reporting also shows that not all of the differences between West and East Germany are the result of belonging to one or other political system for decades. Time series of childrens' legal position in relation to their parents show, for example, that the illegitimate birth ratio was already higher in East Germany than in West Germany during the immediate

post-war period; regional analyses show additionally that the regional boundaries for high proportions of illegitimate children do not correspond with the former borders between the German Democratic Republic (GDR) and the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG), but also include large parts of northwest Germany. In addition, the regional distribution of the proportions of pre-school children subsidized through state welfare provision in no way corresponds to political borders, especially not to the former borders between the GDR and the FRG. Rather the picture that emerges is one of two structural principles: a regional concentration of high welfare rates within northern Germany, and a concentration of high welfare rates in urban metropolitan areas. Deeper aggregate data analyses show additionally, that children profit quite differently in the respective regions from welfare support. The central result of these analyses in West Germany, as well as in East Germany, is the existence of a clear north-south divide, concerning take-up of welfare benefits for children - independent of political borders. In the northern regions, the take-up is below average. In the southern regions, take-up is above average.

Reports containing such descriptive information regularly attract much public attention. But the existence of empirical regularities tells us nothing about their explanation. Connections between 'region', on the one hand, and measures like 'birthrate', 'illegitimate birth ratio', 'secondary school graduate ratio', or 'proportion of under-aged welfare recipients', on the other hand, represent aggregate-phenomena, which can be related to many different behavioral characteristics. Accordingly, explanations of regional differences cannot be made without assumptions about actors and their individual actions, nor can they be made without assumptions about the existence and the effects of special contextual conditions. The development of an explanatory model will thus have to relate the connections on the macro-level to an explicit micro-model. A specific micro-model that is concerned with the production of human capital is suggested that uses Coleman's ideas set out in his article 'social capital in the creation of human capital', as extended to the question of how contextual factors influence the transmission of cultural capital within families. Following Coleman's argument we can hypothesize that these regional variations are traceable

back to the differential supply of internal and external social capital acquired by children from their families. Empirical results on regional differences within Germany are presented to test and illustrate these assumptions.

Michael Gamel-McCormick. University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware, USA.

Caregiving and Families with a Member with Developmental Disabilities: Issues throughout the Lifespan.

The issues of caring for a family member with a disability change throughout the life of the individual and the life of a family. A dynamic model of caregiving issues will be discussed using an ecological perspective and focusing on the critical transition periods of: a) diagnosis, b) school entry, c) school exit, d) community living, e) parental death, and f) entry to senior status. The impact at each of these critical transition points on the members of the individual's microsystem will also be discussed.

Christine Clason, University of Gronigen, The Netherlands.

Intermingling work and care.

Before the industrial revolution got underway, was life for humans spatially integrated? Contrary to the general consensus, humans did not necessarily live their lives in one geographical spot and / or in self-supporting family-kinship households. In reality humans, as far as we know now, have always been very mobile: geographically as well as socially. Before the onset of the industrial revolution, integration meant that there were no sharp distinctions between (what we consider to be) different spheres of life, nor distinctions either in geographical and spatial terms or in terms of work, care and other social activities.

The onset of the industrial revolution brought increasingly sharper distinctions in spatial terms as well as in activities undertaking in the evolving separate spheres of human life that led to what we in the West during the 20th century gradually considered to be normal: clear

boundaries between *the home* as the place of the family, the household, the housewife, upbringing of children, unpaid work, privacy and care, and *the workplace* as the place of paid work, the (male) wage earner, adults, paid professional work, business, public life and rationality.

Now we live through the first stages of a new revolution, which may take just as long and be as far reaching in its consequences than its predecessor. This revolution, which I call the Information-Communication-Technology Revolution, is already blurring the sharp distinctions between home and workplace, between private and public, between paid and unpaid work, and between social activities such as work, care and leisure. Just as during the Industrial Revolution *the* family (as one of the basic social institutions of human society), in particular families and kinship are crucial in the process of adaptation, coping with the hardships accompanying such a process of change. The survival of society rests on that capacity for adaptation.

This paper will present the findings of a pilot-study undertaken in the Netherlands to explore how couples, with and without families, are adapting to the changing conditions with the use of modern communication technology.

We interviewed six couples, where at least one partner worked formally as a teleworker minimally one day a week at home. Their employers are large companies. We visited every couple twice. On the first visit we gathered basic information for both partners (personal characteristics, employment situation, household and family). Thereafter both partners filled out a detailed description of the day before the interview and we made a report on the house, the teleworking place and equipment.

The second interview was also held at their home but the partners were interviewed separately at the same time. We employed a carefully constructed list with the information we wanted to have, but the interview self was in the form of an open conversation covering all topics, but not necessarily in a prescribed order. These interviews lasted an hour or more and were recorded.

The results show that it appears to be the employee who is adapting through her/his family and household to the new conditions in which the sharp distinctions between home and workplace, between household and employment, private and public, work and leisure are dwindling. Even when the employer is offering a number of benefits and provisions which are in surplus of the minimum requested by law, these do *not* take into account the real effects and implications of the changing conditions for themselves (i.e. their firm) and for their employees.

Debra Berke, Messiah College, **Ruth Flexman**, **Joe Lucca**, & **Barbara H. Settles**, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware, USA.

Exploring the interfaces among family caregiving, social support, support groups and formal organizations.

While it is a wide spread opinion that older people are nowadays are abandoned by their families the opposite is true. Home-based elder care is the most common way that elders are cared in the United States. Families provide the bulk of care to elderly individuals and women bear the disproportionate share of the care. It is also true that most women receive care. Usually there is one person who assumes a primary role in coordinating and delivery care to a frail elder, there are great complexities in the support and services, which may be available to the caregiver and the recipient of care. Informal support from family and friends is often helpful to the stressful situation facing the home caregiver. Such support may have some costs also; as these relationships may themselves have some conflict or burden between the immediate family and greater networks. The caregiver may feel more supervised than helped. Support groups have become available in many settings both to help the elder and the caregiver find others in like situations with whom to share feelings and concerns and find alternatives and coping strategies. As in social collectives of the past, these gatherings of individuals who share a common problem or concern have expanded dramatically. These groups are potentially useful in mediating relationships within the care giving nexus. Formal institutions of medical and social services have critical roles in both providing skilled care and the information necessary to the caregiver(s) in providing quality care. Often the earliest tasks of care

giving are in helping the older person deal with the bureaucracies that provide health care. Access to appropriate health, physical care, and social services requires some sophistication and negotiation within the USA context as eligibility, priority and quality are quite variable and not well known to elderly and their families as they are needed.

This paper will explore the relationships among caregivers in families, informal support, support groups, and formal health and social services. The challenges for managing the interface of each to provide a good setting that is sustainable for both the recipient and the caregiver will be examined.

I. V. O. Modo, National University of Lesotho, Lesotho.

Care giving institutions and the Lesotho family system: A study of the Maseru girl guides' home. .

The paper begins with the observation that unlike in most countries of the world where care giving institutions cater for the aged and the physically handicapped Lesotho care giving institutions cater mainly for the youths who either have no known homes or are runaways, or are culturally displaced. The paper gives an historical overview of the socio-economic forces that produced the children. It further argues that these care giving institution in Lesotho are unique in that they aim at completely assuming the family functions of primarily socializing the children and making them complete and responsible citizens.

The writer undertakes an in depth study of the street children's home set up by an NGO (Girl Guilds Association) to accommodate children some of whom were known to have constituted menace to the Maseru capital city inhabitants. Based on the in-depth interview with the social worker, the management and the inmates, the writer gives an in-depth description of the activities of the home; their upbringing of the children based on the Basotho culture; and the problems or obstacles militating against their goal.

The paper then makes some far reaching recommendations including an appeal for the government of Lesotho, and the International Community

to help meet the needs of such care giving homes because of their unique function of making the pariah children responsible citizens.

Gerardo Meil, Universidad Autonoma de Madrid & Hanse Wissenschaftskolleg, Madrid, Spain.

Interchanges among generations in Spain.

Family life in Spain is undergoing a profound change, characterized by the growing individual freedom in deciding how to enter, to stay in, and economic (high unemployment rates and types of working contracts) as well as institutional conditions (characteristics of the welfare state provisions, with a limited extension of social services), but behind this there is also a more cohesive understanding of family relationships which will hardly bring about a similar scope of pluralization as in other western countries.

The profound change in family culture in the direction of privatization as well as changes in gender roles, far from eroding family solidarity, has brought about a change in its forms and contents, which cannot be interpreted as a general weakening of family bonds. Structural changes in the social environment of families are affecting the manifold relationships among generations differently. While on the one hand, the improvement of public pensions has set the basis for a deepening of the principle of “intimacy from a distance” among generations, on the other hand, material solidarity among generations has proved its strength and adaptive capacity when help was required because needs couldn't be satisfied in a satisfactory way by the market or by the welfare state provisions. While there is a growing tendency to merchantilize services traditionally produced inside the family context, family solidarity continuous to be available as reserve capital when help is needed.

Ruth Katz & A. Lowenstein, University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel.

Family caregiving in the Arab rural society in Israel.

The study aims to illuminate the unique cultural context for caregiving in a society in transition -- the Arab rural community in Israel. The ten

families in the study were forced to adapt to a stressful situation- the chronic illness of an elderly homebound parent. The advent of the illness, family resources, modes of reactions and family adaptation were expressed through in-depth interviews of four members of each family: the ill elder, his/her spouse -- the primary caregiver, and two secondary caregivers, usually a son and daughter-in-law. The data indicate that household arrangements, types of community and perceived support were the main resources. Perceptions of the illness, patterns of decision-making, modes of interaction and caregiver adaptation were the main themes that emerged.

Data indicate the uniqueness of coping patterns among these caregivers in regard to two main components, which are contradictory to findings in the family caregiving literature: differences in the gender of child caregivers and the readiness to use assistance from formal support systems. The social and cultural norms of this society specify that sons, usually the oldest, serve as the first source of support to their elderly parents, and naturally their wives are an integral part of this support network. The results also demonstrate the unique combination of traditional and modern ways of family coping with illness of an elderly family member. Although the family is still the main caregiver, the services offered by the formal support system are now being utilized, but again in a special way -- by receiving services from extended family members employed by the local welfare agencies. Although the Long-Term Insurance Law does not entitle the employment of a family member as the homemaker, there is resistance to allocate personal care tasks to a "stranger". Thus, help in home care is sought mainly from close or extended family member (mainly, granddaughter), even though it is against the regulations of the Law. The formal support system responsible for enacting the Law (The National Insurance Institute and the local welfare agencies) usually complies with this norm.

Carolyn Grasse-Bachman, Messiah College; **Kathy Janvier**, Delaware Technical and Community College; **Barbara H. Settles**, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware, USA.

*Changing the interface between parents and daycare centers:
Developing community and peer support for young parents.*

Families and Center Empowered Together (FACET) is an intervention program for the prevention of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug (ATOD) abuse by providing family support with a strong parental empowerment emphasis. It targets a population of families with a number of high-risk factors, at a stage of family development where changes can occur before problems are entrenched. The program in this evaluation was located in five child day-care centers and worked with the families of the day care children.

The intervention program included: On-site provision of family support and family building activities at the child care site. Support, training and consultation to the sites by a professional family support services agency. The child care centers, parents, Family Service, the evaluators, and the Office of Prevention come together to form the Cluster, which meets monthly. Ongoing formative and outcome evaluation of the project, with the Project evaluation(s) an integral member of the Cluster.

Qualitative and quantitative data have been collected in the formative and summative evaluation process. This demonstration project allowed baseline data collection before the implementation of the intervention strategies. Findings from both aspects of the evaluation suggest that community and peer support is important components of an effective program. Using an empowerment model in the implementation at all levels of implementation has also been strategic. The interface between the families and the daycare centers was changed in the process of the program implementation.

Caregivers and parents have increased their use of resources including an on-site lending library and the Prevention Specialist for assistance in working with and for children. Parents have accessed resources -- familial and community based -- that assist in decision-making, planning

and family cohesion. Both parents and caregivers have demonstrated increased sensitivity to, and knowledge of alcohol, tobacco and other drug information and issues. There is continuing need for activities in this area, due to the changing parent population and caregiver turnover rate. Using an inclusive approach to family has allowed for grandparents, extended kin, and close personal ties to become involved and part of the support network that has emerged. The program targeted socially vulnerable families who were working or going to school and living in at-risk neighborhoods. Qualitative methods were used to analyze the parent data and to capture parent voices. Issues to be addressed in the discussion include how centers changed their outreach and accessibility to parents, how parents became empowered to affect change in the centers and their own lives, how staff found increased confidence and capability in working with parents, and how the program continued when the demonstration funds came to an end.

Christine Jensen, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware, USA.

Recognizing the Dynamics of Informal Caregiving: Improving Supports to Family Members Engaged in Elder Care.

There are approximately seven million individuals currently serving as informal caregivers to elderly family members in the U.S. Many of these caregivers, including spouses and adult children, provide for a variety of needs within the care recipients' homes or in their own homes. Generally, this decision to provide informal care is done out of loyalty and/or love for the older adult or for economic reasons, since many family members cannot afford the costs associated with formal institutions. The Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, the Long Term Care Tax Credit, and the National Family Caregiver Support Program have provided some financial resources, caregiver training, and supplemental formal services to complement the roles of informal caregivers. However, little attention has been devoted to creating policies that truly provide for the needs of family caregivers.

Resources, in addition to financial assistance and workplace flexibility, need to be more individualized and offer more direction in providing care for physically- and/or cognitively- impaired elders. Recognizing

that most caregivers are already engaged in effective parental/spousal care and complementing what these families do with community support are two important steps in creating family-friendly policies. It is quite likely that these programs, networks, and trained individuals in the community will help maintain family members as able caregivers and ease the burden on formal facilities.

Julie Fisher, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware, USA.

Factors contributing to caregiver stress in adult child caregivers.

Research indicates that the majority of elderly Americans requiring care for physical and mental changes associated with illness and/or aging, receive that care from either an adult child or a spouse. Adult children account for over 42% of informal caregivers of U.S. elders at risk for institutional care (Montgomery 1992). While stress among these caregivers has been studied extensively, most studies have looked at the impact of only one or two factors contributing to caregiver stress.

Stress, however, is not a uni-dimensional concept. This model will attempt to explain the inter-relationships of various aspects of caregiving, which have been identified as impacting on caregiver stress.

The model incorporates several components: characteristics of both parent care-receivers and adult children that have been shown to increase (or decrease) caregiver stress; the quality of the past and present relationship between caregiver and care-receiver, and various stress modifiers arising from outside of the care relationship, such as the impact of perceived levels of available help and the use of formal services.

Erin Kramer Holmes, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware, USA.

Caregiving in an African American context.

Populations of elders are increasing across the world. These growing groups of elders include a broad range of racial, socioeconomic, cultural, and political diversity. Recognizing this diversity is important

to both researchers and practitioners. This review of research on the diversity within African American families and between African American highlights the importance of recognizing within and between group diversity, recognizing the importance of cultural sensitivity when working with elders and their families, and recognizing the need for more research on other diverse groups of elders. This review includes a report of current research on African American elders and their caregivers and is followed by a discussion of future implications for research and policy.

Sheyn Xuewen, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware, USA.

Kindergarten children in single parent homes.

Family, as a social institution, has great influences on child development. Drawing data from the ongoing Post-Hoc kindergarten study conducted by the Center for Disability Studies at the University of Delaware, this study intended to explore the important effects of family patterns and family resources on early childhood developmental outcome. The sample of this study contained information of 137 children completing kindergarten during the 1997-1998 school year. About one third of the children were from single parent families. Independent variables included family pattern measured by 0 = two parents family and 1 = single parent family, and family income measured by the grouped income levels 1 through 4. The major dependent variables, children's kindergarten outcome, were measured by teachers' grading of students' performance in math, reading, writing expression, listening and speaking, physical, working habit, and social/emotion, in 97/98 school year. Multivariate data analysis methods such as MANOVA, discrimination and classification analysis were involved in the analysis. This study found that family pattern has statistically significant effects on children's kindergarten outcomes. The mean outcome scores of children from single parent families were statistically significant lower than that of children from two parent families, regardless of their family income levels. This study also revealed a negative association between family income and outcome scores of children from single parent families: as income level increased,

the mean outcome scores decreased. It then raised the questions about parenting quality and about making balance between parenting resources and economic resources in single parent families.

Seongeun Kim, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware, USA.

Self in the research process: impacts of a researcher's identity on qualitative research.

One of the primary concerns in using qualitative methodology is how a researcher's personal backgrounds and experience are interwoven in the research process from the beginning to the end. It has been known that a researcher's bias, perspectives, or backgrounds play in each step of research process, and these are deeply permeated in generating knowledge. Therefore, it is of significance for a researcher to keenly aware of how they affect. This presentation will discuss how who the researcher is plays in the research process with my project titled “Caring for children among full time working Korean immigrant mothers in Delaware”. I will discuss the issues of reflexivity focusing on the earlier stages of qualitative research process. Based upon the project, I will show how my perspectives and personal experiences affected reading existing literature, making interview guide lines, getting into the settings, and collecting interview data. This will show that who I am - perspectives, bias, age, gender, or status- is numerously intricate in the research process. Therefore, the researcher needs to be aware of who she is and how that affects her research, so that a qualitative researcher can truly hear voices of conversational partners.

Sally Bould, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware, USA.

The neighborhood as an intermediate structure for protective services.

This research explores the role of the suburban neighborhood in its role of providing informal and non-institutional protective services for the resident families. Protective Services, in providing institutional mechanisms of formal control, have always had an ambivalent role in terms of dealing with child abuse and problem teenage behavior. Once the cops or child protective services are called in, then the set up is one

of the parents vs. the police or the parents vs. the child protection officer. The parents are often put in the position of defending their behavior towards their children, or defending their teenagers. In theory the parents should work together with the protective services, but the bureaucratic institutional structure sets up an adversarial role. What parents need is help in dealing with problems before the police or child protective services are called in. This help can come only from the neighbors who are nearby and who can step in when a problem seems to be developing. Suburban neighborhoods, however, have been characterized as uninvolved and practicing moral minimalism (Baumgarten).

This study examines the potential situation of problem teenagers and neglected or abused children in 290 suburban neighborhoods located in the Northeast of the United States. Overall there is a diversity of involvement. Less than half of these neighborhoods practice moral minimalism such that residents either do not get involved or call the police. Nevertheless more than half of these neighborhoods are where the parents can count on the watchful eye of other parents to alert them to problems without resorting to the institutions of social control. Only a small minority of neighborhoods, however, would be able to provide help in a case of child abuse or neglect.

The nature of this informal social organization of the neighborhood is that it provides an intermediate level of support for families; it does not leave the family alone in its efforts to provide informal social control. Thus far efforts to make protective services more family friendly have not been effective. Perhaps it is time to explore the possibility of the neighborhood as a secondary level of social organization between the state and the family.

Bahira Sherif. University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware, USA.

Older Adults in Delaware: Changes, Continuities and Prospect for the Future.

This presentation will focus on the preliminary results of a study conducted last summer for the State of Delaware on the anticipated

needs of 40 - 60 year old Delawareans as they age. Multiple methodologies were employed in order to arrive at an assessment of the needs and priorities of this age group. Issues of gender, race and ethnicity, educational levels and socio-economic class were taken into account. This study was conducted in order for the state of Delaware to assess what types of care and services will best aid families as they increasingly deal with the growing aged population.

Thais de Barboni, University of Panama, Panama City, Rep. of Panama.

New developments in family life education in Panama: School, Community and Family Interaction.

As in many other underdeveloped countries, in Panama, families confront all sorts of crisis that prevent or lower their capacity or possibilities for accomplishing their functions as a financial, emotional, material and social support. All of these are essentials for the development and well being of its members and the society. Most of the strategies of the new government lead to public institutions, and the private sector as well, to join efforts in setting, applying and supervise politics toward the solution of family problems. A new approach of the strategies is that the families and the communities must take an active part in solving their problems and their own development. No program, public or private, will result without the participation and involvement of the families and communities themselves. The emphasis is put in education and health for the family.

In education, the curriculum has been revised by the Minister of Education in order to put in a new paradigm that fulfils the needs of the Panamanian society and the adjustment that the world globalization demands. As a result the School of Family Sciences and Community Development (new name to be approved, University of Panama) has been participating in different directions: changing the name of the carriers at the University of Panama and also, of the subject within the curriculum of the Basic Education programs of the Education system. At the same time, at both levels, the whole curricula has been revised in an effort to keep the carriers and the subject as part of the academic

offering as an effort to contribute in the formation and reinforcement of better individuals and families. The revision of the new programs for the Basic Education level (3 to 9), was given a new emphasis which is putting making decision process in all five areas of the subject named: Resource Management and Consumer Education; Food and Nutrition; Human Development, Family Studies and Sexuality; Housing and Environment; and Textile and Clothing.

A law to be implemented by the Minister of Education makes it mandatory as a graduation requirement for High School students to volunteer a certain number of hours of work in projects within their communities. It will require supervision. A proposal is for the consideration of the professionals in Extension Service with the appropriate profile that fulfills the requirements for the supervision position. The proposal also established as mandatory to take a specific training in Family and Community Leadership course offered by the University of Panama before they are hired for a position. Part of the responsibilities assigned to the position include linkage of school, community and family. (The contents and most of the material to be used, will be taken from a training given at Dover, Delaware. Several years ago I was given the opportunity to attend to it sponsored by Panama/Delaware, Partners of America group).

At this moment, we are seeking funding for training a pilot group to be released as soon as possible since the Minister of Education lack of budget to implement this totally innovative idea. Our school at the University struggles to open doors and job opportunities for our students raising the standards, capacities and potentialities. In that effort, actually we are organizing the First National Conference in "Family and Sustainable Human Development" in June. We are looking for sponsors in order to bring reputable experts or professionals from other countries, into the conference program. In this presentation, the two initiatives will be described in more details and linkages between the projects noted above.

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