



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

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# Contents

President's column	2
Honorary president's column	2
From the secretary	3
XLIX CFR Seminar (Vilnius, Lithuania)	4
CFR Seminar in Vilnius: A Personal Narrative	6
CFR Blogger Contribution	10
Call for Papers: Journals	13
Recent Publications by CFR Members	15
Resources that may be of Interest to Members	18
New members	19
Board of the CFR	20

## **1. *President's Column***

2014 will bring us together at the world congress in Yokohama, Japan. We received a lot of papers and it is a pity that not all could be considered. At this stage the session organizers have done a difficult job in selecting papers for presentation and discussion, some abstracts had to be rejected. But I am sure we will have a good selection for discussing ongoing issues in family sociology.

Though, what are ongoing issues? Definitely they are diverse and different in East and West, South and North. But some seem to me influential globally. Generational relations come into focus more and more as life expectancy raises continuously and will do so in the future world wide. This is to think about the different meaning of generational relations in different cultures. It is also about the activities how, when and where generations get into contact. But it is not only the question who takes care of whom and how is it professionalized, but also the impact of the vertical line of generational relations compared to the horizontal line of siblings and friends. What does it mean that a child might have intensive contact with grandparents, great grandparents from mothers and fathers side rather than with brothers and sisters? Do facebook friends substitute horizontal relations?

Facebook is the catchword which leads me to another change in the modern world: the means of communication. Those are not broadly analyzed in their impact on family life yet. Internet and satellite construct new lines of relations between people, even within the family. In many countries with good internet possibilities individuals may have mobile phones. In previous times the family was called on the fixed line at home. Now father or mother is called, a single person. The expertise in the usage of the internet will give new importance to those family members who have access to and knowledge about the means of communication. The digital natives are born, using social media not as a tool but living in the social media world seems natural. This might broaden the knowledge gap between the new generation of kids and their parents. The modern possibilities of communication might change family structures, impact generational relations, change possibilities for people living at a distance, create new ties within the family.

These are areas for future research for family sociology, I am sure.

A lot of papers to be presented in Yokohama will deal with this in one way or the other. Hope to meet all the readers of this editorial there.

Rudolf Richter

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

In 1963 I was invited to the 8<sup>th</sup> international seminar of the CFR in Oslo, organized by Erik Grønseth on the theme of *The Decision to Marry*. When I say "invited" I mean it: at that time the organizers (in this case: Erik G. and Reuben Hill) invited those they wanted to participate. There were no statutes and no membership list of the CFR. I was hoping to be invited to the next seminar which was held in Tokyo, Japan, in 1965. But I was not.

At the ISA World Congress in Evian, France, 1966, I participated; my first ISA congress. At a business meeting some participants were advocating for more democracy within the CFR and that we should have statutes guiding us in the future. Joan Aldous in Minneapolis was one of the more active and she was asked to chair a small group to propose statutes at the next ISA World Congress. She did and the statutes were taken by those attending the CFR seminar in Moscow in 1972 (organized by Anatol Kharchev).

But the process of democratization started earlier and we had the first elected president and secretary/treasurer for a four year period at the ISA Congress in Varna, Bulgaria, in 1970 with Gerrit Kooy, the Netherlands, as president and John Mogey, USA, as secretary/treasurer. And the membership fee was USD 40.- per four year period, the same as now more than 40 years later!

Beside the elected officers of the board of the CFR another very important principle was introduced: that all members of the CFR should have the right to be invited to all CFR seminars and to the world congresses — of course numerous clauses would be applied if needed. During the years some modifications of the statutes have been taken, mainly in order to modernize them.

The first time the statutes were properly applied to an election was in 1973 for a new board to take over at the World Congress in Toronto in 1974.

I have participated at all congresses since my first one and I have participated at a majority of the CFR-seminars. Some of them have been very well organized, some not. Some have had good presentations, some not. But all have for me personally been very satisfying. Some presentations have been interesting, so have also some of the discussions been.

Most rewarding, however, have been meeting old friends from the international field and making new friends. Important, according to my opinion is that we should not only speak to people with the same mother tongue as we ourselves have. One of the aims with congresses and seminars is to meet new colleagues from other cultures and very important is new friendship. Acquaintance can develop into friendship. And the experiences that Arthur Koestler shows in his book *Call Girls* (1972) are very important — the book has nothing to do with pornography but with collegial friendship, well worth reading.

JT

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### **3. From the Secretary**

Dear Members

(1) Once again, a word of thanks to the CFR's Nominations Sub-Committee consisting of Rudy Ray Seward (Chair), Fausto Amaro, and Shirley (Hsiao-Li) Sun who did a splendid job in overseeing the selection of the nominees and the election process for the new RC06 Board. The new board will be officially installed into office at the business meeting at the 2014 ISA World Congress in Yokohama, Japan. I would, once more, like to congratulate our colleagues who were elected as your new CFR/RC06 Board Officers for 2014-2018. Those elected are as follows:

<b>President:</b>	<b>Chin-Chun Yi</b>
<b>Vice-president:</b>	<b>Mark Hutter</b>
<b>Secretary/Treasurer:</b>	<b>Bárbara Barbosa Neves</b>
<b>Members at large:</b>	<b>Sylvie Fogiel-Bijaoui, Susan McDaniel, and Margaret O'Brien</b>

(2) I would like to remind you that the option of Life Membership is now available to CFR/RC06 members who are 65 years and older and who are members in good standing. The life membership fee is USD 80, which is twice the amount for Regular Members. For your convenience the ISA secretariat has added this option to the online membership form on the ISA website.

(3) We express our gratitude toward Rudy Seward, Bárbara Barbosa Neves and all the session chairs who have worked very hard in finalising the RC06 programme for the upcoming ISA World Congress to be held in Yokohama, Japan. We look forward to a stimulating intellectual discourse, seeing familiar faces, and making new friends.

Best wishes,  
Ria Smit

#### 4. XLIX CFR Seminar

*“Family and Migration” Vilnius, July 17-19, 2013*



This successful seminar brought together scholars from different parts of the world, in attempting to gain a better understanding of migration and family life. Find below a copy of the final programme.

##### **Opening session**

*Irena Juozeliūnienė*, Conference Organizer

*Kęstutis Dubnikas*, Vice-rector of Vilnius University

*Arūnas Poviliūnas*, Dean of the Philosophy Faculty, Vilnius University

*Rudolf Richter*, President of ISA RC06

##### **Session 1:**

###### **Theoretical Introduction**

*Jan Trost* (Sweden)

###### **Migration**

*Audra Sipavičienė* (Lithuania). Lithuania in the Context of International Migration.

*Rudy Ray Seward* and *Judy Landesman* (USA). Commuting or Migration?

##### **Session 2**

###### **Phenomena and Conceptualizations**

*Basak Bilecen* (Germany). Who Constitutes Family? Perceptions from Migrants in Germany and Their Family Members in Turkey.

*Julie Seymour* and *Julie Walsh* (UK). Displaying Families, Migrant Families and Community Connectedness: The Application of an Emerging Concept in Family Life.

*Mark Hutter* (USA). “My Filipina is From Ghana.” Transnational Migration, Nannies and Family Life.

*Sylvie Bijaoui* (Israel). Babushka in the Holy Land.

##### **Session 3**

###### **Interaction**

*Rudolf Richter* and *Irene Rieder* (Austria). Family Formations through Internet in Migrant Families.

*Vida Kanopienė* and *Sarmitė Mikulionienė* (Lithuania). Intergenerational Communication Practices: Transnational Dimension.

*Irene Levin* (Norway). The Phenomenon of Silence.

## **Session 4**

### **Identity: Left Behind**

*Irena Juozeliūnienė* (Lithuania). Emigrant Families with Parents Away in Lithuania: Challenges and Research Guidelines.

Movie: "Alone at Home" with comments by film maker *Saulius Beržinis*.

## **Session 5**

### **Identity: Bi-linguaism and Gender**

*Benedicte Brahic* (UK). Negotiating Transnational Relationships – Between Opportunities and Challenges: European Bi-national Couples Living in Manchester (United Kingdom).

*Polina Kliuchnikova* (UK). 'Your Mother Tongue in Your Father's Country': Strategies of Conceptualizing and Implementation of Children's Bilingualism by Russian-speaking Mothers in Transnational Families of Great Britain.

*Tatiana Eremenko* (France). Do Transnational Mothering and Fathering Practices Differ? A Case Study of Recently Arrived Immigrants in France.

## **Session 6**

### **Identity: Brides and Mothers**

*Yu-Hua Chen* and *Chin-Chun Yi* (Taiwan). Marriage Migrants in Taiwan.

*Alice Haynes* (UK). Threatened Identities? The Mothering Experiences of Asylum-seeking and Refugee Women in England.

*Alexia Zinonos* (UK). Migration and Community Formation: Narratives of Three Generations of Women Living in A Greek Diaspora Community.

## **Session 7**

### **Networking**

*Bernhard Nauck* (Germany). Family Based Migration Strategies of Turks in Europe – Results from the LineUp-Study on 2000 Turkish Genealogies.

*Jose Soltero* (USA). Social Networks and Remittances to México from Mexican Immigrants in Chicago.

*Elena Sommer* and *Claudia Vogel* (Germany). Financial Transfers Between Parents and Adult Children in Migrant Families from the Former Soviet Union.

## **Concluding session**

*Wilfried Dumon* (Belgium). Summing and Concluding.





## ***5. Trip to Lithuania July 10-24, 2013 to attend Committee on Family Research Seminar in Vilnius: Personal Narrative by Rudy Ray Seward with Jean Ann Seward***

**Off to Sweden:** Our destination was to visit old friends, Nils-Magnus and Marianne Björkman, at their small quaint summer cottage in Småland (southeastern Sweden). Since 1970 our families have gotten together for many visits and Nils-Magnus hosted my numerous visits to Stockholm University. But this visit offered the chance to relive and revive memories from our only visit to their countryside cottage back in 1972.

Back in Stockholm, we stayed at the Wenner-Gren Center, where we first resided for the academic in 1971-1972 and we have returned many times. The nearby of expansive Haga Park is always beaconing for walks and exploration. We spent a day with Committee on Family Research (CFR) member and fatherhood researcher Anna-Lena Almqvist and her partner Christer. Our primary tour was of the Gripsholms Slott, which is a castle that houses Sweden's national picture gallery. The following morning we caught our flight to Vilnius, Lithuania.

**On to Vilnius:** At Arlanda Airport, two long time CFR colleagues, Jan Trost and Irene Levin, joined us for the short flight. After many inquiries, exchanges, negotiations, and just much ado arranging a taxi, our concern was relieved when a taxi driver greeted us at the airport to provide the ride to Hotel Tiltio. Many of Jean and my ascendants would feel right at home at this proudly acclaimed Irish owned establishment with a bar that serves Guinness 24/7. Our escort, Vilnius University student Ieva, met us with other Tiltio guests to guide us to the nearby Cathedral to catch a ride to the welcome reception and feast of native foods at the Medininkai restaurant. Located right in the heart of Vilnius Old Town, the restaurant dates back to the 16th century. Here as in most of the old buildings we visited, sections of the original bricks and stones were left exposed during renovations to allow observers to appreciate the strength and endurance of the initial structures. Potato pancakes, a delicious yet delicate mushroom sauce, and much more wetted and satisfied our appetites.

**CFR Seminar:** Early the next morning we walked to Vilnius University to participate in the CFR's Seminar on Family and Migration. The next three days were devoted to engaging presentations, discussions, and exchanges between family scholars and others addressing relevant issues and challenges faced by families of migrants.

A sizable proportion of Lithuania's population has left the country to find employment. Approximately 20% has emigrated since 1990. Contrary to expectations the rate of leaving was



especially high after Lithuania joined the European Union (EU) in 2004. After that the level dropped some but increased again after the 2008 crises. Lithuania currently has the highest net migration rate in the EU. Often parents leave their children behind in the care of others, frequently grandmothers, and a few children are even abandoned. Common destinations are Ireland, UK, and Norway. An Irish Recruitment office near the Irish Embassy, was spotted just around the corner from the hotel. Irena Juozeliūnienė, one of the Conference Organizer, presented a paper on the children left behind, which was complemented by the documentary film "Alone at Home." The film maker Saulius Beržinis commented on the video and responded to questions. Together they brought home the challenges the parents and children face who are separated by great distances.

Two members of my extended family are descendants of Lithuania emigrants from the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century. One of my maternal uncles married a Lithuania descendent [Aunt Stell(a)] whose mother had emigrated to the U.S. in the early 1900s when she was 19 years old. My brother's wife Barb's maternal grandparents immigrated to the U.S. in early 1900s. They did not know each other in Lithuania, but met while Grandpa John Nakos was working at McCormack (International Harvester) Manufacturers in Chicago, Illinois. Nakos always said he came to U.S. the year the President McKinley was shot in 1901. Brother Russell and Barb's wedding took place in the large Lithuania neighborhood and church on the south side of Chicago, where Barb grew up.

The successful seminar sessions were interrupted by coffee breaks, great lunches, two tours, and two banquets. During these times, as during the conference sessions, information exchanges continued, friendships made, and collaborations developed. Thursday afternoon a guided tour of Vilnius University (VU) was provided. VU is the oldest university in the Baltic States and one of the oldest in Eastern Europe. The university was founded in 1579 as the Jesuit Academy of Vilnius by the King of Poland and Grand Duke of Lithuania, Stephen Báthory. Thursday night we retreated to the ancient Narutis hotel and restaurant, which had been owned by the university for some time in its early history to house foreign professors and rich students. The banquet was fittingly in the large Rector's reception hall. Irene Levin treated us with pictures and reminisces from the seminar held in Vilnius 20 years ago, highlighting some returnees. It was the first CFR seminar that current President Rudolf Ritcher attended.

The concluding session was chaired by Jan Trost and Wilfried Dumon. Jan started the seminar with a helpful, insightful, and orienting theoretical overview and now Wilfried successfully took on the daunting task of summarizing all the seminar sessions, highlighting new developments and challenges. Afterwards we boarded buses for a guided tour of historic 14<sup>th</sup> Century Trakai Island Castle in Lake Galvė. The Castle and grounds were crowded with one wedding party and a graduation ceremony. The crowd and intermittent rain did not deter our enjoyment. Our Seminar farewell dinner was in the shore restaurant Apvalaus Statlo Klubas with an excellent view of the Castle and its changing colors with varying shades as the weather and time of day moved on. Many CFR members photographed the changing colors and shades as the light of the day and Seminar were extinguished.

At the last session and banquet many thanks were due and expressed for such a successful seminar. Those getting special acknowledgments included the primary organizers Irena Juozeliūnienė (Lithuania) and Jan Trost (Sweden), the local organizing committee, and student and VIA Conventus helpers. Rūta Butėnaitė deserved and received extra thanks for stepping into the key contact role and becoming the 'go to' person for all kinds of challenges before and during the Seminar. For more details on the Seminar see <http://www.cfr2013.lt/> , Irena Juozeliuniene's excellent synopsis at: <http://www.rc06-isa.org/2013/09/02/guest-blogger-of-september-family-and-migration-by-irena-juozeliuniene/> and entries in the current CFR Gazette.

One contextual element of the Seminar was that Lithuania had started its Presidency of the Council of the EU July 1<sup>st</sup>. It undertook this 6 month responsibility for the very first time since EU entry in 2004. As the Seminar was next door to the Presidential Palace, we saw special banners and



displays plus lots of special transportation for events and meetings throughout the inner city, including convoys of black cars with appropriate national flags on their front fenders. The car carried the international politicians and officials of the EU member states to their many events. The Seminar was so close to the palace that we had to get special permission to have access to Wi-Fi.

**Exploring Vilnius and beyond:** Our remaining four days were devoted to touring. Our only out of town tour was to the Soviet relics at Grūtas Park exposition, which is near the borders of Poland and Belarus. The Park houses most of the Soviet statues that once set in cities and town squares and parks plus other exhibits to “disclose the negative aspects of the Soviet ideology and its impact on Lithuania” (<http://www.grutoparkas.lt/?lang=gb>). Just inside the gate a wooden railway box car displayed, acknowledged the deportation of an estimated thirty thousand Lithuanian, Jewish, and Polish political, professional, and social elite to Siberia by the Soviets early in their occupation between June 1940 and June 1941. This was an attempt to stifle resistance and establish Soviet authority. Other CFR colleagues, Mark and Loraine Hutter and Sylvie Bijaoui and Elan also took the tour and noted that little recognition was given in the Park and museums to the fate of the Jewish population before and during Soviet occupation. The Soviets annexed Lithuania in 1939 and invaded it in 1940. With the exception of the Nazi occupation and Holocaust from 1941 to 1944, Soviet occupation lasted until 1991.

The Vilnius' Jewish population was nearly 100,000, about forty-five percent of the city's total before World War II. At that time, Vilnius had over 100 synagogues and prayer houses and six daily Jewish newspapers. Vilnius was often referred to as ‘The Jerusalem of Lithuania’ or even of Northern Europe. Only 24,000 Jews survived the war. Treatment by the Soviets when they retook power did not improve. For example, the Soviets built a large sport arena on top of a Jewish cemetery. Vilnius' Jewish population today is 5,000 with only one synagogue. If the tour guides are any indication the Holocaust is increasingly acknowledged with multiple museums, statues, and plaques (e.g., Ghetto area) and the rich Jewish heritage over several centuries is drawing a growing amount of tourism. A major part of this rich heritage as noted by Judy Landesman, co-author of our seminar paper, was Vilnius being the seat of the Lithuanian branch of Jewish learning, led by the Vilna Gaon - Rabbi Eliyahu of Vilna (1720 - 1797). Rabbi Eliyahu was probably the most influential Jewish leader in modern history (<http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/biography/vilnagaon.html> ).

After the Grūtas Park tour in the nearby spa town of Druskininkai, we enjoyed native cuisine specialties at Forto Dvaras. Many of the specialties included Mushrooms. During our visit mushrooms seemed to overtake the potato as the national and most popular vegetable. Mushrooms were part of most of my meals for the duration of the trip as they reminded me of the delicious ones we used to pick in Midwest forest in the U. S. when I was a boy. Mushroom mania seem to be in full force as on the drive south to the park, scores of vendors were selling them roadside out of their cars. Most of these were freshly picked mushrooms from the nearby forests. Almost every roadway intersecting the highway had at least one vendor. After our lunch we took a leisurely stroll through a lovely park loaded with beautiful flowers.

On another day we walked to the Genocide Victims' Museum [Genocido Aukų Muziejus] in Vilnius. Between 1940 and 1991 the building primarily housed NKVD (Communist Secret Police) and the KGB but between 1941 and 1944 the building was controlled by the Nazi Gestapo. The exhibits primarily focus on the period of oppression and genocide of the Lithuanian people by the Communist regime, especially under the ‘lunacy’ of Stalin. From 1941 the building was used by the KGB to house offices, a prison, and an interrogation center. Over 1,000 prisoners were executed in the basement between 1944 and the early 1960s. A Holocaust related exposition acknowledging the extermination of Jews in Lithuania during the World War II was opened in the museum in 2011.

One day was devoted to touring many churches in the old city. The nearby Cathedral-Basilica of St. Stanislaus & St. Ladislaus [Vilniaus Šv. Stanislovo ir Šv. Vladislovo Arkikatedra Bazilika], is

considered the most important Catholic building in Lithuania. The Cathedral was first built in 1251 but the current building dates to around 1419 followed by countless modifications and additions. The rather plain nave betrays eleven chapels, among them the elaborate High Baroque Chapel of St. Casimir (1458-1484), Lithuania's patron saint. After Mass at the Cathedral we moved on to St. Anne's Church [Šv. Onos Bažnyčia] that started with the alleged construction in the 14th century of a wooden house of worship on this spot in honor of Ona, the wife of Vytautas the Great. Next we explored the Church of the Holy Mother of God, an Orthodox church, followed by many others. The last stop was Dawn Gate [Aušros Vartai]. Completed in 1522, it is the only remaining gate from the city's original defensive walls. As was common at the time, an image of the Virgin Mary was placed above all gates to protect the city. The current image, known as *The Blessed Virgin Mary Mother of Mercy*, was painted on eight pieces of oak around 1630 and was embellished with gold and silver about 40 years later. Housed inside a purpose-built chapel above the gate since 1706, it is believed by many to have magic healing powers. The Dawn Gate, revered by both the Catholic and Orthodox faiths, was considered such an important part of the city's cultural heritage that it remained open throughout the Soviet occupation.

We topped off the evening with dinner at a Belgium restaurant with Mark, Lorraine and Jan. This was only one of an array of national restaurants in cosmopolitan Vilnius. Irish, Mexican, Cuban, Indian, French, Italian among others were also spotted.

The 13th century, Gediminas Castle Tower was the starting point on our last day. The Tower was part of a castle and wall complex that housed and protected the early city of Vilnius. From the Tower top the panoramic views were spectacular. Afterwards we descended on the funicular (cliff railway) and strolled along the nearby river before we also toured the National Museum of Lithuania ensemble containing the largest depository of items reflecting the cultural history of the country. We visited the New Arsenal and the newly restored and opened Palace of the Grand Dukes of Lithuania. The photographic exhibit in the Arsenal chronicled the Baltic Way or national revival that led to the declaration of independence by Lithuania in 1991 for the second time in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Lithuania was the first of the former Soviet states to declare independence. What an impressive successful social movement, which would be worthy of sociological treatment in a variety of media.

Our last museum stop answered a question I had after purchasing samples of Lithuanian currency at a coin club in Denton, Texas last year in anticipation of our visit. The one of the displays at the admission free Money Museum [Pinigų Muziejus] provided the answer. The five small rooms on two floors celebrate the history of world and Lithuanian money. The newly opened museum was loaded with lots of fancy interactive bits and bobs. At the time of my small purchase, I remarked that the currency was very plain and some of it much like the Monopoly game play money. In contrast the Litas distributed by the cash machine that we used during our stay were state of the art in terms of colors, portraits, watermarks, security strips, etc. When I discovered that my sample currency was printed in 1991, my recently acquired appreciation of Lithuania history made me realize that this was the first and rushed issue after independent was declared, thus accounting for its simplistic appearance.

We left before dawn on the 24<sup>th</sup>, with the taxi taking us through the now deserted streets of the old city on the way to the airport. Our staying a few extra days to get to know Vilnius and Lithuania better was rewarded in numerous ways. Irena, Jan, and their organization committee hosted a wonderful seminar and introduction to Vilnius and Lithuania. The predawn streets in the old city may have been deserted by people but they were full of many memories for Jean and me. We will just have to return for another visit later to explore even more. We made a lot of great memories that will last a life time.

## 6. CFR Blogger Contribution

### *“Family & Migration” by Irena Juozeliuniene*



*Irena Juozeliuniene is a Professor of Sociology at Vilnius University in Lithuania. Her academic interest include topics such as family issues, sociological aspects of identity and postmodern social discourse. Her recent work is about families under migration in a globalized world. Recent research projects include “Lithuanian Emigrants and Their Children: Sociological Research of Families with Parents Away” (2007), supported by the Scientific Council at Vilnius University; “Resources, Locality and Life Course: the Case of the Town” (2007), supported by the Lithuanian National Foundation for Science and Education. She leads the ongoing project “Emigration and Family: Challenges, Family Resources, Ways of Coping with Difficulties” (2012-2014), supported by the Research Council of Lithuania. Together with Jan Trost she organized two ISA RC06 seminars “Family and Social Change” (1993) and “Family and Migration” (2013) in Lithuania.*

#### **FAMILY AND MIGRATION**

I had the honor of organizing ISA RC06 seminar in Lithuania two times: the topic of 1993 seminar was “Rapid Social Change and Family”. It was supported by the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology under the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences. In 2013, I have opted for the topic “Family and Migration”. The seminar attracted 30 researchers from eleven countries of the world. The seminar took place in Vilnius University and was supported by CFR and the Research Council of Lithuania. When organizing a seminar after twenty years, I aimed not so much for continuity as for focusing on issues that concern Eastern European (Lithuanian among them) family sociologists today. Obviously, the two seminars differ in their topics and the emotional charge they carry. Remembering year 1993, back then seminar participants were interested in changes affecting family life at the end of the 20th century and could observe in real-time the situation in Lithuania in the aftermath of the collapse of the USSR, Lithuania has just restored its independence. The end of the Soviet regime and dogmatic family ideology promised positive changes – in family life and family sociology, both.

Twenty years later, I suggested examining the questions of family and migration. Does that mean that the period marked by optimistic mood and expectations of “new life” is already over and we witness shift of focus to – one could say, even concern over – the consequences of global mobility? That is precisely how the situation stands when viewed from the perspective of

Lithuania. Social reality – mass emigration from Lithuania and the impact of global mobility on the family – became more than just a strategic problem for the nation-state. It also challenges the theory of family sociology, its research methodologies and practical work with individual families.

Using the privilege bestowed on hosts organizing CFR seminars, I have suggested several topics, introduced here as intentions.

### *Intentions*

The *first topic* is connected to a widespread belief in Lithuania that family is a small part of society, situated within a nation state. The image of nuclear family as a benchmark is officially established in the National Family Policy Conception (2008), while the spirit of nationalism connects the family with one nation state and does not recognize the fact that humans are capable of creating family constructs across several nation states. Established theoretical (perhaps even ideological) family schemes prevent from recognizing families as lived realities, brought about by mobility of individuals.

I suggested the emphasis of the CFR Seminar on how families are shaped by mobility? Whether identification of an individual and family with a fixed locality and nation state is still evident? How families are affected by multiple national residences and transnational identities, whether belonging to de-located families is in contradiction with feelings of belonging to nation state?

*Secondly*, my focus was on the reasoning that global mobility suggests the new modes of sociological analysis of families. I aimed to open the discussion about new phenomena and new concepts come up to emphasize the networks and boundaries of emerging family variations and seek to define their diverse lived realities. Whether these phenomena reveal the opportunities for families or mark the new sources of social stigma? It seemed reasonable to bring the social category of „the other“, disclose class and cultural connotations of the concept, and go on with the word „migrant“, usually attributed to economic migration, then continue with the transnational elites as „mobiles“ – neutral word without connotations of social stigma.

*The third topic.* In my view, the topic of family and migration often attracts much more scrutiny in destination countries. Questions examining how emigrants integrate into new cultural environment, how they define relation with a titular nation, as well as social assistance to migrants and their families are often addressed in scientific journals and essays. Holding the seminar in Lithuania presented an excellent opportunity to take a look at the other side of global mobility – examine the perspective of countries subject to citizen emigration as well as look into family doing practices of emigrating people (and not view them solely as cheap labor force). I had an idea of introducing emigration flows from Lithuania, complement the overview of migration directions with sociological analysis of the situation, and later illustrate it with visual material by screen a documentary film and holding post-screening discussion.

I will leave it up to seminar participants to judge whether the idea has paid off. Meanwhile, I will share my own reflections.

## *Reflections*

*Definitions.* How families are shaped by mobility? The distinctions between commuting and migration, „mobiles“ and „migrants“ were introduced. Attention was drawn to ambivalence of used concepts and their relation to different family practices within various social and cultural contexts. The analysis of family constructs has inevitably raised the eternal question: what do we mean by family? Who is perceived as family members in cross boarder living arrangements? Is it different, if we take the perspective of a person, labeled as „migrant“, „mobile“, „left behind“? Going further, what meanings we attribute to „transnational“ family? What do one mean by „transnational social capital of the family“?

*New concepts.* The concept of Displaying Family was introduced. It shows that migrant family life must not only be „done“, but also be „seen to be done“. In my opinion, this concept can be successfully developed within the context of study of families undergoing migration, because within the new social and cultural contexts it is necessary to demonstrate to the audience that “we consider ourselves to be a family” and migrant family practices are not tantamount to “destruction”.

*“The other”.* In migration studies, “I” and “other”, “we” and “others” constitute an important chain in sociological analysis. The question was raised about whether otherness of the “other” is always clearly defined and verbalized, whether the “other” can be analyzed from the perspective of secrets, taboos, and silence? Such perspective creates pre-conditions for analyzing migration issues through the lens of memories. The latter might include micro-macro analysis of contexts, meanings, behaviors.

*Phenomena.* Several phenomena related to mobility were introduced. Russian-Jewish „babushka“, as institution of family support and child rearing was discussed. This was to disclose the social construction of „womanhood“, relationships between mothers and daughters, growing significance of elderly in the family. The phenomenon of nannies from the Third World countries has highlighted voluntary integration of the cultural “other” into families for the purpose of caring for elderly people and childcare. It was demonstrated how pragmatic exchange relations gradually transform themselves into attachment/hate relations and can lead to unforeseen effects on the family life.

*Theories.* What theory should be used to ground the study of families in migration? In the theoretical introduction suggestions were made to invoke SI perspective, based on further development of G. H. Mead’s “I” and “me”. The application of this perspective, to my mind, provides an excellent opportunity to invoke timeless classics for analysis of contemporary realities. Several speakers espoused SI perspective, though participants have also discussed life course perspective and actor-network theory, which is increasingly popular in the age of mobility, dynamic relations and Internet.

*Two perspectives: countries of destination and origin.* Majority of speakers have presented research on status of migrant families in destination countries: UK, Germany, Israel, France, USA, Austria, and Taiwan. Participants analyzed specific features of interpersonal relations and bi-national couples, discussed cases of children’s bilingualism, transnational parenting strategies – different for mothers and fathers, presented experiences of women as mothers, daughters, and wives. Migrant social networks, strategies for organizing financial assistance,

and their connection to political, economic, legal culture of nation states and historical experience of ethnic migrant groups were also the topics for discussion.

The situation of Lithuania, as a country supplying migrants, was analyzed on the levels of emigration trends, sociological research, and social documentaries. Sociological analysis disclosed how Lithuanian society is shaped by meaning-making institutions producing knowledge about migration and migrant families. The development of the outline to migrant family research was introduced: the possibilities to apply pragmatic approach, mixed method research and integrative methodology were suggested. R. Hill's family change model was treated as conceptual axis of family research through the lens of changes, resources, definitions of the situations and impact management practices. The movie about children left behind, firstly, aimed to introduce the challenges brought to families. Secondly, the movie and comments by film maker served as the example of the social construction of reality shaped by the knowledge of film maker and technologies which produce "truthful" images about phenomena.

## **7. Call for Papers: Journals**

### ***(i) Contemporary Perspectives in Family Research***

Contemporary Perspectives in Family Research, an annual series which focuses upon cutting-edge topics in family research around the globe, is seeking manuscript submissions for its 2014 volume. The 2014 volume of CPFR will focus on the theme of 'Family and Health: Evolving Needs, Responsibilities, and Experiences.' Around the globe, families are often faced with a variety of health issues, often as a result of social, political, religious, and economic forces. Health issues affect not only individual family members, but also impact family relationships and structures. This multidisciplinary volume of CPFR will address topics such as: caring for aging parents, illness in adults and children, addiction, obesity, wellness and nutrition, pregnancy and childbirth, healthcare reform, access to healthcare, advances in medical research, mental health, environmental health, the demographics of health, and the role of healthcare professionals from varying global perspectives.

The 2014 volume will be coedited by Jennifer Higgins McCormick of Trocaire College and Sampson Lee Blair of The State University of New York (Buffalo). Manuscripts should be submitted directly to the editors ([mccormickj@trocaire.edu](mailto:mccormickj@trocaire.edu) and [slblair@buffalo.edu](mailto:slblair@buffalo.edu)), preferably in MS WORD format. Manuscripts should not exceed 40 double-spaced pages (not including tables, figures, and references). Submission of a manuscript implies commitment to publish in CPFR. Manuscripts should adhere to the APA format. Manuscripts should represent previously unpublished work. An abstract of 150-200 words should be included at the beginning of each manuscript. All manuscripts will undergo peer review.

The deadline for initial submissions is January 20, 2014. Any questions may be directed to the editors at [mccormickj@trocaire.edu](mailto:mccormickj@trocaire.edu) and [slblair@buffalo.edu](mailto:slblair@buffalo.edu).

***(ii) Special Issue of Nordic Social Work Research on  
'Social Work and Sociology: Historical and Contemporary  
Perspectives'***

Editors: Irene Levin, Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences (OAUC), Marit Haldar (OAUC) and Anne Halvorsen (University of Agder)  
Secretary: Aurelie Picot (OAUC)

Abstract submission - 10 April 2014

Article submission - 1 September 2014

This special issue will explore the relationships between social work and sociology from historical and contemporary perspectives. In addition to their common history (for instance, at the University of Chicago and Hull House), social work and sociology share many of the same concerns. Both disciplines focus on social problems, social structure, social integration and how individuals respond to and live within cultural and structural constraints. Even though both social work and sociology share a number of similar views of the relationships between theory and practice, their understandings of theory and practice often differ. Whereas social workers and sociologists have long worked together to educate future social workers, sociology often is perceived as a theoretical discipline distanced from the everyday problems of social workers and of little relevance with respect for action. Social work, on the other hand, is often viewed as a practice-oriented profession having fewer theoretical concerns. Given these kinds of stereotyped understandings, how is it possible to avoid producing dichotomized views of theory and practice?

This special issue aims to deal with this question by shedding light on the shared roots of both disciplines and demonstrate how their historical bonds can be made visible today. Moreover, we wish to provide a framework highlighting the diversity of theoretical perspectives within social work and sociological research. This issue will explore many facets of the relationship between sociology and social work, including the following:

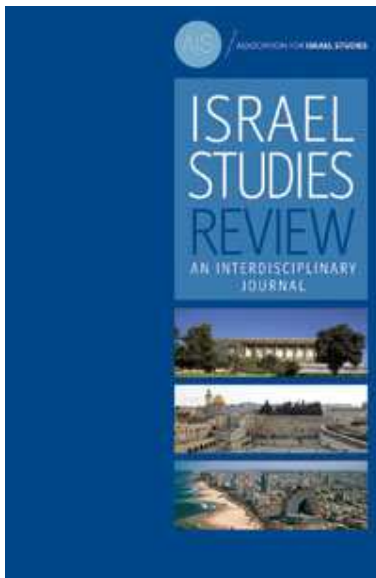
- . The historical relationship between social work and sociology
- . The social work - sociology relationship in contemporary theoretical developments
- . Discussions of concepts at the boundaries of both disciplines
- . Social work and sociology's responses to individualizing trends

Submission details and timetable: The editorial committee welcomes abstracts of no more than 250 words including titles and the e-mail addresses of authors. Abstracts must be received by 10 April 2014. After review by the editorial committee, decisions about acceptance and details about article format and size will be e-mailed to authors on 1 May 2014. Articles (around 7000 words) should be submitted no later than 1 September 2014. The articles will then be peer-reviewed and those selected for publication are scheduled to be published in print and online in May 2015.

Contact: [irene.levin@hioa.no](mailto:irene.levin@hioa.no)



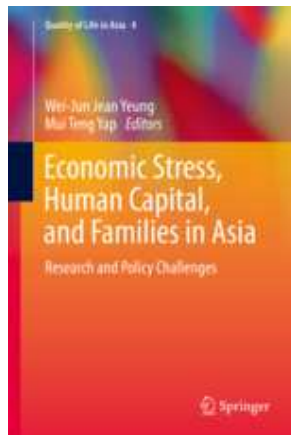
## 8. Recent Publications by CFR Members



The Winter 2013 issue of the Israel Studies Review (vol. 28, No. 2) is a special double issue on the Israeli family, guest-edited by Sylvie Fogiel-Bijaoui and Reina Rutlinger-Reiner. The issue was planned over a period of two years by a special group of scholars convened for this purpose at the Van Leer Institute in Jerusalem. Its 17 articles cover the gamut of subjects related to families, including law, religion, tradition, and modern transformations, and how these categories collide in real life. It is expected that this issue to serve as an anthology on the subject for many years. In addition, it includes reviews of important books by Anita Shapira, Judith Butler, and Orit Rozin.

For more information visit

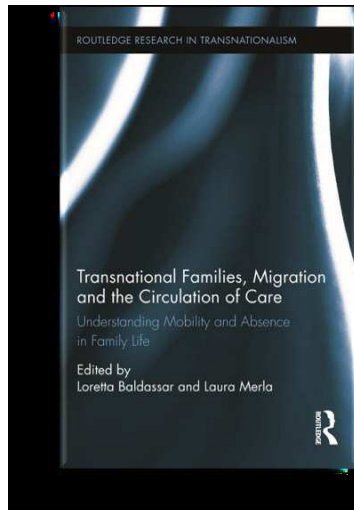
<http://journals.berghahnbooks.com/isr/> or the guest editors Sylvie Fogiel-Bijaoui and Reina Rutlinger-Reiner.



<http://link.springer.com/book/10.1007%2F978-94-007-7386-8>

Economic Stress, Human Capital, and Families in Asia  
Research and Policy Challenges  
Editors: Wei-Jun Jean Yeung, and Mui Teng Yap

This book presents recent findings about the consequences and policy implications of economic stress for human capital development and family well-being in Asia. The scope of the chapters goes beyond the impact of current financial crisis to include the effect of economic deprivation families in Asia experience as a result of job loss, low-wage employment, and catastrophic natural calamities. The studies show how macro-level economic stress can filter down through households to affect individuals' economic and socio-psychological well-being. The chapters reveal a wide spectrum of economic stresses experienced by families in Asia that is linked to poor human capital development, emotional distress, health problems, changing fertility patterns, more frequent geographic movement, and less supportive parenting behavior. The elderly, women, children, low-skilled workers are particularly vulnerable. The economic shocks in the past several decades have exposed the vulnerability of the family institution and the weaknesses in this region's social protection system that can lead to detrimental long-term effects on human capital development. This book is relevant for researchers and students in fields such as Family Studies, Globalization, Development, Social Problems, Social Stratification, Social Inequalities, Poverty and Welfare, Education, and Social Policies.

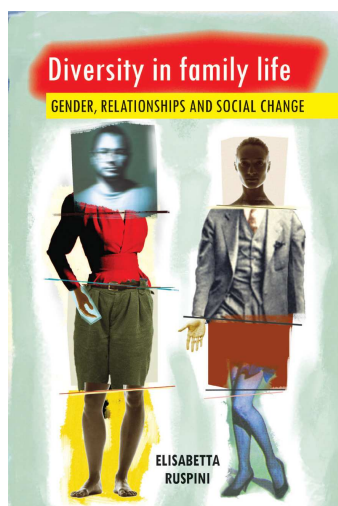


Baldassar, L. & Merla, L. (Eds.) (2013). *Transnational families, migration and the circulation of care: understanding mobility and absence in family life*. Oxon: Routledge.

Without denying the difficulties that confront migrants and their distant kin, this volume highlights the agency of family members in transnational processes of care, in an effort to acknowledge the transnational family as an increasingly common family form and to question the predominantly negative conceptualisations of this type of family. It re-conceptualises transnational care as a set of activities that circulates between home and host countries - across generations - and fluctuates over the life course, going beyond a focus on mother-child relationships to include multidirectional exchanges across generations and between genders. It highlights, in particular, how the sense of belonging in transnational families is sustained by the reciprocal, though uneven, exchange of caregiving, which binds members together in intergenerational networks of reciprocity and obligation, love and trust that are simultaneously fraught with tension, contest and relations of unequal power. The chapters that make up this volume cover a rich array of ethnographic case studies including analyses of transnational families who circulate care between developing nations in Africa, Latin America and Asia to wealthier nations in North America, Europe and Australia. There are also examples of intra- and extra- European, Australian and North American migration, which involve the mobility of both the unskilled and working class as well as the skilled middle and aspirational classes.

More details can be found here:

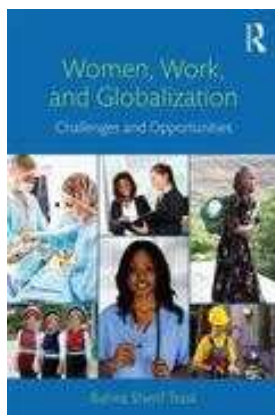
<http://www.routledge.com/books/details/9780203077535/>



Ruspini, E. (2013). *Diversity in Family Life. Gender, Relationships and Social Change*. Bristol: Policy Press.



Gahan, L.B. & Jones, T. (Eds.) (2013). *Heaven Bent: Australian lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex experiences of faith, religion and spirituality*. Melbourne: Clouds of Magellan.



Trask, B. (2014). *Women, Work, and Globalization: Challenges and Opportunities*. Routledge.

Women increasingly make up a significant percentage of the labor force throughout the world. This transformation is impacting everyone's lives. This book examines the resulting gender role, work, and family issues from a comparative worldwide perspective. Working allows women to earn an income, acquire new skills, and forge social connections. It also brings challenges such as simultaneously managing domestic responsibilities and family relationships. The social, political, and economic implications of this global transformation are explored from an interdisciplinary perspective. The commonalities and the differences of women's experiences depending on their social class, education, and location in industrialized *and* developing countries are highlighted throughout. Practical implications are examined including the consequences of these changes for men. Engaging vignettes and case studies from around the world bring the topics to life. The book argues that despite policy reforms and rhetoric of equality, women still have unique experiences from men both at work and at home.

*Women, Work, and Globalization* explores:

Key issues surrounding work and families from a *global cross-cultural* perspective.

The positives and negatives of more women in the global workforce.

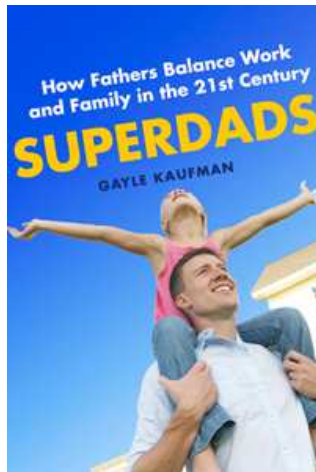
The spread of women's empowerment on changes in ideologies and behaviors throughout the world.

Key literature from family studies, IO, sociology, anthropology, and economics.

The changing role of men in the global work-family arena.

The impact of sexual trafficking and exploitation, care labor, and transnational migration on women.

Best practices and policies that have benefited women, men, and their families.



Kaufman, G. (2013). *Superdads: How fathers balance work and family in the 21<sup>st</sup> century*. New York, NY: NYU Press.



**JOURNAL OF COMPARATIVE FAMILY STUDIES**



Special issue of *Journal of Comparative Family Issues*, 2013, vol. 44, issue 6.  
 Edited by Irena Juozeliuniene and Jan Trost on the theme of FAMILY AND MIGRATION.  
 A result of the CFR international seminar in Vilnius, Lithuania, July 17-19, 2013.

## ***9. Resources that may be of interest to members***

### **Asian Family Matters: Research Brief Series**

[http://www.ari.nus.edu.sg/article\\_view.asp?id=18&ari=Overview&categoryid=98](http://www.ari.nus.edu.sg/article_view.asp?id=18&ari=Overview&categoryid=98)

#### ***Asian Family Matters: Research Brief Series***

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

- 1) Issue 01 (March 2013) - Transitioning to Adulthood in Asia: School, Work, and Family Life
- 2) Issue 02 (April 2013) - Gendered Aspirations: Youth and Work in Indonesia
- 3) Issue 03 (May 2013) - The Employment Trajectories of China's Lost Generation
- 4) Issue 04 (June 2013) - Cross-border Marriage and Spousal Violence in Hong Kong
- 5) Issue 05 (July 2013) - Negotiating Marriage and Schooling in Nepal
- 6) Issue 06 (August 2013) - Cross-border Marriage and Social Reproduction in South Korea

## **10. New Members**

The CFR welcomes the following members:

Nevena Kulic  
Serbia

Tomoko Matsuda  
Japan

Elisabetta Ruspini  
Italy

Alice Fothergill  
USA

Yasuko Murata  
Japan

Jo Lindsay  
Australia

Kyoko Yoshizumi  
Japan

Yoshimi Iwashita  
Japan

Haruka Ota  
Japan

Naomi Umeda  
Japan

Robin Hognas  
USA

Rika Takamuru  
Japan

Yoko Maki  
France

Ai Ando  
Japan

Tahshal Fletcher  
USA

Filza Satti  
Pakistan/USA

Mehmet Celebi  
Turkey/USA

Kayoko Sekiyama  
Japan

Hiroko Yoshimoto  
Japan

Gina Zabludovsky  
Mexico

Daniela Grunow  
Germany

Jeylan Mortimer  
USA

Aditi Basu  
India

Please send address and other corrections to the CFR secretary/treasurer.

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