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FROM THE SECRETARY

We have now 325 members from 51 countries. We still have some members who have not paid their membership since 2002 and 2003. Please pay as soon as possible so our membership list will be updated. If you do not want to remain a member, my work would be much easier if you sent me a note about that.

Please notice that the year your payment is due, is shown on the right hand side of the name tag on the envelope. Please pay as soon as possible; either with an American check written to: CFR c/o Irene Levin or CFRs account: 6042 06 23383, Nordea bank, Frognerveien, Oslo, Norway. The switch number is NDEANOKK. The Iban number is NO96 60420623383.

The amount is the same as for all the years: 40 US$ or 40 EURO for four years and 10 US$ or 10 EURO for students, also for four years. Because of the low dollar rate I would prefer that you paid in Euro.

Our column: News from Members is a way to keep members updated with what is happening in the field around the world. Please inform me about new articles, books and anything else!

This is the last Gazette for this year and I am glad to use the opportunity to wish all our members a Happy New Year!

IL

HONORARY PRESIDENT’S COLUMN

A new journal of interest to man of is just launched. It is an e-journal which means that it will not at all be paper-based. The name is Qualitative Sociology Review. I include here a statement from the editor, Krzysztof Konecki, who is Polish living in Poland.
All sociologists for whom interpretative paradigm and qualitative research methodology are basic perspectives of a social world investigation, are welcomed to submit their articles and support our initiative. There will be published empirical, theoretical and methodological articles applicable to all fields and specializations within sociology. More information: www.qualitativesociologyreview.org

JT

XVIITH WORLD CONGRESS OF SOCIOLOGY 2006

Durban, South Africa, 23–29 July 2006

THE QUALITY OF SOCIAL EXISTENCE IN A GLOBALISING WORLD.

Chin-Chun Yi, Taiwan, chinyi@gate.sinica.edu.tw, has been appointed program coordinator of the sessions allotted to the CFR. She has asked Ruth Katz, Israel, ruth@soc.haifa.ac.il, and Ria Smit, South Africa, rsm@lw.rau.ac.za, to assist her. Send abstracts to her and to the session organizer/s (only to one session).

RC06 PROGRAM FOR 2006 ISA

Session 1: The Longitudinal Data in Family Research

Organizer1: Bernhard Nauck
University: Dept. of Sociology, University of Chemnitz, Germany
E-mail: bernhard.nauck@phil.tu-chemnitz.de

Session Description:

In recent years, the understanding of family as a process has grown considerably. This has resulted in a number of efforts worldwide to
establish panel studies, dedicated either to specific phases in family life, such as family formation, or families in later life, or to cover broader subjects, such as general household panels. For many topics in family sociology, panel analyses are indispensable, but difficult to establish. Panel studies require special designs and additional efforts in data collection, and they apply specific types of data analysis.

This panel invites scholars to present papers related to family panel studies; papers may cover conceptual, methodological and practical issues related to the running of family panels, as well as research findings derived from family panels. Main aim of this panel is bringing together panel researchers from various parts of the world to learn from each other and build networks, stimulating further improvements, and to disseminate developmental ideas in family research.

Proposals should be directed to the session organizer Bernhard Nauck (bernhard.nauck@phil.tu-chemnitz.de).

**Session 2: Various Family Forms**

Organizer 2: Irene Levine / Jan Trost

University: Oslo University, Norway / Uppsala University, Sweden

E-mail: Irene.Levin@oks.hio.no / jan.trost@soc.uu.se

**Session Description:**

The session will deal with old as well as new variations of family forms. These can be stepfamily variations, living apart together (LAT) relationships of various forms. Old age variations, adult children and parents variations, same gender as well as opposite gender variations, and other varieties of families.

Papers with cross-cultural data or longitudinal data will be given the priority for consideration. Interested contributors should prepare an abstract of no more than 500 words and e-mail it to the organizers at the above addresses.

**Session 3: The Intergenerational Relations**
Session Description:

Session on "Intergenerational Relations"

The study of intergenerational relations has advanced theoretically and empirically in the last decades. Its significance lies in the attempt to understand the impact of the changes that took place in many societies on family relations between generations in childhood, adulthood and aging. Patterns of economic and emotional support, caregiving and receiving, filial norms and behaviors, solidarity, conflict and ambivalence are among the issues that this session will focus. Contributions on intergenerational relations over time in terms of national or cross national contexts, using qualitative and/or quantitative research methods, and guided by conceptual frameworks are welcomed.

Session 4: Intercultural Marriages and Relationships

In a globalised world geographical borders lose their importance. This holds true not only for the space of flows in economy and business, this holds also true for international relations, traffic, management and tourism. In Europe, the cradle of the nation state looses its relevance compared to the European Union.

In such a world the possibilities for intercultural marriages and relationship grows. Student exchange programs contribute to that as well as the possibility to find partners through internet and the easing of crossing borders. The still existing vision of romantic love contributes its share to those partnerships. The experience that this sort of love is not
bound to social class and comes spontaneously creates the impression there are no boundaries.

But we know from earlier research that marriage circles are rather homogenous.

In the session we want to discuss problems of intercultural partnerships. We are looking for papers who deal with partnerships based on love and affection with persons from different cultures and nations. How stable are these relations? How is partnership constructed? What about the division of labour? What about the education of children?

Does a “clash of civilisations” appear in those relations? What is the influence of other family members?

Papers which deal with this questions are welcome. We would favor empirical studies, be it quantitative or qualitative, but theoretical analysis about culture and partnership which further new and innovative insights are acceptable as well.

**Session 5: Gender Issues in Marriage**

Organizer 5: Connie Shehan  
University: Dept. of Sociology, University of Florida, USA  
E-mail: shehan@soc.ufl.edu

**Session Description:**

This session will focus on gender-based differences in marital processes (i.e., conflict, communication, power, decision making, violence) as well as in access to family resources (e.g., money, property, space) and in family care giving responsibilities. We are especially interested in papers that link macrolevel (or institutional) forces (such as cultural/religious, economic, and legal/political) to the intradyadic processes.

**Session 6: Family, Work and Care**
Organizer 6: Eva Bernhardt
University: Dept. of Sociology, Stockholm University
E-mail: eva.bernhardt@sociology.su.se

Session Description:

This session will deal with the intersection of family life and work life. The question of how to combine family and work responsibilities is of crucial importance in modern societies with a high work force participation of women and more or less advanced gender equality. Papers dealing with various aspects of the so-called work-family balance are welcome, especially if they are comparative (i.e. involving more than one country) or study changes over time. Both papers dealing with the work-family balance from a theoretical perspective, and those containing empirical studies, advancing our knowledge about the actual situation in different types of societies, are invited as contributions to this session.

Session 7: Children and the Family

Organizer: Claude Martin
University: Université de Rennes, France
E-mail: Claude.Martin@ensp.fr

Session Description:

The development of childhood as a main sociological and political issue in the last decade is obvious. The number of researches on children and childhood is growing significantly. Some of them give priority to the role of family and parents in the socialization of children (the parents’ point of view). Some others look to the children’s point of view and face the methodological and ethical difficulty to analyse sociologically children in the family. How may we adopt the points of view of children? Is it possible to collect their opinions on family life?

In this session, we are looking for papers which consider these two points of view on some main issues: children and family disruption (controversies about the impact of family separation on children, children’s point of view on separation and divorce as an experience); children and parents’ responsibilities (what are the roles of the parents
towards their children and the evolution of these roles, from the parents and from the children’s point of view; sharing responsibilities between the state and the family to take care of children, etc.; children and work - family life balance (from both the points of view); children and intergenerational relationships (children and grand-parents); children and siblings relationships; children as a policy issue in the family policies (last developments and reforms).

**Session 8: Youth and the Family**

Organizer 8: Chin-chun Yi  
University: Institute of Sociology, Academia Sinica, Taiwan  
E-mail: chinyi@gate.sinica.edu.tw

**Session Description:**

This session will look for papers examining youth development and its possible linkages with various social institutions. Family as the socialization context in relation to other contextual effects such as school, peers, community or voluntary associations are encouraged as the focus of analyses. Other topics include family interactions between youth and other generations, the development of specific youth behaviors, attitudes or values, sibling relations among youth in the family, parent-youth conflict or cooperation over different domains of life, autonomy versus dependence issues, etc. Papers with cross-cultural data or longitudinal data will be given the priority for consideration. Interested contributors should prepare an abstract of no more than 500 words and e-mail it to the organizer at the above address.

**Session 9: Demography and the Family**

Organizer 9: Fumie Kumagai  
University: Dept. of Sociology, Kyorin University, Japan  
E-mail: fkumagai@sfc.ne.jp

**Session Description:**
If the predominance of the nuclear family is one of the essential features of the modern institution, then the family in many parts of the world is not an exception. When we look at cross-sectional data, this characteristic will be clearly pronounced. However, when we examine changes and continuity of the family institution over time throughout one’s entire life course, there emerge two opposing views to analyze the contemporary family institution. One view holds a firm position that the family today changed from the traditional stem or extended family into the conjugal family type. On the other hand, despite the numerical predominance of the nuclear family presented in the cross-sectional census data, another view emphasizes the undercurrent persistence and continuity of the traditional stem or extended family throughout the life course of each individual. The latter position may be termed as the “modified stem or extended family,” and has been extensively discussed by demographers and family sociologists.

Thus, in analyzing contemporary families throughout the world, this session aims at clarifying their changes, continuities, and variations focusing on essential demographic characteristics, which define family life in modern societies. Examples of major structural characteristics are as follows: (1) the nuclear family; (2) the three-generation family; (3) family size; (4) fertility behavior; (5) age at first marriage and marriage patterns; (6) divorce rates; (7) the elderly; and (8) the family life cycle. Therefore, each paper is expected to discuss these characteristics in relation to the modern family system in the referent society. Based on the papers presented for the Congress it is hoped to compile an anthology for publication.

Session 10: Families in Developing Countries--Economic Issues and Families

Organizer 10: Marlize Rabe
University: Dept. of Sociology ,University of South Africa, South Africa
E-mail: rabeme@unisa.ac.za

Session Description:
Families in developing countries often face challenges that are related to their (lack of) economic well-being. The negative side of globalisation frequently plays out in developing countries where workers are necessitated to work for low wages without employer benefits ("sweat shops" is a prime example). Long working hours; high unemployment figures; migration as well as the lack of adequate finances, accommodation, food, education and health care (the list goes on…) all impact on the quality of family life in developing countries. Economic disparities between the rich and the poor may also result in further insecurities, such as high crime levels and even internal civil war. Such distressing phenomena impact on all – not only poor - families in affected countries. Yet, certain strengths may be exhibited in developing countries, such as strong community ties and kin systems that may soften economic blows. In some other cases such strengths may erode when put under extreme pressure for extended periods; this may result in countless families without the necessary support structures. On a more optimistic note, certain socio-economic developmental work may empower families to cope better with their circumstances. Contributions on the negative and positive aspects of wealthy, poor and middle class families living in developing countries are welcomed.

**Session 11: Older Workers and Retirement in a Global Economy**

Organizer 11: Christine Millward  
University: Sociology, La Trobe University, Australia  
E-mail: cmillward@netspace.net.au

**Session Description:**

This session will concentrate on issues that affect work and retirement of people aged 45 years or more. Themes and issues may include:

**Public policy issues:**

The push towards self-funding of retirement versus public pensions  
Public goals of increased mature age employment  
The abolition of compulsory retirement ages  
Effects of economic restructuring on older workers
Labour market & employer issues:

Age discrimination in employment – hiring, training & promotion
Retrenchment, unemployment and under-employment
Superannuation schemes that encourage early retirement
Effects of globalization of markets and 24/7 work practices

Paid work & retirement issues:

Paid work trends, experiences and preferences
Effects of injury and ill-health

Effects of family care on early withdrawal or reduced hours
Expectations around retirement timing and financial support/ resources

Family & community issues:

Effects of grandchildren
Effects of widowhood, separation or divorce
Interactions between couples regarding retirement timing and planning
The value of unpaid family and voluntary work by mature age people

Session 12: Fatherhood

Organizer 12: Rudy Seward
University: Dept. of Sociology, University of North Texas, USA
E-mail: seward@unt.edu

Session Description:

Research on parenting for a long time reflected the expectations that mothers reared children and fathers provided for the family. Mothers’ involvement and influence in children’s lives was studied a great deal but research on fathers’ involvement and influence was lacking. Social scientists rarely surveyed fathers or studied fatherhood during most of the 20th Century. The earliest studies assessed fathers’ absence and influence as a sex-role model.
After 1970, parenting research expanded its focus and samples to reflect a shift in expectations. Increasingly, fathers were expected to share with mothers the care and nurturing of their children and mothers were expected to share with fathers the providing role. At the same time, trends in fathers and mothers’ paid work suggested that opportunities for involvement with their children diminished. More and more fathers, like mothers, must shoulder multiple demands with limited time, resources, and energy to accomplish them.

Empirical and theoretical papers that address any aspect of fathering are invited for this session. Fathers and fatherhood must be an important part of the paper but not necessarily the exclusive focus. Possible topics include the attributes and descriptions of father involvement with children, fathers’ direct and indirect influences, determinants of father involvement, conceptualizations of father involvement, and the impact of social policies directed at fathers. Papers that include diversity by gender, ethnicity, social class, generations, and nations for one or more of these topics are especially welcome. Publication options for the session papers will be pursued.

**Session 13: Aids and the Family**

Organizer 13: Ria Smit  
University: Dept. of Sociology, Univ. of Johannesburg, South Africa  
E-mail: rias@ujhb.ac.za

**Session Description:**

The World Health Organisation reported that an estimated 30 million people world-wide were infected with HIV by the end of 1999. By December 2003 this figure has grown to 40 million people, with an estimated 14,000 new HIV infections a day. Both the high HIV infection rate and the increase in mortality, as a result of AIDS, place a tremendous burden on the family in terms of inter alia its capability to nurture its members, provide economic and emotional support, and function as an agent of socialisation and care. These families may also be confronted with the experience of stigmatisation and ostracism. In addition, the HIV/AIDS epidemic and the shift in the patterns of,
especially, adult mortality may have implications not only for the structure of families and households, but also for the nature and quality of the relationships between family members. The scope of the session is broad, and may include papers which are theory-oriented and/or based on research studies, and that focus on the impact of AIDS on the family, the challenges these families are confronted with and the strategies they employ in coping with these challenges.

**Session 14: African Family Systems**

Organizer 14: Suzan Ziehl  
University: Sociology Dept. Rhodes University, South Africa  
E-mail: s.ziehl@ru.ac.za

**Session Description:**

Family Diversity has been a major theme in the field of family studies since at least the 1990’s. In First World Societies, this notion has been applied to a situation where an increasing proportion of families and households are affected by divorce (step families), non-marriage (single parent families) and life style choices (gay families). However, there are also major differences in family patterns and kinship systems across the globe, which correspond to broad cultural regions. This session will focus on the distinctiveness of African family systems against the background of a globalizing world. Papers are invited on the following topics:

* North African Kinship systems  
* Sub-Saharan African Kinship systems  
* African family patterns, urbanization and globalization  
* Health Issues, Mortality and African Family systems  
* Explaining Fertility Decline in the African context.

**Session 15: Family Education in a Changing Era.**
Organizer 15: Joyce Ma  
University: Dept. of Social Work, Hong Kong Chinese University, Hong Kong  
E-mail: joycelai@cuhk.edu.hk

**Session Description:**

Family education is currently facing the challenges brought about by the effect of globalization, the rise of nationalism, the influence of feminism as well as the patriarchal culture. This calls for the need of researchers to identify essential theoretical issues (e.g., cultural diversity versus universality, change of the interpersonal relationship between men and women), critically examine these issues and to address the unresolved theoretical debate through empirical evidence. This panel session aims to provide an opportunity for researchers from different parts of the world, both developed and developing countries, to share the results of their research study on family education in the changing era and discuss their implications on knowledge development, policy and practice.

**Session 16: Family Research Poster Session**

Organizer 16: Barbara Settles / Tessa LeRoux  
University: University of Delaware, USA / Lasell University, USA  
E-mail: settlesb@copland.udel.edu / TleRoux@Lasell.edu

**Session Description:**

Social, political and demographic changes all over the world go hand in hand with changes in family structure and functioning. A recognition of the diversity of families is reflected in academic discourse on the way family is studied as well as in public policy. At the same time the institution of family has shown remarkable resilience. This session invites posters on research on change or continuity in family life. Within this broad framework any research on family life that is not covered in one of the presentation sessions, or that lends itself more to a poster session than a formal presentation, is welcome. This poster session will provide the opportunity for researchers to present their work in family studies in an informal and interactive setting.
Please note that posters are ideal for presenting exploratory, qualitative or innovative research, but could also provide a good venue for discussion of quantitative and/or explanatory work on families. Posters are intended to provide authors and participants with the ability to connect with each other and to engage in discussions about the work. Proposals for posters can be e-mailed to tleroux@lasell.edu.

NOMINATIONS FOR NEXT BOARD OF THE CFR

According to the statutes of the CFR a Nominating and Balloting Sub-Committee, headed by the Vice-President, is responsible for preparing the list of nominations for CFR officers, and for conducting the elections.

The other two members of the Nominating and Balloting Sub-Committee have been elected by mail ballot; all four on the ballot came very close in the election, and elected were: John Eriksen, Norway, and Ria Smit, South Africa.

Since the members of the Committee should seek suggestions for nominations from the membership all members are encouraged to contact the Nominating and Balloting Sub-Committee.

Its nominations should reflect the international nature of the membership. In fulfilling this aim, account may be taken of the need for enough geographical closeness of the nominees to ease the expense of their meeting together if elected. There should be at least two nominations for each office.

Noted should also be that the ISA requires all members of the board to be individual members of the ISA.

Since the new board takes over at the World congress in Durban in July 2006 a ballot has to be sent to the members no later than about a year before the congress so that those elected can plan for their participation in Durban.
Thus, the Nominating and Balloting Sub-Committee consists of Chin-Chun Yi, chinyi@gate.sinica.edu.tw, John Eriksen, Norway, john.eriksen@isaf.no, Ria Smit, South Africa, rsm@lw.rau.ac.za.

Please, help them in their work by suggesting names and addresses of members you want to see as members of the next board of the CFR!

**JUNIOR SOCIOLOGISTS**

For Junior Sociologists organised every four years by the International Sociological Association. We are very keen to encourage more entries to this competition and we would welcome your assistance in this matter. Would you please communicate information about the competition to your members. Deadline 1st April 2005, closing date for entries to the Fourth Worldwide Competition.

The details of the Competition are available on the ISA website [http://www.ucm.es/info/isa/wcys/index.htm](http://www.ucm.es/info/isa/wcys/index.htm)

**NEWS FROM MEMBERS**


"Work, Family and Childcare: an Empirical Analysis of European Households"


From the cover:

Work, Family and Childcare studies the joint decisions made by parents regarding the time they allocate to paid employment and childcare. Extensive cross-national data is analysed from three countries that
represent the diversity of European households: Belgium, Denmark and Spain. The book compares and contrasts the results and draws out important implications for European social policy.

Among Belgian and Danish couples, the author identifies a variety of ways in which the responsibility of childcare is handled. In certain cases both partners will invest considerable time and effort in looking after the child, whereas in other couples one parent will compensate for their partner's lack of time. He also demonstrates that childcare considerations dominate parental decision-making. This is evident not only in a country such as Spain which lacks childcare facilities, but also in Denmark which, relatively speaking, provides an abundance of childcare services. Importantly, the author finds that joint preferences tend to result in either work-centred or care-centred couples, which poses new challenges for policymakers. He argues that future policy initiatives regarding the relationship between 'work and care' should focus on parental diversity and help parents to balance care responsibilities and employment according to their preferences. This superb new book combines econometric analysis and social policy insights to address an issue of increasing importance to a growing number of people. It will appeal to a broad international audience including economists, sociologists and social policy researchers. It will also be of value to students on a range of courses concerned with family or household economics.
NEW MEMBERS

The CFR welcomes the following members (some addresses are not complete, they will hopefully be so in the next membership roster in the Gazette)

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Please, send address and other corrections to the secretary/treasurer
**REVIEW BOOKS**

Carol Cairns from the *Journal of Comparative Family Studies* has provided a list of books. If you are interested in writing a review of one of the books, please address your request directly to Carol Cairns, University of Calgary, Dept. of Sociology, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta T2N 1N4, Canada, or cairns@ucalgary.ca.


*Same Sex Intimacies: Families of Choice and Other Life Experiments*, by Jeffrey Weeks, Brian Heaphy and Catherine Donovan.


*Set Adrift: Fishing Families*, by Marian Binkley.

*Sexual Revolutions: Gender and Labor at the Dawn of Agriculture*, by Jane Peterson.

*Adult Learning and Technology in Working-Class Life: Learning in Doing- Social, Cognitive, and Computational Perspectives*, by Peter H. Sawchuk.

*Building Intimate Relationships: Bridging Treatment, Education, and Enrichment Through the PAIRS program*, edited by Rita DeMaria & Mo Therese Hannah.

Family Therapy as an Alternative to Medication: An Appraisal of Pharmland, edited Phoebe S. Prosky and David V. Keith.

African-American Social Workers and Social Policy, edited by Tricia B. Bent-Goodley

Death of a Parent; Transition to a New Adult Identity, by Debra Umberson.


International Aspects of Social Work Practice in the Addictions, edited by S. Lala Ashenberg Straussner and Larry Harrison.

Social Work with Multicultural Youth, edited by Diane de Anda.

Handbook of Clinical Sexuality for Mental Health Professionals, edited by Stephen B. Levine.

Mate Selection Across Cultures, edited by Raeann R. Hamon and Bron Ingoldsby.


Group Parent Education: Promoting Parent Learning and Support, by Deborah Campbell and Glen F. Palm.

Abortion, Motherhood, and Mental Health: Medicalizing Reproduction in the United States and Great Britain, by Ellie Lee.

Chopsticks Only Work in Pairs: Gender Unity & Gender Equality Among the Lahu of Southwest China, by Shanshan Du.


Adopting Maternity: White Women Who Adopt Transracially or Transnationally, by Nora Rose Moosnick


Mother Matters: Motherhood as Discourse and Practice, edited by Andrea O’Reilly.

Elder Voices: Southeast Asian Families in the United States, by Daniel F. Detzner.

Household Decisions, Gender, and Development: A Synthesis of Recent Research, edited by Agnes R. Quisumbing.

Confronting the Occupation: Work, Education, and Political Activism of Palestinian families in a Refugee Camp, by Maya Rosenfeld.

Queering Creole Spiritual Traditions: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Participation in African-Inspired Traditions in the Americas, by Randy P. Conner and David Hatfield Sparks.


Biracial Women in therapy: Between the Rock of Gender and the Hard Place of Race, edited by Angela R. Gillem and Cathy A. Thompson.


Crossroads at Midlife: Your Aging Parents, Your Emotions, and Your Self, by Frances Cohen Praver.

Parental Psychiatric disorder: Distressed parents and Their Families, edited by Michael Göpfert, Jeni Webster and Mary V. Seeman.

Family Welfare: Gender, Property, and Inheritance Since the Seventeenth Century, edited by David R. Green and Alastair Owens.


Same Difference: How Gender Myths are Hurting Our Relationships, Our Children, and Our Jobs, by Rosalind Barnett and Caryl Rivers.

Morality and Custom in Ancient Greece, by John M. Dillon.

Immigrant Women Tell Their Stories, by Roni Berger.

## BOARD OF THE CFR

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