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Fall 2013

Family Forum

Message from the Chair

Dear Family Section Members,

As our national day of thanks approaches, I want to thank you for your support and involvement in the section. It is through the commitment and labor of its members that our section thrives and creates an international forum for intellectual engagement. The Family Section sessions and roundtables at the ASA meetings in New York were a prime example of that. We sponsored six sessions and twenty-two roundtables. The reception at Croton Reservoir Tavern was teeming with members from Family and Population Sections as we jointly celebrated the year, mingled, and toasted our outstanding award winners. Those distinguished individuals are noted for their achievements in the pages that follow. Congratulations to the award winners—their work challenges us with new ideas and interpretations of the empirical world. We came away from the meetings with a strong sense of the vitality of the section.

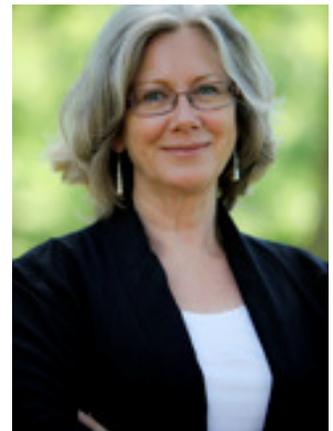
Many thanks to those who served on award committees and carefully vetted the many qualified nominees. Also we appreciate those who chaired sessions, wrote scintillating papers, commented on colleague's papers, planned the reception and awards ceremony, and generally collaborated to engage intellectually and personally at the meetings. Thanks also to the Section officers who completed their terms of service: council member Lynne M. Casper (University of Southern California); council member,

Philip N. Cohen (University of Maryland, College Park); and graduate student representative, Kriti Vikram, (University of Maryland, College Park).

I especially want to thank Annette Lareau for her able leadership as Chair of the Family Section. Now, as president of the ASA, she has defined a theme for the 2014 meetings—Hard Times: The Impact of Economic Inequality on Families and Individuals—that places our section concerns front and center in what promises to be a dynamic conference.

We have a diverse array of opportunities for presenting at the upcoming San Francisco meetings (August 16 to 19, 2014), which are detailed in the following pages of the newsletter. The list includes four sessions, including one open topics panel, and a session for roundtables. Collectively these provide an opportunity for people to present their work, meet scholars with similar interests, and situate their work within larger debates. The deadline for paper submissions is January 8, 2014.

In the "Five Questions" column of this newsletter, Erika Busse (University of Wisconsin, River Falls) explores the pressing issues facing the country—particularly the widening gap between rich and poor families—in her thoughtful interview with Katherine Newman, James B. Knapp Dean and Professor of Sociology, Krieger School of Arts and Sciences, John Hopkins University.



Our early fall membership drive ramped up our numbers to 797. In approaching the year end, please be sure to renew your membership in the ASA, and particularly in the Family Section. We value your participation. If you don't want to wait for the reminder, here is the link for dues renewal: <https://asa.enoah.com/>. Remember, you can easily sponsor the membership of a graduate student, a nice way to introduce him/her to the profession.

Best wishes,

Karen V. Hansen
Brandeis University

Family Section Sessions for ASA 2014 Meeting in San Francisco

****The Online Submission System will open December 6, 2013****

Deadline for submission is January 8, 2014

Session 1: Globalization, Inequalities and Families

Session Organizer: Ken Chih-Yan Sun, Academia Sinica, kensun@brandeis.edu

Session Co-Organizer: Erin Rehel, Youngstown State University, erin.rehel@gmail.com

Economic and cultural globalization facilitates the cross-border circulation of goods, capital, information, imaginaries, and people that transforms the social and cultural landscape of many societies. However, the effects of globalization are not entirely positive. In many cases, globalization exacerbates existing inequalities and even creates new constraints with which many families are struggling. It also changes and challenges the ways family life is imagined, organized and negotiated. For example, the global restructuring of local economies has created harsh structural realities that push many people to foster new strategies to fulfill their family responsibilities, obligations, and commitments. The cross-border exchange of family ideals and ideas also prompts many spouses, parents, children, and kin members to rethink their relationships to one another. In this session, we invite submissions to address the relationships between globalization, inequalities and families. We are particularly interested in learning how institutional and individual actors negotiate and respond to opportunities and constraints that globalization brings to contemporary family life. Potential topics in this session include, but are not limited to, how the intersections of globalization and various systems of inequalities (such as social class, gender, race/ethnicity, nationality, sexuality and religion) influence intimate relationships, fertility rate, notions of parenthood, work-and-family dynamics, forms of reproductive labor, design of family policies, and transnational family arrangements in different corners of the world.

Session 2: Families that Challenge and are Challenged by Our Times

Session Organizer: Mary Erdmans, Case Western University, mpe10@case.edu

This session will address families that stretch the legal and conceptual boundaries of kinship. We are interested in papers that are theoretical in orientation as well as those that are empirical. We encourage papers on conventional challenges to the traditional concept of families (e.g., LGBTQ families, hetero unmarried cohabitators, blended families) as well as those that more radically push the boundaries of "family" (e.g., gang families, or "pet families" – i.e., childless couples with pets treated as family members). In addition, we are interested in papers about families challenged by our times to help us understand how kinship ties are maintained/altered/broken during this period of increasing inequality (e.g., homeless families), mass incarceration (e.g., families with one or both parents imprisoned or paroled), wars and revolutions (e.g., families in diaspora or refugee camps), and immigration (e.g., "Dreamer families" or immigrant families whose members have mixed residential status).

Session 3. Love's Labors Lost? Emotion Work in Hard Times

Session Organizer: Kai-Olaf Maiwald, Universität Osnabrück, kmaiwald@uni-osnabrueck.de

Changes in the economy put a strain on family life. Unemployment, prolonged working hours, dual careers, demand for flexibility – these make family life increasingly hard to manage logistically. But the spillover of a market logic into the realm of family requires another specific kind of work: maintaining boundaries, drawing lines between services provided by the market and the realm of family life. Normative changes affect the family as well. With a welcome dissolution of traditional norms comes a growing demand to "self-construct" one's relationships. An awareness of growing fragility reinforces a need to answer constantly and practically questions like: Who are we, as a couple? What is family? What is kin? The work necessary for "doing family" in this sense is largely emotion work (to monitor, evaluate, and manage our feelings). This session begins with the assumption that to a large extent, family life is maintained by different forms of emotion work. It asks the following questions: What are the effects of changes in the terms of emotion work? What do they mean, in terms of compensation, demarcation, substitution and the like? Are there new patterns of emotion work emerging that cope with current structural changes? Where do we find the potential to transform macro structures?

Session 4: Families OPEN session

Session Organizer: Karla B. Hackstaff, Northern Arizona University, Karla.Hackstaff@nau.edu

Submissions on any cutting edge topic related to families are invited.

Session 5: Section on the Sociology of the Family Roundtables

Session Organizer: Amanda Miller, University of Indianapolis, milleraj@uindy.edu

**Roundtables will be 1-hour in length; followed by the Section's 40-minute business meeting.*

2013 Family Section Award Winners

2013 Distinguished Career Award: Suzanne Bianchi

Suzanne Bianchi has been at the forefront of research on changes in American family life, gender inequality, work-family issues, and intergenerational ties for more than 30 years. She has authored seven books and over 70 journal articles and book chapters. Her research has had a profound impact on how social scientists, policy-makers, and the public think about the most pressing questions about families of our time.

After receiving her PhD from the University of Michigan, Bianchi spent the first 16 years of her career at the U.S. Census Bureau in the Population Division. In 1994, she joined the Department of Sociology at the University of Maryland and was the founding director of the Maryland Population Research Center and chair of the Sociology Department. While at the University of Maryland, Bianchi held several of the most prestigious positions in our field including President of the Population Association of America, co-editor of *Demography*, and chair of both the ASA Family Section and Population Section. In 2009, Bianchi moved from the University of Maryland to UCLA.

Bianchi is perhaps best known for her extensive research on how American families spend their time. Her 2000 presidential address to the Population Association of America challenged the popular belief that increases in women's labor force participation decreased time spent with children. Bianchi's research showed the opposite—that both mothers and fathers were spending more time with their children than they did in the family-centered 1960s. In addition, her award-winning book *Changing Rhythms of American Family Life* (with John Robinson and Melissa Milkie) reported a dramatic decline in mother's time spent on housework and increased multitasking and feelings of time pressure.

She is also well known for her insightful work on broad social and demographic shifts in family life. Two of her early books (with Daphne Spain), *American Women in Transition* and *Balancing Act: Motherhood, Marriage, and Employment Among American Women* powerfully revealed the extent to which women's and men's lives have changed as the breadwinner-homemaker model of marriage has waned. *Continuity and Change in the American Family* (with Lynne Casper) described family change in the context of sweeping demographic, social, and economic shifts between the 1970s and late-1990s and became an instant classic, winning the prestigious Otis Dudley Duncan Award from ASA's Sociology of Population Section in 2002.

Bianchi has continued her agenda-setting research at UCLA. There, in collaboration with Judith Seltzer and others, she is developing new projects following her long-standing interest in intergenerational relations. An exciting product of this work is a new module in the Panel Study of Income Dynamics, which will examine transfers of time and money across generations. We applaud Suzanne for her many accomplishments and are honored to name her the winner of the 2013 Distinguished Career Award.

By Christine Schwartz



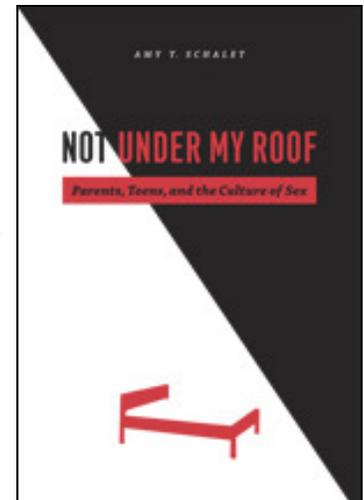
As this newsletter was going to press, we learned that Suzanne Bianchi passed away from pancreatic cancer on November 4th. She had been battling cancer since July. We are deeply saddened to learn of this news and send our condolences to Suzanne's family and friends. Suzanne was a beloved member of our community and touched the lives of so many as an academic and friend. Suzanne's daughter Jen is planning a memorial service which will be held in December in Washington D.C. Details will be posted on her caringbridge website (www.caringbridge.org/visit/suzannebianchi)

2013 Family Section Award Winners (cont.)

2013 William J. Goode Book Award: Amy Schalet

This year's winner of the William J. Goode Book Award is Amy Schalet, Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. In *Not Under My Roof: Parents, Teens, and the Culture of Sex*, Amy Schalet draws on 130 qualitative interviews with parents and teenagers in the United States and the Netherlands to explore issues involving teenage sexuality. In the U.S., teenage sex is a frequent source of family conflict. In the Netherlands, in contrast, parents hold more relaxed attitudes about sex, often let their teenagers sleep over with sexual partners, and supply them with contraception. These attitudes and behaviors are linked to larger patterns of individualism, gender relations, culture, and social policy. This is an outstanding book that demonstrates the potential of sociological analysis to illuminate the hidden assumptions that structure the everyday worlds of parents and adolescents.

By Paul Amato



2013 Article of the Year Award: Liana Sayer, Paula England, Paul Allison and Nicole Kangas

This year's winners of the Section on Family's Article of the Year Award are Liana Sayer, Paula England, Paul Allison, and Nicole Kangas for their paper "She Left, He Left: How Employment and Satisfaction Affect Women's and Men's Decisions to Leave Marriages," published in the *American Journal of Sociology* in 2011 (Vol. 116, No. 6, Pp. 1982-2018). This paper makes an important contribution to the literature on marriage as a gendered institution, shedding light on how men and women's reasons for leaving a marriage may be different. Because most divorces are initiated by women, previous analyses that investigated the determinants of divorce by combining cases initiated by women with cases initiated by men have given us an understanding of what predicts divorce for women, but not necessarily for men. In a theoretically grounded and methodologically sophisticated analysis, the authors test the predictions of institutionalist, economic specialization and bargaining/exchange theories in explaining the determinants of divorce for men and women separately. Men's employment emerges as a key determinant of divorce for both men and women; when men are not employed, either spouse is more likely to initiate a divorce. Women's employment is only associated with an increased risk of divorce for women when coupled with below-average marital satisfaction and it is not associated with the risk of divorce for men. The authors interpret these findings by connecting them to the asymmetric nature of societal gender change and to our changing conceptions of what a marriage should look like. Institutional theory is supported in explaining the link between men's employment and the risk of divorce; marriages that violate our cultural norms that men should be breadwinners are more likely to end in divorce. But bargaining and exchange theory does a better job of explaining the role of women's employment in predicting divorce. This is because only working women who are also relatively unhappy in their marriages are more likely to end their marriage. Based on institutionalist theory we would expect that women's paid work violates appropriate cultural gender norms about marriage and leads to divorce, but the findings demonstrate instead that employment provides the resources for a woman unhappy in her marriage to leave. This paper furthers our understanding of how macro level changes in gender and family norms play out in the family by revealing the different implications of men's and women's employment for marital dissolution.

2013 Family Section Award Winners (cont.)

2013 Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award: Abigail Weitzman

The year's winner of the Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award is Abigail Weitzman, New York University, for her paper "The Daughter Tax: The Effects of Daughters on Maternal Outcomes in the Developing World." While many researchers have investigated the differential experiences of girls and boys, "The Daughter Tax" looks at the consequences for *mothers* of having a girl. The paper is ambitious: it uses the Demographic and Health Survey data from 2000 to 2010 from 28 countries to investigate this research question.

Abigail Weitzman, whose advisors at NYU are Dalton Conley and Paula England, shows that mothers with daughters have significant outcomes in four spheres including elevated risk for domestic violence, relationship dissolution, fertility, and maternal labor force participation.

The committee was impressed by the paper's ambition, innovative conceptualization, and execution. As one reviewer noted, "This paper is very well written, quite interesting, and innovative in its theorizing, and use of data. The idea itself is very well conceptualized, uses appropriate data and methods, and the author has been very careful at exploring reasons for why regions may differ in the effect of daughters on maternal well-being." Another reviewer concluded that the paper was "eloquent" and "carefully done." This unpublished paper also won the student award from the Population Section in 2013. The committee had numerous fine papers in the 44 submissions, but the committee (and reviewers) were particularly impressed by Abigail Weitzman's paper.

By Annette Lareau

Our Award Winners at the Section Reception in NYC



Left: Paula England and Liana Sayer
(Article of the Year Award Winners)

Below: Abigail Weitzman
(Outstanding Graduate Student Paper
Award Winner) and Annette Lareau



Paul Amato and Amy Schalet (Goode Book Award Winner)



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS for the 2014 FAMILY SECTION AWARDS

The Sociology of the Family section makes a number of awards each year. Please do consider nominating colleagues and students for these awards. (Self-nominations are also common for some of the awards.) The information below contains the descriptions of the awards and the deadlines. The information will also be available on the Sociology of the Family website: www2.asanet.org/sectionfamily/. Thank you for your help as the section recognizes the special achievements of its members.

Karen V. Hansen, Chair, Sociology of the Family Section, 2013-2014

Distinguished Career Award

This award recognizes the collective body of a person's work as it relates to the sociology of the family (not a single publication). Award winners may be selected on the basis of distinguished contributions to either research or service. Service to the field includes developments (such as data sets, analytic techniques, or highly-cited scholarly publications) that have had a substantial impact on family research. Send a one-page justification with your nomination. The nominee's CV is helpful but not necessary. The deadline is **March 1, 2014**. Please send nominations to **Paul Amato** (pxa6@psu.edu).

William J. Goode Book Award

This award is for a book published on the family in 2012 or 2013. To nominate a book, send a one-page justification. Self nominations are appropriate. Textbooks and edited volumes are not eligible. **Please send copies of the nomination letters to each member of the committee as well as arrange with your publisher for the publisher to send a copy of the book directly to all members of the committee.** The deadline to receive the letter of nomination is **January 10, 2014**. The books may arrive shortly thereafter.

Karen V. Hansen, Department of Sociology, MS 071, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA, 02454-9110 (khansen@brandeis.edu)

Philip N. Cohen, Maryland Population Research Center, 2112 Art-Sociology Building, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742 (pnc@umd.edu)

Ann Meier, Department of Sociology, University of Minnesota, 267 19th Ave S., Minneapolis, MN 55455 (meierann@umn.edu)

Toby L. Parcel, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Campus Box 8107, 252 1911 Building, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695-8107 (toby_parcel@ncsu.edu)

Natasha Sarkisian, Department of Sociology, Boston College, 140 Commonwealth Avenue Chestnut Hill, MA 02467 (natalia@sarkisian.net)

Sharon Sassler, Department of Policy Analysis & Management, 297 Martha Van Rensselaer Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853 (sharon.sassler@cornell.edu)

Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award

Graduate students are invited to submit an article-length paper on the family. The paper should represent a finished product rather than a proposal for future work. The submission can be based on a course paper, a recently published journal article, a manuscript under review at a journal, or a conference presentation. Co-authored papers are acceptable if all authors are students, although the prize will be shared. The paper must have been written when the author was enrolled in a graduate program. Please send the paper by **March 1, 2014** to Kristen Harknett (harknett@sas.upenn.edu).

Article of the Year Award

This award recognizes a journal article that has made a significant contribution to the field of family sociology. The award committee will accept nominations for articles published in 2011, 2012, or 2013. Nominations may be made by the author or others. To nominate an article, please send a letter of nomination (not to exceed one page) that details the contribution of the article to the field of family sociology, as well as an electronic copy of the article, to the chair of the award committee, Linda Burton (lbarton@soc.duke.edu). The deadline for nominations is **March 1, 2014**.

FIVE QUESTIONS to.....KATHERINE NEWMAN

By Erika Busse

Erika Busse is a visiting professor at the University of Wisconsin River Falls. Her research focuses on the impact of migration on gender relations within transnational families from South America. For this month's "5 Questions" column, Erika interviewed Katherine S. Newman, James B. Knapp Dean and Professor of Sociology, Krieger School of Arts and Sciences, John Hopkins University.

How did you become interested in studying social inequality, poverty, inner city and families?

Going all the way back to the 1980s, working on my second book, the country was gripped by double-digit unemployment. It was the first time that unemployment had wafted into the professional middle class. It was shocking because education didn't protect them, job experience didn't protect them. It was the beginning of a long period of social change that we are still engulfed in, in which the inequalities that were produced by a society (that was no longer an industrial power as it had been before) where higher education was starting to dictate more and more the future of family and their children than had been before, and where the deep problems of poverty in the inner-city were becoming clearer and clearer. That's the climate in which I began doing the work I that I did on downward mobility, which was my first foray for a series of studies on inequality. What really caught my attention at that point was the galloping rate of unemployment which we have not yet equaled even now, but it was a profoundly disturbing period of economic dislocation in the United States. My feeling was that social sciences, particularly sociology, had everything to give to the country by way of explanation. It was able to grapple with how ordinary people were experiencing these tremendous upheavals and to document how profound this change was. That to me was an important part of the mission of a public scholarship.



How did families deal with that upheaval and how do you see them now after 30 years of working on these matters?

The first families that I studied were actually middle class, and they were profoundly impacted by economic dislocation, and in many ways they had fewer resources because they had been fairly independent and stable for so long that they had not built the kind of networks, safety nets, that poor families had developed because they don't have the blessings of stability. So, the middle class in economic free-fall was extremely fragile even though they had more resources to begin with. Their descent was a profound descent. In later years, when I started working on questions of poverty, I became interested in a segment of the population that had not received any attention at all: the working poor. Most of the research that was done on poverty in the 1980s and early 1990s was about the welfare system. It was focused on questions of welfare spells, family structure that led to welfare recipients. I never had any interest in questions of welfare because I have always been concerned with people who were working people, whether they were middle class, or poor working class. Both their participation in the labor force and their engagement in the work world was a primary focus for me—most American families have workers in them, most poor families have workers in them. This was not the focus of the literature at the time and I thought it was a mistake for several reasons. First, it was empirically inaccurate. It portrayed poverty as merely a function of being out of the work world, and that's not true because the vast majority of the poor people were working, just not working enough to be above the poverty bar. Second, sociology could play an important role in the public conversation. There is no way that the American population was ever going to embrace, in a positive way, that people were trapped in various forms of public assistance. I thought if we could shift the conversation to people who were low-wage earners it would change the way the general public would think about the problem of poverty and the responsibilities of the country as a whole to the poor. These were my twin motivations to get interested in people who were among the working poor. After that, I got interested in the near poor, that it is a category that has been missed entirely by scholars. People who were above the poverty line, but not so far above, that were vulnerable. So in this sweep of time, say late 1970s to the present, we've seen enormous change in the United States that has truly impacted most American families and made them vulnerable in many ways.

*After publishing *The Accordion Family*, and with the possibility of the implementation of Health Care Act, or Obamacare, where do see things heading?*

To me, *Obamacare* is an important illustration of exactly the dilemmas I was trying to describe in *The Accordion Family*. For example, the provision to cover young people up to the age of 26 on their parents' health policies reflects clearly the vulnerabilities in the youth labor market that are leading to accordion families.

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FIVE QUESTIONS to.....KATHERINE NEWMAN continued

I think by far the most important gesture in the *Obamacare*, besides covering uninsured people in general—which is important for the poor, is this provision to cover young people up to the age of 26. This recognizes that the pathway to the kinds of jobs that in the past would have provided health care, is no longer wide open for young people. It is a difficult struggle that millions of American children are not succeeding and that's why they need their parents' support and that's why they need access to the health care policies of the older members of the family, who hopefully have stable employment prospects. To me, that's an exact illustration of the problem I was trying to illustrate [in *The Accordion Family*]. *Obamacare* is a direct reflection of those very issues. It was not a problem in the northern countries, where health care is universal and available to anyone, all ages; and in the very, very weak welfare states you have people relapsing into their households because there is no real support for them outside of the natal family. What we are doing is catching up in the middle by providing services to people not previously covered through a system where someone else in the family is covered. I do think we are grappling with some of these issues, but there is so much more than the healthcare issue—the employment system is broken for young people, our fertility behavior has changed in such a way that has long term repercussions for families. So right now you have adults who are employed who can extend health care to their children. But what happens when those children get to be 30 or 40 years old, and their parents are retired? If the stumbling entry into the labor market follows them for another decade, they won't have enough health care and they won't be able to do much for their children. It is a fix for now, but it would not work if this generation's stumbling entry into the labor market so profoundly affected by the great recession, doesn't right itself and I'm not sure it is going to. I think that we are discovering what the depression-era generation discovered before us. It is that when the economy gets this sour and creates such enormous obstacles that dreams that early generations had may not come true. It just may not. It didn't to people who turned 21 in 1932. They had plans, dreams and ambitions and they didn't get to pursue them. I am not sure whether our young people will be able to do it either. This may not be so temporary. We have had 8% unemployment for quite long time now, and we have enormous numbers of people on disability in part because they cannot find work, and being out of the labor force for that long the chances that you would ever get back in are getting weaker and weaker. It is not so clear to me that this is so temporary. It may be more structural. There are many issues we have to contend with. Families will have to cope within societies with only modest welfare support, by welfare I don't mean unemployment welfare, but safety net. In the Scandinavian countries, where youth unemployment is a big issue as well, you don't see accordion families. You don't see that because the types of troubles we see in families are taken as civic questions, and there are national solutions, not individual and private solutions. But here, we throw back onto family and we expect it to solve the problems somehow themselves. We may well come to the limit of the possibilities of that arrangement—we already have in countries such as Spain where unemployment is well beyond what it was in the great depression.

Do you think that this will weaken the ideology of the nuclear family in the States?

Ironically, I think it is the opposite. We are, instead, relying on the nuclear family to a much greater degree than we did before. The problem is that under conditions of extreme inequality, what families can do with members depends so much on class. Young people starting in families that have fewer resources will be permanently affected by the family they were born into. The middle class will come under increasing strain, and find it cannot completely replicate the upward trajectory that was possible in previous generations. So, I think that the importance of the nuclear family will grow and grow, but the conditions of the nuclear family in different classes will have a more and more determinative impact on young people coming of age. This is a serious social problem, a moral problem, and political problem because we like to think of ourselves in a country in which where you are born doesn't determine everything about where you end up. It is increasingly where you are born that it is determining that future. And that, I think, some of us find very troubling. We should give a lot of credit to families of all walks of life: in immigrant communities, in inner city neighborhoods, in middle class communities. We should give a lot of credit to families because they are doing the best they can to support their young people as they seek their future. But, we should not let the country, the government off the hook and think that families can do all by themselves. We should recognize and applaud what families are trying to do but not to limit ourselves to that solution because it is only as good as a solution as the resources these families have. And these are highly unequal. When I studied the working poor and the near poor in the inner city, I was working with parents who loved their children, who cared about their future, who didn't speak English, who were not terribly educated in their native countries, and they could see if their children had their books open, but they couldn't do what I can do for my kids. They couldn't supplement their education; they couldn't make sure that their children understood those passages of poetry they were supposed to be reading. So the ways in which families are unequally equipped to help their children get through the hurdles of education would have huge consequences for those children, and it shouldn't. It shouldn't. So, if we have a good early childhood education system, if we have after school programs for kids, if we had all these ways to relieving families of sole responsibilities for determining the education achievement of their kids then will be behaving as we should—to limit the influence of family of origin on individual destination. The more we disinvest in them, the more we amplify the role of family in their children's future and then we are stuck with a very unequal system—and a lot of talent that gets wasted because it cannot be properly or thoroughly nurtured.

(continued)

FIVE QUESTIONS to.....KATHERINE NEWMAN continued

To conclude, what would you recommend to scholars of the family to pay attention to?

There are so many things that scholars of the family have to do that it are important. I think for me right now the long-term consequences for families of deep recessions is very much on my mind. Questions like: How has the recession changed the ways families raise their children, or resources they have to raise their children?; what does it mean for the elderly who would have drained their savings account because of the consequences of the recession?; what would it mean for patterns of mobility in the United States and in other countries—South Africa is reeling from this impact?; what does it mean in a country like Spain with 25% unemployment in a generation that it is pretty young—what if they are never able to get back to work? We have very little research of this kind. Russell Freeman's book *Children of the Great Depression*, which began asking these questions, has been very influential to me. Are we going to have the longitudinal data we need to understand the deep effect of this economic transformation? I hope so! It is very important that we do that.

In addition, I think that the questions that have to do with access to higher education, which is changing dramatically, we need to pay attention to how that is a platform for American families, because those are the gears of mobility. If that access diminishes or if the quality diminishes (if the states pull out in supporting higher education) that would affect the mobility prospects of many generations to come. These are all family questions, because families are holding in trust the futures of generations. I think of families like footballs, where they are holding the ball for a period of time and then they are going to pass it on to the next generation as they received from the previous generation. What you do with that football completely depends on the opportunities the society provides. When that opportunity landscape shifts dramatically, it has consequences for many generations to come. I hope these are questions scholars of the family will be looking at.

STRAIGHT TALK: Career and Employment Column

By Julie Artis, Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Sociology, DePaul University

How does one prepare for the job market if the goal is to land a job at a liberal arts college?

This summer, I received the following email from a reader:

I'm a graduate student at an R1 university, and am being trained to focus on research and publications with the expectation that graduates will seek positions at other R1 schools. However, I'd really like to teach at a liberal arts school. Do you have any recommendations for navigating this disconnect and for preparing myself to be an appealing candidate in a liberal arts setting?

Two members of the family section with positions at liberal arts schools generously responded to my request for advice: Janel Benson (Colgate University) and Deborah Abowitz (Bucknell University). Together with my own experience at DePaul University, I compiled a list of our suggestions below.

As noted in the previous column, it's important to focus your time in graduate school on scholarship and publications. This advice holds true whether you are looking for a job at an R1 or a small liberal arts college, as the publication activity will signal to search committees that you are active and up-to-date in your field, and that you will likely be able to achieve tenure at their institution. Janel Benson wrote: "One of the common misconceptions about selective liberal arts colleges is that teaching is valued more than research. This is not the case. Research and teaching are equally valued, and the research bar for achieving tenure is quite high. For example, it is expected that faculty are publishing their work in top-tier journals and with reputable university presses."

Since you are in a PhD program at an R1 school, you will be well-trained to complete the dissertation and undertake a research agenda. Be sure to use the resources you have at the R1 now to set you up for success on the job market and beyond. Assuming you land a position at a liberal arts institution, it will be important to have manuscripts "in the pipeline." The first few years of teaching are very challenging because course development is incredible time intensive. By having pieces in the pipeline, new faculty are well-positioned to have publications during these early years. That said, if you are specifically focused on a position at a liberal arts college, there are choices you can make in graduate school to prepare for finding a position as a "teacher-scholar."

(continued)

STRAIGHT TALK Continued

First, seek out opportunities to build your pedagogical skills. These opportunities may be formal (a teaching practicum offered through your department, your university's teaching/learning center, or faculty development program) or informal, paid or unpaid. If your program does not offer formal opportunities, then reach out to faculty in your program who are "good" undergraduate teachers and create your own informal teaching apprenticeships. You can do this whether you are working as a paid TA for the department or not. One faculty member might be able to teach you how to put together and deliver great lectures. Another might be willing to mentor you on how to design and run effective group discussions or write exams or set up student field projects. Deborah Abowitz noted, "Informal apprenticeships truly paid off when I began my own career at Bucknell."

If you have a formal appointment as a grader or teaching assistant, be proactive about using that opportunity to develop a range of teaching skills. Ask the primary instructor if you can develop and deliver lectures and help design exams (not just grade them). Definitely take advantage of opportunities to design and/or teach courses on your own, as the instructor of record. For some students, this may be in their home program, in the general education program, or as an adjunct at a nearby institution.

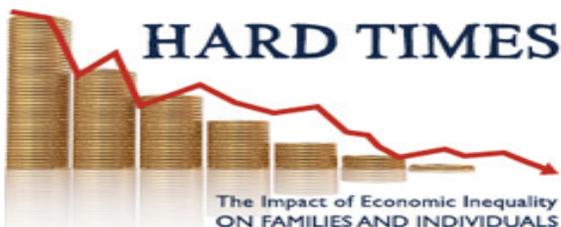
Second, be aware of any stated or unstated views among faculty advisors regarding placement at liberal arts colleges. Many faculty members at R1 institutions are equally thrilled to place students at R1s or small liberal arts colleges, whichever one seems to be a good match for their student. Other faculty may be keen on having students follow in their footsteps. Your faculty advisors will be writing letters of recommendation for you. If you think these letters will all be focused on your research, you might wish to solicit an additional letter of recommendation from someone who can specifically address your teaching abilities.

Finally, consider how you will present yourself in job applications to potential employers. Remember here that "teaching" is a broad term, and beyond teaching a course, it can encompass any informal teaching opportunities you may have had as well as highlight your teaching philosophy. You may have developed a manuscript for *Teaching Sociology* or presented at a conference on the scholarship of teaching and learning that you can highlight in the teaching portfolio.

If you are applying for jobs at both R1 and liberal arts schools, we recommend developing a cover letter specific to liberal arts/teaching intensive schools. This cover letter should demonstrate a strong understanding of the liberal arts tradition and a commitment to teaching in that type of environment. Deborah Abowitz notes from her experience on job search committees: "All too often we see application cover letters and materials that are generic (or targeted to R1 positions). Be distinctive in your presentation of self and emphasize your interest in teaching undergraduates, the skills and experiences you bring to the table, and explain your philosophy of teaching (why liberal arts?). This is about impression management. For hiring committees at liberal arts institutions, all else being equal, we want someone who has the potential (and desire) for excellence in the classroom."

In short: Develop a strong research program now, when you have the time and resources to devote to doing so. Make opportunities to gain teaching experience, whether formal or informal. And consider how you will present yourself on the market to liberal arts schools, making sure to communicate your commitment to teaching in the liberal arts tradition.

Have a question about your career or the job market? Draw on the collective wisdom of members of the family section! Email questions to jartis@depaul.edu [subject line: STRAIGHT TALK]. All questions will be treated with 100% confidentiality.

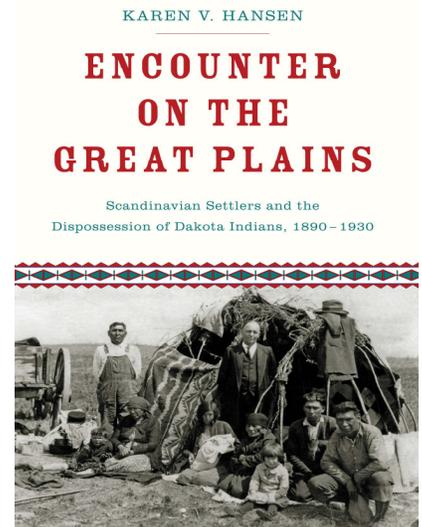


Members' New Books

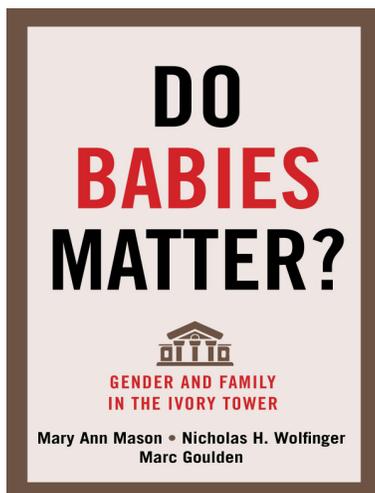
New from Oxford University Press, *Encounter on the Great Plains: Scandinavian Settlers and the Dispossession of Dakota Indians* by Karen V. Hansen, Professor of Sociology and Women's & Gender Studies, Brandeis University

Encounter on the Great Plains explores the epic issues of co-existence between settlers and Native Americans. By interweaving two dominant processes in American history—the unceasing migration of newcomers to North America, and the protracted dispossession of indigenous peoples who inhabited the continent—it explores the effects of racial hierarchies, both legal and cultural, on marginalized peoples.

Karen V. Hansen chronicles the intertwined stories of Dakotas and Scandinavian immigrants who lived side by side on the Spirit Lake Dakota Indian Reservation in the early twentieth century. Drawing on fifteen years of archival research and 130 oral histories, she offers a wealth of intimate detail about daily lives and community events, showing how both Dakotas and Scandinavians resisted assimilation and used their rights as new citizens to combat attacks on their cultures. In this flowing narrative, women emerge as resourceful agents of their own economic interests. Their shared struggles reveal efforts to maintain a language, sustain a culture, and navigate their complex ties to more than one nation. The history of the American West cannot be told without these voices: their long connections, intermittent conflicts, and profound influence over one another defy easy categorization and provide a new perspective on the processes of immigration and land taking.



New from Rutgers University Press, *DO BABIES MATTER? Gender and Family in the Ivory Tower* by Mary Ann Mason, Nicholas H. Wolfinger, and Marc Goulden



Academia once consisted largely of men in traditional single-earner families. Today, men and women fill the doctoral student ranks in nearly equal numbers and most will experience both the benefits and challenges of living in dual-income households. This generation also has new expectations and values, notably the desire for flexibility and balance between careers and other life goals. However, changes to the structure and culture of academia have not kept pace with young scholars' desires for work-family balance.

Do Babies Matter? is the first comprehensive examination of the relationship between family formation and the academic careers of men and women. The book begins with graduate students and postdoctoral fellows, moves on to early and mid-career years, and ends with retirement. Individual chapters examine graduate school, how recent PhD recipients get into the academic game, the tenure process, and life after tenure. Concrete strategies are suggested for transforming the university into a family-friendly environment at every career stage. The book draws on over

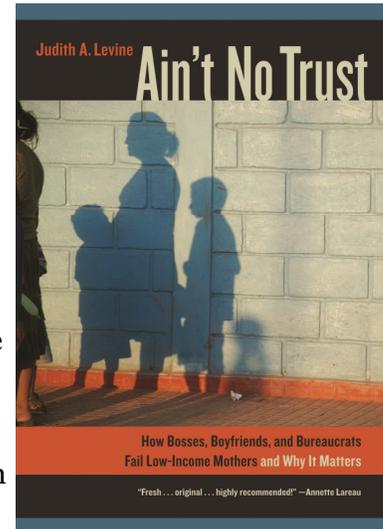
a decade of research using unprecedented data resources, including the Survey of Doctorate Recipients, a nationally representative panel survey of PhDs in America, and multiple surveys of faculty and graduate students at the ten-campus University of California system.

Members' New Books Continued

New from University of California Press, *Ain't No Trust: How Bosses, Boyfriends, and Bureaucrats Fail Low-Income Mothers and Why It Matters* by Judith A. Levine, Assistant Professor, Temple University

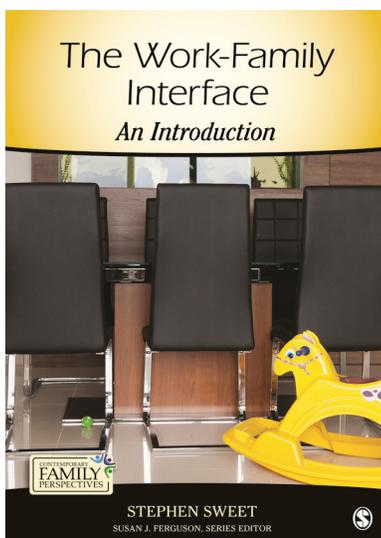
Ain't No Trust explores issues of trust and distrust among low-income mothers in the United States—at work, around child care, in their relationships, and with caseworkers—and presents richly detailed evidence from in-depth interviews about our welfare system and why it's failing the very people it is designed to help.

By comparing low-income mothers' experiences before and after welfare reform, Judith A. Levine probes women's struggles to gain or keep jobs while they simultaneously care for their children, often as single mothers. Levine argues that distrust is a major factor in low-income mothers' lives. Distrust matters because it keeps mothers from taking actions the broader society wants them to take, such as staying in jobs or getting married. But rather than arguing that we should focus on "fixing" the mothers' trust assessments themselves, *Ain't No Trust* brings attention to the experiences that teach low-income mothers to distrust. Welfare reform created incentives for women to take action in arenas such as welfare, work, child care, romantic unions, and networks of friends and family but did not alter the structure of these arenas, leaving intact the very dynamics that produce distrust. Without these deeper changes, distrust and the limits to action it creates will endure.



New from Sage, *The Work-Family Interface: An Introduction* by Stephen Sweet, Associate Professor, Ithaca College

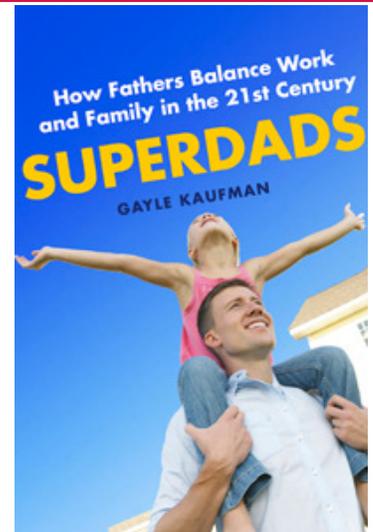
The Work Family Interface combines contemporary scholarship, personal stories, and insights from leading researchers to illuminate the multifaceted concerns that connect home to work. While focused on the especially pronounced challenges that exist in the United States, *The Work-Family Interface* uses international comparisons to reveal the promises (and sometimes pitfalls) of social policies adopted elsewhere, as well as to show how work-family issues are integral to the functioning of the global economy. While numerous academic books and articles examine how jobs and home life intersect, this book is unique in its succinct overview of the origins of work-family concerns, the diversities of needs and experiences, the impacts of tensions on the family front, the consequences of tensions for employers, and policies that can make meaningful differences. Written to make work-family scholarship accessible and practical, *The Work-Family Interface* is intended to help business leaders understand the case for flexible work, for political leaders to present the case for legislative reform, and for general readerships to invest in initiatives that can enhance work-family harmonization.



Members' New Books Continued

New from New York University Press, *Superdads: How Fathers Balance Work and Family in the 21st Century* by Gayle Kaufman, Professor of Sociology and Gender and Sexuality Studies, Davidson College

Through in-depth interviews with a diverse group of men, Kaufman introduces the concept of “superdads”, a group of fathers who stand out by making significant changes to their work lives in order to accommodate their families. They are nothing like their fathers, “old dads” who focus on their traditional role as breadwinner, or even some of their peers, so-called “new dads” who work around the increasing demands of their paternal roles without really bucking the system. In taking their family life in a completely new direction, these superdads challenge the way we think about long-held assumptions about men’s role in the family unit.



Upcoming Conferences

A conference on “**Perspectives on Time Use in the U.S.**,” will be held June 23-24, 2014 at the University of Maryland Inn and Conference Center. Researchers are invited to submit abstracts for papers that address any question related to the collection or analysis of time use data. The deadline for submission of paper abstracts is January 15, 2014. Immediately following the conference on June 25-27 there will be a three-day training workshop for researchers new to the ATUS data entitled “ATUS Workshop 2014.” The deadline for submission of applications to the Workshop is March 1, 2014. These two events are designed to provide a comprehensive view of the state of research in the field and provide junior scholars or those just entering the time use arena with essential tools. Detailed information and an application can be obtained at <http://www.popcenter.umd.edu/research/sponsored-events/timeuse-2014>. For more information, contact Sandra Hofferth, University of Maryland, hofferth@umd.edu.

JOB ADS

The Department of Family Science, School of Public Health, University of Maryland, College Park seeks to fill three full-time tenure-track Assistant/Associate Professor positions in Maternal and Child Health (position #119298), Family Health and Well-Being (position #119297), and Couple and Family Therapy (position #119296). These are 9-month tenure-track appointments; salary is commensurate with qualifications. Funding is guaranteed for 9 months annually, with the potential to extend salary support to 12 months with external funds. Applicants must apply via <https://ejobs.umd.edu>. For best consideration, candidates should submit materials by November 30, 2013. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Applications should include the following: 1) cover letter clearly indicating how the candidate meets each of the qualifications listed above, 2) curriculum vitae, 3) three representative publications, and 4) contact information for three references (to be contacted only with the candidate’s approval). For additional position details, visit <https://ejobs.umd.edu>.

Transitions

Gretchen R. Webber was tenured and promoted to Associate Professor at Middle Tennessee State University effective Fall 2013

Hot off the Press!

Wang, Leslie K. 2013. Unequal Logics of Care: Gender, Globalization, and Volunteer Work of Expatriate Wives in China." *Gender & Society*. — Leslie has also recorded a podcast about this research that is available here: <http://gas.sagepub.com/site/misc/Index/Podcasts.xhtml>.

SPECIAL ISSUES

"Why Study Housework," *Journal of Family Theory & Review* 5(2), June 2013, Shannon N. Davis and Theodore N. Greenstein (Guest Editors).

Call for Papers

Contemporary Perspectives in Family Research, is seeking manuscript submissions for its 2014 volume, which will focus on the theme of 'Family and Health: Evolving Needs, Responsibilities, and Experiences.' Manuscripts should be submitted directly to the editors, Jennifer Higgins McCormick (mccormickj@trocaire.edu) and Sampson Lee Blair (sblair@buffalo.edu). Manuscripts should not exceed 40 double-spaced pages (not including tables, figures, and references). All manuscripts will undergo peer review. The deadline for initial submissions is January 20, 2014.

The journal ***Fathering: A Journal of Theory, Research, and Practice about Men as Fathers*** invites submissions for a special issue on "Men's Family Involvement Across Industrial Nations." The goal is to understand similarities and differences between recent family trends in father involvement across industrialized societies and to provide a national context for father involvement in families. The focus of this special issue will be the time men spend with their families either across historical time, across family members, across space, or compared with alternative activities. The corresponding guest editor for this issue is Sandra Hofferth, University of Maryland. To facilitate the review process, manuscripts should be submitted electronically to hofferth@umd.edu. In addition, an electronic copy should be submitted via the *Fathering* website (<https://falkcollegeofsporthumandynamics.submittable.com/submit>) under special issues. The submission deadline is March 1, 2014. For more information about the journal go to <http://www.mensstudies.info/journals/fathering/>

Women's Reproductive Health is dedicated to the improvement of reproductive health and well-being across the lifespan for all women. It publishes original research, theoretical and review articles, book and media reviews, and occasional short pieces of creative writing that illuminate issues relevant to researchers, health care providers, educators, and public policy planners. The range of appropriate topics is broad, including menarche, menstruation, menopause, pregnancy, birthing, breastfeeding, miscarriage, infertility, assisted reproductive technologies, contraception and abortion, reproductive cancers, sexually transmitted infections, and disorders related to reproductive events (e.g., osteoporosis, fistulas, migraines, postpartum depression). The scope of the journal is international and interdisciplinary, with feminist perspectives. Contributions from researchers/scholars in public health, nursing, medicine, psychology, sociology, anthropology, women's studies, queer studies, the humanities, and other fields are welcome. The first issue of ***Women's Reproductive Health*** will be published in spring 2014 by Taylor and Francis. Submissions should be emailed as Word attachments to the Editor, Joan C. Chrisler, at jchr@conncoll.edu. Manuscripts must be in APA style. The current turnaround for manuscripts submitted to ***Women's Reproductive Health*** is about one month, so members of the ASA Family section should think about submitting something sooner than later. Section members should also feel free to pass this along to any of their colleagues who are studying reproductive health (broadly defined).

**Our next newsletter will be published in the summer of 2014.
Send announcements to our newsletter editor, Heather Jacobson
(jacobson@uta.edu), by May 1st for inclusion.**