What Works for Today’s Families? And What Doesn’t?

A Decade of Research, Practice, and Dialogue

The Council on Contemporary Families’ Tenth Anniversary Conference, May 4-5, 2007 and Gala Celebration featuring special guest Al Franken

http://ihouse.uchicago.edu

International House
At the University of Chicago
1414 East 59th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637-2997

What Works for Today’s Families? And What Doesn’t?
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Join us for a two-day discussion of cutting-edge research and best practice findings about how to understand and intervene effectively on family issues such as promoting healthy relationships and responsible fatherhood, helping at-risk youth, providing social services and counseling to families under extreme stress, reducing domestic violence, and developing effective family policies.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

• All panels have a mix of practitioners and social scientists discussing cutting-edge research and best practice findings about families. All also include a multicultural perspective.
• Evening appetizer buffet featuring special guest speaker Al Franken, along with CCF’s annual media awards and musical entertainment.
• Special hands-on training in working with the media, writing op eds, and translating research and clinical experience into books for a popular audience.

Friday, May 4, 2007
Families in Stress: What Do We Know About How To Help?
8:30am-9:00am — Registration and Coffee
9:00am — Welcome: Stephanie Coontz and Waldo Johnson, conference chairs

9:30am-11:00am — Programs to Promote Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood: Myths and Realities
Chair: Philip Cowan
Panelists:
Waldo Johnson (University of Chicago) and Earl Johnson (California Endowment) — Father Involvement: Lessons
Learned but Unheard.

**Philip and Carolyn Pape Cowan** (University of California at Berkeley) — Interventions to Strengthen Couple Relationships and Fathers' Involvement: What Do We Know So Far?

**Virginia Knox** (MDRC): Plans for a Nationally-based Intervention Program to Strengthen Healthy Marriages.

**Robert-Jay Green** (Rockway Institute and California School of Professional Psychology) — Couple Relationship and Father Involvement Interventions: Different Strokes for Lesbian, Gay, and Heterosexual Folks.

11:00am-11:30am — Break

11:30am-1:00pm — Vulnerable Youth and the Transition to Adulthood

Chair: **Frank Furstenberg** (University of Pennsylvania)

Panelists:

- **Frank Furstenberg** (University of Pennsylvania) — The Changing Passage to Adulthood and Its Consequences for Vulnerable Youth.
- **Wayne Osgood** (Penn State University) — Addressing the Challenges for Vulnerable Youth in Transition to Adulthood.
- **Idy Gitelson** (clinical psychologist) — Vulnerable Youth and Their Families: Relationships with Parents and Other Adults During the Transition Years.

1:00pm-2:00pm — Lunch (On Your Own)

2:00pm-3:30pm — Working with Families under Stress: What Do We Know? What Do We Need to Know?

Chair: **Kerry Ann Rockquemore** (University of Illinois at Chicago)

Panelists:

- **Froma Walsh** (University of Chicago) — Innovative Practice Applications of a Family Resilience Framework with Families in Crisis or Facing Prolonged Adversity.
- **Julie Kerksick** (New Hope Project) — The New Hope Project: What We've Learned.
- **Mike Bobbit** (Family Justice) — Changing the Face of Justice: Tapping the Strengths of Government, Families, and Neighborhoods.

3:30pm-4:00pm — Break

4:00pm-5:30pm — Domestic Violence: Defining the Problem and Intervening with People

Chair: **Brian Jory** (Berry College)

Panelists:

- **Rhea Almeida** (Institute for Family Services) — Beyond Safety: Accountability and Reparations.
- **Oliver Williams** (University of Minnesota) — Working with Re-entering Prisoners on Domestic Violence: The Safe Return
6:30 -- Gala Celebration and Annual CCF Media Awards with appetizer buffer and special guest Al Franken

Saturday, May 5, 2007

9:30am-11:00am — When Is a Fact a Fact? What Do We Know About Cause and Effect in Families?
Chair: Mignon R. Moore (UCLA)
Panelists:
Andrew Cherlin (Johns Hopkins University);
Philip Cowan (University of California at Berkeley);
Linda M. Burton (Duke University).

11:15am-12:45pm — Natural and Unnatural Disasters: Displacement and Trauma
Chair: Cedric Herring (University of Illinois at Chicago)
Panelists:
Pauline Boss (University of Minnesota) — The Role of Therapists in Dealing with Adjustment after Loss and Crisis.
Ahlam Jbara (Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights) — Overcoming the Challenges Immigrants and Refugees Face in Accessing Services.
Roberta Iversen (University of Pennsylvania) — Can You Go Home Again? Low-income Families after Hurricane Katrina.
Etiony Aldarondo (University of Miami) — Promoting the Well-Being of Unaccompanied Immigrant Children.

12:45pm-1:30pm — Lunch (On Your Own)

1:30pm-3:30pm — Breakout Sessions for Hands-on Media Training:
1. Writing Op Eds on Your Work — Stephanie Coontz (The Evergreen State College); Joan Williams (Hastings School of Law).
2. Pitching Your Research, Clinical Experiences, or Organization — Joshua Coleman (San Francisco Psychotherapy Research Group); Virginia Rutter (Framingham State College); Debbie Siegel (Woodhull Institute for Ethical Leadership).
3. The Promise and Perils of Translating Clinical Experience and Research into Trade Books — Isolina Ricci (New Family Center); Pepper Schwartz (University of Washington); Kerry Ann Rockquemore (University of Illinois at Chicago).