

# Counting Couples, Counting Families



National Center for  
**Family & Marriage Research**  
Bowling Green State University

2011 Research Conference

*July 19-20*

*National Institutes of Health, Natcher Conference Center, Bethesda, MD*

## SPONSORS

### National Center for Family & Marriage Research Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health & Human Development (DBSB)



*The National Center for Family & Marriage Research, established in 2007 by the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, provides scientific leadership, intellectual energy, and administrative assistance to support inter-disciplinary, policy-relevant research on U.S. families.*

## ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Representatives from the...

- National Center for Family & Marriage Research
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
  - Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation
  - Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health & Human Development
  - National Center for Health Statistics
  - Administration for Children & Families
- U.S. Census Bureau
- U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
- National Center for Education Statistics
- Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics



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## WELCOME

### SUSAN L. BROWN

*Co-Director, National Center for Family & Marriage Research  
Professor of Sociology, Bowling Green State University*



Areas of Interest

- Family structure
- Union transitions
- Child well-being
- Aging families

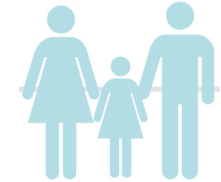
### WENDY D. MANNING

*Co-Director, National Center for Family & Marriage Research  
Associate Director, Center for Family and Demographic Research  
Professor of Sociology, Bowling Green State University*



Areas of Interest

- Union formation and stability
- Adolescent relationships
- Family change
- Sexual risk-taking



Family structures and living arrangements have become increasingly complex with the delay in marriage, continued high divorce rates, and rapid rises in cohabitation and unmarried childbearing. The family experiences of today's children and adults are more varied and less stable than in the past. These changes in family life raise important new questions for social science research and policy analysis but also present significant measurement challenges. Researchers, data providers, and policy makers came together in 2001 for the first Counting Couples conference to discuss the ramifications of these family changes for federal data collection efforts and propose priorities for future data collections. The work continued at the second Counting Couples

conference, which was held in 2003. Since then, the family experiences of U.S. children and adults have only become more diverse and complex.

The goal of this conference is to bring together researchers, federal data providers, and policy makers to discuss cutting edge topics in family measurement, building on the foundation established by the previous Counting Couples conferences. Speakers will assess the availability and quality of existing family measures in federal data and provide guidance on how these measures might be modified or expanded in future data collection efforts. An additional aim is to discuss strategies to facilitate standardization of family measurement across surveys.



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## WELCOME

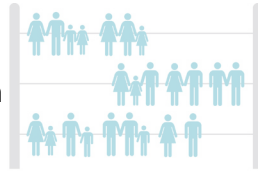
### YVONNE T. MADDOX

Deputy Director, Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health & Human Development, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services



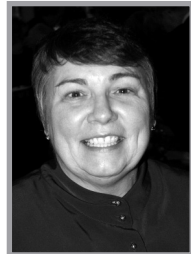
#### Areas of Interest

- Child development
- Developmental biology
- Reproductive biology
- Medical rehabilitation
- Health disparities



### LINDA MELLGREN

Senior Social Science Analyst, Office of Human Services Policy, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services



#### Areas of Interest

- Family policy
- Fathers
- Incarceration



## COUNTING COUPLES I AND II

### LYNNE M. CASPER

Professor of Sociology, University of Southern California  
Director of the Southern California Population Research Center



#### Areas of Interest

- Work, family, and health
- Gender, work, and family
- Family change and variation
- Family structure



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## MARRIAGE & REMARRIAGE

### PRESENTERS

### ZHENCHAO QIAN

Professor and Chair of Sociology  
Research Associate, Initiative in Population Research  
The Ohio State University



#### Areas of Interest

- Assortative mating
- Marriage and cohabitation
- Race and ethnicity
- Social stratification

### MEGAN M. SWEENEY

Associate Professor of Sociology, University of California, Los Angeles



#### Areas of Interest

- Family
- Fertility and contraceptive choice
- Aging and the life course
- Race and ethnicity
- Stratification



### DISCUSSANTS

### MARTIN O'CONNELL

Chief, Fertility and Family Statistics Branch, Social, Economic and Housing Statistics Division, U.S. Census Bureau



#### Areas of Interest

- Household and family living arrangements
- Child care
- Child well-being
- Same-sex couple statistics

### SHERI E. STEISEL

Senior Federal Affairs Counsel and Senior Director of Human Services Policy  
National Conference of State Legislatures



#### Areas of Interest

- Formation and structure of families
- Child wellbeing
- Relevance for state and federal policy makers
- Linkages between state and federal policies
- Vulnerable populations
- Immigrants



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## COHABITATION

### PRESENTERS



#### GARY J. GATES

*Williams Distinguished Scholar, Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law Faculty, California Center for Population Research*



#### Areas of Interest

- LGBT demographics
- LGBT measurement issues
- LGBT relationship and family formation
- Legal relationship recognition

#### PAMELA J. SMOCK

*Director, Population Studies Center Professor of Sociology, The University of Michigan - Ann Arbor*



#### Areas of Interest

- Cohabitation and marriage
- Relationship instability and dissolution
- Families and social inequality
- Families and gender
- Family change over time

### DISCUSSANTS

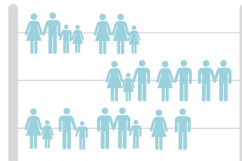
#### CASEY E. COPEN

*Associate Service Fellow, National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control*



#### Areas of Interest

- Union formation and stability
- Family change
- Teenagers' sexual activity and contraceptive use



#### KATHERINE K. WALLMAN

*Chief Statistician, U.S. Office of Management and Budget*



#### Areas of Interest

- Increasing access to federal statistical information
- Fostering the sharing of data while protecting confidentiality
- Promoting collaboration across the statistical system
- Enhancing the statistical literacy of the public



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## SEPARATION, DIVORCE, AND UNION DISSOLUTION

### PRESENTERS

#### PHILIP N. COHEN

*Professor of Sociology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*



#### Areas of Interest

- Family
- Social inequality
- Gender
- Demography

#### R. KELLY RALEY

*Professor of Sociology Training Director, Population Research Center, University of Texas*



#### Areas of Interest

- Family change
- Union formation & union stability
- Non-marital fertility
- Postsecondary education
- Work and occupations

### DISCUSSANTS

#### ROSE M. KREIDER

*Family Demographer, Fertility and Family Statistics Branch, Social, Economic and Housing Statistics Division, U.S. Census Bureau*



#### Areas of Interest

- Marriage and divorce
- Living arrangements of children
- Adoption
- Cohabitation

#### MARTHA MOOREHOUSE

*Director, Division of Children and Youth Policy, Office of Human Services Policy, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services*



#### Areas of Interest

- Child welfare and domestic violence
- Youth development and risky behaviors
- Improving data on children and youth



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# FAMILY STRUCTURE AND INSTABILITY

## PRESENTERS

### MARCIA (MARCY) J. CARLSON

Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison



Areas of Interest

- Family structure
- Nonmarital childbearing and parenting
- Father involvement
- Couple relationship quality
- Child well-being



### KATHLEEN MULLAN HARRIS

James E. Haar Distinguished Professor of Sociology  
Director, National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health (Add Health)  
Interim Director, Carolina Population Center  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



Areas of Interest

- Family demography
- Transition to adulthood
- Health disparities
- Family formation
- Social policy

## DISCUSSANTS

### JENNIFER PARK

Senior Scientist, National Children's Study, Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services



Areas of Interest

- Family experience of child health and development
- Longitudinal modeling methods
- Data confidentiality

### GERRI FIALA

Deputy Assistant Secretary, Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor



Areas of Interest

- Public workforce development
- Workforce legislation
- Policy development and research



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# FAMILY TIES ACROSS HOUSEHOLDS

## PRESENTERS

### SANDRA L. HOFFERTH

Professor of Family Science, University of Maryland



Areas of Interest

- American children's use of time
- Work and family
- Research methods
- Fathers and fathering
- Family policy



### JUDITH A. SELTZER

Professor of Sociology, University of California, Los Angeles



Areas of Interest

- Parent-adult child relationships
- Custody, child support, access
- Family obligations and family change
- Union formation and dissolution

## DISCUSSANTS

### CHARLES R. PIERRET

Director, National Longitudinal Surveys Program, Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor



Areas of Interest

- Marriage
- Labor market discrimination
- Educational attainment
- Survey methodology

### WADE F. HORN

Director, Deloitte Consulting, LLP  
Former Assistant Secretary for Children, Youth, and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services



Areas of Interest

- Family policy
- Evaluation of social service programs
- Integrated service delivery
- Health care reform



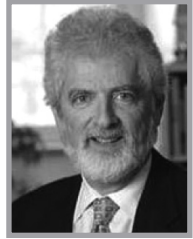
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## FUTURE DIRECTIONS

### ANDREW J. CHERLIN

Benjamin H. Griswold, III, Professor of Sociology and Public Policy  
Johns Hopkins University



#### Areas of Interest

- Changes in marriage and cohabitation
- Well-being of children in low- and moderate-income families
- Family instability
- Divorce and remarriage

### DAVID R. HARRIS

Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Human Services Policy, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services



#### Areas of Interest

- Racial and ethnic inequality
- Racial and ethnic identity
- Poverty
- Social policy

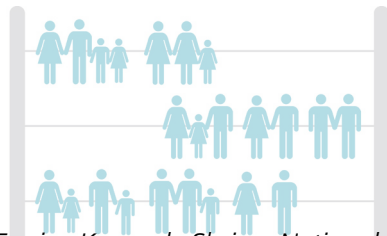
### REGINA M. BURES

Program Official, Demographic and Behavioral Sciences Branch, Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health & Human Development, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services




#### Areas of Interest

- Family structure
- Family migration
- Families over the life course
- Longitudinal data on families



## CONFERENCE AGENDA

### TUESDAY, JULY 19, 2011

- 
- 8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Registration
  - 8:30 a.m. - 8:40 a.m. Welcome
  - 8:40 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Counting Couples I and II
  - 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Marriage and Remarriage
  - 10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Break
  - 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Cohabitation
  - 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Lunch with small groups on the day's topics
  - 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Separation, Divorce, and Union Dissolution

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 20, 2011

- 8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Registration
- 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Family Structure and Instability
- 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Poster Session and Break -- Atrium
- 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Family Ties Across Households
- 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Lunch with small groups on the day's topics
- 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Closing Discussion and Future Directions

## POST CONFERENCE PRODUCTS

- NCFMR Data Resources
  - Measures Snapshots
  - Question Crosswalks
- Executive Summary
- Full Report
- Google Sites

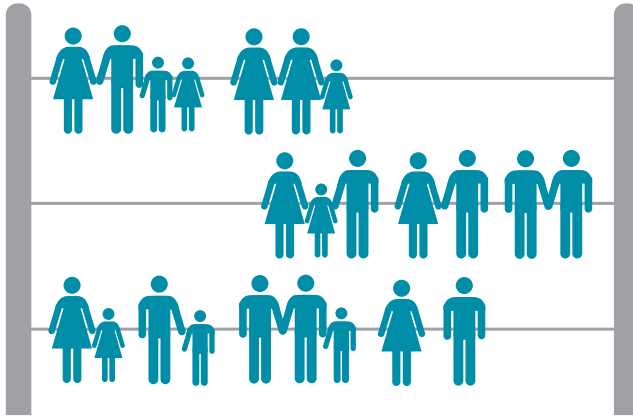


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