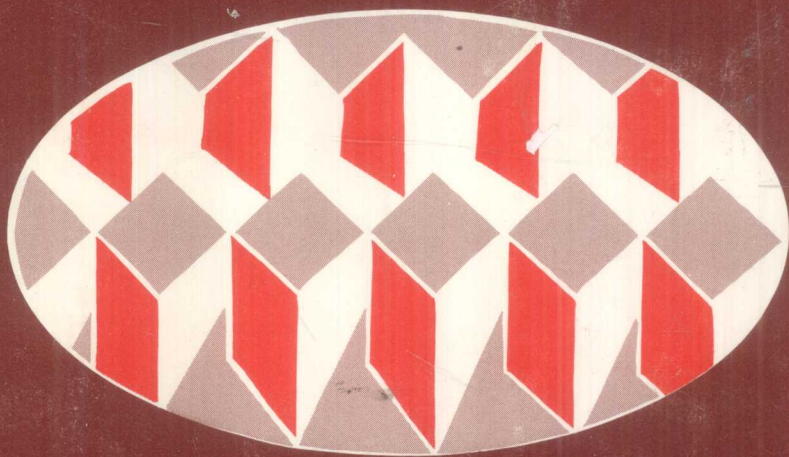


FAMILY STUDIES **Review Yearbook**

Volume 1



David H. Olson
Brent C. Miller
Editors

FAMILY STUDIES Review Yearbook

Volume 1

1983

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SAGE PUBLICATIONS
Beverly Hills / London / New Delhi

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For information address:

SAGE Publications, Inc.
275 South Beverly Drive
Beverly Hills, California 90212

SAGE Publications India Pvt. Ltd.
C-236 Defence Colony
New Delhi 110 024, India



SAGE Publications Ltd
28 Banner Street
London EC1Y 8QE, England

Printed in the United States of America

International Standard Book Number 0-8039-1924-7

International Standard Series Number 0734-2926

FIRST PRINTING

FAMILY STUDIES
Review Yearbook

The most comprehensive survey of the family studies field to date, **Family Studies Review Yearbook** is designed to offer an annual selection of the best and most relevant published and unpublished works. A distinguished Board of Editors ensures that articles communicate timely theoretical, empirical, and practical advances, as well as important insights into major issues. An essential reference for researchers, scholars, practitioners, policymakers, and students concerned with developments in contemporary knowledge of the family.

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Contents

About the Editors	11
Preface	13
Introduction and Overview	15
DAVID H. OLSON and BRENT C. MILLER	
PART I: FAMILY POLICY	
1. A General Framework for Family Impact Analysis	
MARCIA G. ORY and ROBERT L. LEIK	31
2. Federal Income Taxation and the Two-Earner Couple	
COLIEN HEFFERAN	49
3. On the Relationship Between Welfare and Marital Stability: A Research Note	
THOMAS W. DRAPER	57
4. The Effects of Negative Income Tax Programs on Marital Dissolution	
LYLE P. GROENEVELD, NANCY BRANDON TUMA, and MICHAEL T. HANNAN	64
PART II: FAMILY STRESS AND COPING	
5. Family Stress and Adaptation to Crises: A Double ABCX Model of Family Behavior	
HAMILTON I. McCUBBIN and JOAN M. PATTERSON	87
6. Normative Family Stress: Family Boundary Changes Across the Life-Span	
PAULINE G. BOSS	107
7. Family Paradigm and Family Coping: A Proposal for Linking the Family's Intrinsic Adaptative Capacities to Its Responses to Stress	
DAVID REISS and MARY ELLEN OLIVERI	113
8. Dual-Career Family Stress and Coping: A Literature Review	
DENISE A. SKINNER	127
9. Work Roles as Stressors in Corporate Families	
PATRICIA VOYDANOFF	137
10. Chronic Stresses of Families of Mentally Retarded Children	
LYNN WIKLER	143

PART III: DIVORCE AND CHILD CUSTODY

11. Divorce Research: What We Know; What We Need to Know
GAY C. KITSON and HELEN J. RASCHKE 153
12. Relationships Between Former Spouses: Descriptive Findings
JEAN GOLDSMITH 191
13. Adaptation to Divorce: Problems and Coping Strategies
WILLIAM H. BERMAN and DENNIS C. TURK 211
14. Divorce: A Crisis of Family Transition and Change
CONSTANCE R. AHRONS 222
15. Child Custody in Transition
ROBIN L. FRANKLIN and "B" HIBBS 230

PART IV: MARITAL AND FAMILY VIOLENCE

16. Violence in the Family: A Review of Research
in the Seventies
RICHARD J. GELLES 238
17. The Child Abusing Family: I. Methodological Issues
and Parent-Related Characteristics of Abusing Families
AUDREY M. BERGER 251
18. The Child Abusing Family: II. Child and Child-Rearing Variables,
Environmental Factors and Typologies of Abusing Families
AUDREY M. BERGER 265
19. A Competency-Based Parent Training Program for Child Abusers
DAVID A. WOLFE, JACK SANDLER, and
KEITH KAUFMAN 282
20. Status Relationships in Marriage: Risk Factors in
Spouse Abuse
CARLTON A. HORNUNG, B. CLAIRE McCULLOUGH,
and TAICHI SUGIMOTO 290
21. Interpersonal Violence Among Married and Cohabiting Couples
KERSTI YLLO and MURRAY A. STRAUS 308

PART V: ALCOHOLISM, DRUG ABUSE, AND THE FAMILY

22. Myth and Reality in the Family Patterns and Treatment
of Substance Abusers
EDWARD KAUFMAN 319
23. A Critique of Kaufman's "Myth and Reality in the Family
Patterns and Treatment of Substance Abusers"
M. DUNCAN STANTON 343
24. The "Home Treatment": The First Steps in Trying to Cope
With an Alcoholic Husband
JACQUELINE P. WISEMAN 352

25. The Significance of Cultural Patterning for the "Alcoholic Family"	361
JOAN ABLON	
26. A Life History Model of the Alcoholic Family	379
PETER STEINGLASS	

PART VI: WORK AND THE FAMILY

27. The Two-Provider Family: Problems and Potentials	397
PHYLLIS MOEN	
28. Conjugal Work Roles and Marital Solidarity	428
IDA HARPER SIMPSON and PAULA ENGLAND	
29. Flexible Work Schedules and Family Time Allocation: Assessment of a System Change on Individual Behavior Using Self-Report Logs	453
RICHARD A. WINETT and MICHAEL S. NEALE	
30. Roles of Women on Farms: A Pilot Study	461
RUTH GASSON	
31. Children's Work in the Family: Its Significance and Meaning	471
LYNN K. WHITE and DAVID B. BRINKERHOFF	

PART VII: FAMILY ECONOMICS

32. Making Ends Meet: How Families Cope With Inflation and Recession	483
DAVID CAPLOVITZ	
33. The Measurement of Family Material Well-Being	494
D. M. FERGUSON, L. J. HORWOOD, and A. L. BEAUTRAIS	
34. Wives' Earnings as a Factor in Family Net Worth Accumulation	505
ANN C. FOSTER	
35. Special Panel Suggests Changes in BLS Family Budget Program	510
HAROLD W. WATTS	
36. Home Production for Use in a Market Economy	518
CLAIR V. BROWN	

PART VIII: MARITAL ENRICHMENT AND PREMARITAL PREPARATION

37. Marriage Enrichment	536
LARRY HOF and WILLIAM R. MILLER	
38. The E-R-A Model: A Heuristic Framework for Classification of Skill Training Programs for Couples and Families	563
DONNA ULRICI, LUCIANO L'ABATE, and VICTOR WAGNER	

39. Integrating Attitudinal and Behavioral Change in Marital Enrichment
LARRY HOF, NORMAN EPSTEIN,
and WILLIAM R. MILLER 572
40. Premarital Counseling: Appraisal and Status
DENNIS A. BAGAROZZI and PAUL RAUEN 580
41. Do Marriage Preparation Programs Really Work?
A Canadian Experiment
EDWARD BADER, GISELE MICROYS, CAROLE SINCLAIR,
ELIZABETH WILLETT, and BRENDA CONWAY 598

PART IX: MARITAL THERAPY

42. Multi-Level Couple Therapy: Applying a Metacommunicational
Framework of Couple Interactions
GUILLERMO BERNAL and JEFFREY BAKER 608
43. A Comparative Outcome Study of Behavioral Marital
Therapy and Communication Therapy
HILLARY TURKEWITZ and K. DANIEL O'LEARY 618
44. Improving Functioning of the Remarried Family System
CLIFFORD J. SAGER, ELIZABETH WALKER,
HOLLIS STEER BROWN, HELEN M. CROHN,
and EVELYN RODSTEIN 629
45. Assessing Intimacy: The Pair Inventory
MARK T. SCHAEFER and DAVID H. OLSON 640
46. How to be a Marriage Therapist Without Knowing
Practically Anything
JAY HALEY 654

PART X: FAMILY THERAPY

47. Marital and Family Therapy: A Decade Review
DAVID H. OLSON, CANDYCE S. RUSSELL,
and DOUGLAS H. SPRENKLE 663
48. An Integrated Structural/Strategic Approach to Family Therapy
M. DUNCAN STANTON 684
49. Types of Paradoxical Intervention and Indications/
Contraindications for Use in Clinical Practice
LAWRENCE FISHER, ANN ANDERSON,
and JAMES E. JONES 697
50. Protection, Paradox, and Pretending
CLOE MADANES 708
51. A Controlled Evaluation of Problem-Solving Communication
Training With Parent-Adolescent Conflict
ARTHUR L. ROBIN 721

**52. Relationship Enhancement Versus a Traditional Treatment:
Follow-Up and Booster Effects**

**BERNARD G. GUERNEY, Jr., EDWARD VOGELSONG,
and JEANNETTE COUFAL**

738

**53. Families and Schools Together: Early Behavioral Intervention
with High Risk Children**

**ELAINE A. BLECHMAN, NANCY L. KOTANCHIK,
and CYNTHIA J. TAYLOR**

757

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Preface

Sampling the best the family field has produced in the last couple of years is like going to a first-class smorgasbord. To stimulate one's intellectual appetite, there is a feast of tantalizing topics and a rich variety of enticing articles. The 53 articles included in Volume I of the *Family Studies Review Yearbook* provide a well-balanced picture of ten important topic areas in the family field.

In this first volume we have highlighted applied topics that are timely and relevant. The articles selected are not only salient, but they also provide useful theoretical and empirical integration and insights. In addition, they are illustrative of the systematic and innovative approaches that have been used to investigate these topical areas.

We anticipated that the process of selecting the topics and the articles for this introductory volume would be very difficult and demanding. However, the process was made much easier by the excellent work of the Editorial Board. First of all, we were very pleased that such a distinguished group of colleagues was willing to join the Editorial Board and to take time to select articles for this volume. They made the process still easier by completing their selections on a very tight schedule. It also helped that there was such a high level of agreement between them on the specific articles they recommended. Often the same article was selected by all three reviewers in a given content area.

Not only was the process made easier than we anticipated, but the outcome has also exceeded our expectations. Our thanks therefore go to the scholars who have chosen the family field as one worthy of study. Most importantly, they are the individuals ultimately responsible for the high quality of the articles included in this volume.

We wish to thank our department heads and secretarial staff at both the University of Minnesota and Utah State University for their cooperative spirit. We also greatly appreciate the understanding and support provided by our partners and families.

D.H.O. & B.C.M.

INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

David H. Olson and Brent C. Miller

In this first volume of the *Family Studies Review Yearbook*, we have included what can be considered the *crème de la crème* of the family field. These 53 articles were selected from a potential group of over 5000 published and unpublished manuscripts. Selections were made by 29 experts in specialized areas of the family profession who served on the Editorial Board of the Yearbook. The peer review process greatly facilitated the selection of such high-quality articles.

We think that the articles included are on the cutting edge of the field both conceptually and empirically and that they will also serve as benchmarks of the field for years to come. Criteria for selecting the articles were content excellence, relevance to the content area, and significance to the field.

The ten topic areas selected in Volume I are among the most visible, applied, and sometimes controversial issues facing marriages and families today. The ten topic areas include the following: *family policy, family stress and coping, divorce and child custody, marital and family violence, alcoholism and drug abuse, work and the family, family economics, marital enrichment and premarital preparation, marital therapy, and family therapy*. Future volumes will provide reviews of other content areas, with each volume providing a variety of timely and significant topics.

The broad, multidisciplinary scope of the volume is also demonstrated by the fact that the 53 articles were selected from 18 professional journals. The journals represent not only the traditional family journals, but also those in applied speciality areas and from a range of other disciplines. A complete listing of the journals from which articles were taken is provided in Table 1.

PART I: FAMILY POLICY

Policymakers, scholars, and the average citizen all have in common a great interest in the relationships between families and public policies. During the Carter administration, an Office of Families was created amid controversy about government involvement in family life. In 1980, the White House Conferences on Families were held for the first time to try and better understand the needs of

TABLE 1 Sources of Articles for Yearbook, Volume I

<i>Source of Article</i>	<i>Number of Articles</i>
1. American Journal of Drug and Alcohol Abuse	2
2. American Journal of Family Therapy	3
3. Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science	1
4. Behavior Therapy	2
5. Family Economics Review	1
6. Family Process	5
7. Family Relations	10
8. Journal of Agricultural Economics	1
9. Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis	1
10. Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology	1
11. Journal of Divorce	2
12. Journal of Family Issues	1
13. Journal of Human Resources	1
14. Journal of Marital and Family Therapy	7
15. Journal of Marriage and the Family	7
16. Marriage and Family Review	1
17. Monthly Labor Review	2
18. Policy Studies Journal	1
19. Unpublished Articles	1
20. Book Chapters	3
Total Articles	53

families and how they are affected by government. Increasingly, "family" has come to be recognized on Capitol Hill as a volatile issue loaded with potential misunderstandings. What are the effects of public policies on family dynamics and well-being? Does a given policy or proposed legislation enhance or undermine the integrity of marriage or the family? In the past few years, marriage and family professionals have become increasingly involved in raising and addressing these questions.

Family Impact Analysis (FIA) is a specific tool for assessing how public policies impact on various aspects of marriage and family life. Recognizing that policymakers and program planners frequently fail to examine carefully both intended and unintended consequences of their programs and services, Marcia Ory and Robert Leik describe a six-step framework for developing and implementing Family Impact Analysis. The technique they describe is a very general one that could be useful in the assessment of a variety of policies and programs and their consequences for families.

The Federal Income Tax Reforms of 1981 will affect the tax liability of two-earner couples beginning in 1982 and 1983. As increasing numbers of married women enter the labor force, the significance of the so-called "marriage penalty" tax becomes more problematic. The background of family-related tax issues is described by Colien Hefferan, focusing on how marriage penalty taxes for dual-