



AFCC eNEWS

MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER
VOL. 5 NO. 11
NOVEMBER 2010

AFCC is Going to Orlando

AFCC 48th Annual Conference

Research, Policy and Practice in Family Courts: What's Gender Got to do with it?

June 1–4, 2011, Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek Resort

Gender issues are frequently front and center when it comes to family law. But what does the research tell us about gender and how it relates to parenting, domestic violence and the well-being of children? Once again, AFCC asks the difficult questions and invites you to come hear the experts and engage in the important conversations. Save the dates and make plans to attend!

Conference Scholarships

Thanks to the generosity of many of you, the AFCC Scholarship Fund will once again be awarding a large number of scholarships to the AFCC 48th Annual Conference. The details and the application will be available in January, so please be sure to check back. If you would like to help ensure the continued success of the AFCC Scholarship Fund, please contribute today by [clicking here](#).

Exhibit, Sponsor and Advertise with AFCC in Orlando!

Make plans now to market your products and services to family law and mental health professionals at AFCC's 48th Annual Conference in Orlando. The deadline for ads to be included in the conference program brochure is December 1! Don't miss this opportunity. AFCC's advertising prices are a great value; you will get your message out to over 20,000 colleagues. Sponsors confirmed by December 1 will also be listed in the conference program. For more information, view the Exhibitor Prospectus or contact [Erin Sommerfeld](#).

[View the Exhibitor Prospectus...](#)

AFCC's Ninth Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations

Conference audio now available

AFCC members can listen to the audio of the opening and general sessions at no cost in the Member Center of the AFCC website by [clicking here](#).

If you missed the Symposium in Cambridge, want to share the content with colleagues or wanted to hear sessions that ran

UPCOMING AFCC CONFERENCES



AFCC 48th Annual Conference

Research, Policy and Practice in Family Courts: What's Gender Got to do with it?

June 1–4, 2011
Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek Resort
Orlando, Florida

AFCC Regional Training Conference

October 27–29, 2011
Hyatt Regency Indianapolis
Indianapolis, Indiana

AFCC 49th Annual Conference

June 6–9, 2012
Hyatt Regency Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

AFCC 50th Annual Conference

May 29–June 1, 2013

concurrently, audio recordings of all of the sessions are now available for purchase through Digital Conference Providers.
[Order audio here...](#)

ASK THE EXPERTS

Ten Tips for the Holidays

By Robert Emery, Ph.D., Charlottesville, Virginia

Robert Emery is a Professor of Psychology and Director of the Center for Children, Families, and the Law at the University of Virginia. He is the Associate Editor of AFCC's journal, *Family Court Review*, and the author of over 100 scientific publications and several books, including *The Truth About Children and Divorce: Dealing with the Emotions So You and Your Children Can Thrive*.

[Click here for Dr. Emery's Tips for the Holidays...](#)

AFCC is Growing Locally

AFCC Chapters play a significant role in the AFCC mission by providing opportunities for AFCC members to network at the state, provincial and local level; exploring problems, developing solutions and ideas resulting in direct and positive benefits for children and families in their communities. Currently, AFCC has thirteen chapters (Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Ontario, Texas and Washington).

[Click here to add an AFCC Chapter to your membership...](#)

[Click here to join AFCC and an AFCC Chapter...](#)

There are active AFCC groups in others states and provinces in various stages of chapter formation. If you are interested in becoming part of that process, or joining the chapter once it is formed, please contact the coordinator in your area:

British Columbia—William R. Storey, storeylaw1@gmail.com

Georgia—Nancy McGarrah, CVP2@bellsouth.net

Illinois—Mary Gardner, doctormgardner@aol.com or Mary Karstens, maryakarstens@gmail.com

Maryland—Michelle Parker, pokopark@aol.com

Oregon—Henry Miller, henrymiller@nwfamilyandforensic.com

Wisconsin—Dolores Bomrad, Dolores.bomrad@wicourts.gov

If you are interested in forming a chapter in your state or province, please refer to the Chapter Toolkit in the Member Center and contact Leslye Hunter, AFCC Associate Director, at lhunter@afccnet.org.

Huffington Post Introduces New Divorce Page

Everything you wanted to know about divorce but were afraid to ask is the tag line for Arianna Huffington's new divorce page: [HuffPost Divorce](#). This site has a Divorce Aphorism of the Day ("His happiness was a small price to pay for my freedom") as well as book excerpts, news articles, opinion pieces and blogs—all about divorce.

[Read more...](#)

AFCC Member News

J.W. Marriott Los Angeles at
L.A. Live
Los Angeles, California

UPCOMING AFCC CHAPTER CONFERENCES

New York Chapter Annual Conference

Co-sponsored by Hofstra Law
December 3, 2010
Association of the Bar
New York, New York
[More information...](#)

Arizona Chapter Annual Conference

January 28–30, 2011
Hilton Sedona Resort and Spa

Sedona, Arizona
[More information...](#)

California Chapter Annual Conference

February 11–13, 2011
Times They are a-Changing
The Mark Hopkins Hotel on
Nob Hill
San Francisco, California
[More information...](#)

UPCOMING AFCC TRAININGS

Parenting Coordination: Working with High Conflict Families

Robin M. Deutsch, Ph.D.
December 6–7, 2010
Baltimore, Maryland

Parenting Coordination: Advanced Practice Issues

Matthew J. Sullivan, Ph.D.
December 8–9, 2010
Baltimore, Maryland

Advanced Parenting Coordination Practice: Working with Parents and Children

Joan B. Kelly, Ph.D.
February 1–2, 2011
Tampa, Florida

Intractable Issues in Child Custody Disputes

from Buffalo, New York, was named as Supervising Judge of the Family Courts of the Eighth Judicial District. She will oversee the family courts in the eight counties of Western New York and continue to serve as Supervising Judge for Matrimonial Matters.

Hon. Karen S. Adam, AFCC member from Tucson, Arizona, was appointed by Arizona Governor Jan Brewer as Judge of the Pima County Superior Court. Governor Brewer stated that Judge Adam "...is an advocate for children and has been instrumental in achieving reforms that have helped self-represented litigants navigate their way through family court proceedings..."

[Read more...](#)

Parenting Coordination Training Programs

December 6–9, 2010, Baltimore, Maryland

Parenting Coordination: Working with High Conflict Families, presented by Robin Deutsch, Ph.D., December 6–7, 2010, will examine the role and functions of the parenting coordinator and the interventions helpful to reduce conflict. Participants will have the opportunity to expand their practice and skills in this emerging area. Focus will be on the psychological dynamics in high conflict families and the impact on their children. Practical PC techniques and decision-making techniques will be highlighted.

Parenting Coordination: Advanced Practice Issues, presented by Matthew Sullivan, Ph.D., December 8–9, 2010, will provide a conceptual framework that guides PC work with high-conflict co-parents and specific strategies to structure PC case work. This training assumes participants have done sufficient PC work to benefit from this practice-based, case-oriented training.

[More information...](#)

AFCC Court-Involved Therapist Task Force Finishes Guidelines

The Court-Involved Therapist Task Force has completed its Guidelines for the professional practice of therapists working with court-involved families and the AFCC Board has approved them. The Guidelines will be posted on the AFCC website by year's end and a white paper is forthcoming. The members of the AFCC Court-Involved Therapist Task Force were: Hon. Linda S. Fidnick, Co-Chair; Matthew Sullivan, Ph.D., Co-Chair; Lyn R. Greenberg, Ph.D., Reporter; Paul Berman, Ph.D.; Christopher Barrows, J.D.; Hon. R. John Harper; Hon. Anita Josey-Herring; Mindy Mitnick, M.Ed., M.A.; and Hon. Gail Perlman.

FLAFCC Draft of Ethical Guidelines for Parenting Coordinators in Florida

The Florida Chapter of AFCC convened a Parenting Coordination Task Force that drafted Ethical Guidelines for the practice of PC in their state. This working draft is open for comments until December 15, 2010. Please direct all comments to Dr. Debra K. Carter, FL PC Task Force chair at dkc@carterpsych.com and reference the page and line number when commenting.

[Read the draft here...](#)

Mindy F. Mitnick, Ed.M., M.A.
February 3–4, 2011
Tampa, Florida

Keeping Parenting Coordinating Cases on Track: Advanced Concepts and Case Management Strategies

Matthew J. Sullivan, Ph.D.
June 20–21, 2011
Chicago, Illinois

Children and Divorce: The Voice of the Child and Interventions When Children Resist Parental Contact

Barbara Jo Fidler, Ph.D., AccFM.
June 22–23, 2011
Chicago, Illinois



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ABOUT AFCC eNEWS

AFCC eNEWS is a monthly e-newsletter published by the

Conference of Interest

The International Society of Family Law Caribbean Regional Conference, *The Legal & Social Consequences of the Disintegration and Reconstitution of Families*, hosted by the Council of Legal Education Eugene Dupuch Law School, will take place March 17-19, 2011, at the British Colonial Hilton Hotel Nassau, The Bahamas. For more information, contact [Hazel Thompson-Ahye](#).

FAMILY LAW IN THE NEWS

President Obama Launches Initiatives to Fight Domestic Violence

By Nia-Malika Henderson, courtesy of The Washington Post

President Obama announced an administration-wide effort to combat domestic violence, combining improved legal protections, housing, health and financial assistance for victims to address a problem that affects one in four women and some 15.5 million children.

[Read more...](#)

Since the Start of the Great Recession, More Children Raised by Grandparents

By Gretchen Livingston and Kim Parker, courtesy of Pew Research Center

One child in 10 in the United States lives with a grandparent, a share that increased slowly and steadily over the past decade before rising sharply from 2007 to 2008, the first year of the Great Recession, according to a new Pew Research Center analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data.

[Read more...](#)

Cyber Service, A New Frontier

By Michael McKiernan, courtesy of LawTimesNews.com

An Ontario judge has urged lawyers to be creative with electronic methods of service after allowing a litigant to do it using Facebook in a family law case.

[Read more...](#)

Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC). *AFCC eNEWS* provides professionals with time sensitive and up-to-date topics including practice tips, research innovations and international news. Readers are welcome to forward this e-newsletter to interested colleagues.

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AFCC Member News

Hon. Janice Rosa, AFCC member and NCJFCJ Board member, from Buffalo, New York, was named as Supervising Judge of the Family Courts of the Eighth Judicial District. She will oversee the family courts in the eight counties of Western New York and continue to serve as Supervising Judge for Matrimonial Matters.

Judge Rosa served from 1994–2002 on the Erie County Family Court bench where she presided over the Dependency/Permanency Part and worked to initiate improvements in the handling of cases involving abused and neglected children. In 2002, she was elected to the New York State Supreme Court, Eighth Judicial District. A graduate of the State University of New York (Buffalo) School of Law, Judge Rosa has served as a faculty member for the NCJFCJ and other local and state organizations on topics including domestic violence, the effects of violence on children, child custody, and permanency mediation. She serves as Chair of NCJFCJ's Family Violence Department Advisory Committee.

Hon. Karen S. Adam, AFCC member from Tucson, Arizona, was appointed by Arizona Governor Jan Brewer as Judge of the Pima County Superior Court. Governor Brewer stated that Judge Adam "...is an advocate for children and has been instrumental in achieving reforms that have helped self-represented litigants navigate their way through family court proceedings..."

Judge Adam was appointed to the Tucson City Court bench in 1981 and served there until 1987, when she was named judge pro tempore at Pima County Superior Court, Juvenile Division. She was appointed a Superior Court Commissioner in 1995, and in 1997 was transferred to the Pima County Superior Court. Since then, she has had varied assignments including mental health, probate, criminal and family law.

A graduate of the University of Arizona College of Law, Judge Adam is a past president of the Arizona Chapter of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts and served from 2001–07 on the Domestic Relations Committee of the Arizona State Legislature. Judge Adam teaches frequently on issues involving child custody and pro se litigants.