



United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Division for Social Policy and Development

Observance of the 2016 International Day of Families:

Families, healthy lives and sustainable future



Biographical Notes of Speakers



Dominic Richardson, Senior Education Specialist, UNICEF, Office of Research, Innocenti, works on issues of equity in education and the relationships between schooling, school outcomes and child well-being. His position will strengthen the research capacity and support the integration and extraction of findings related to education and learning across all components of the applied research programme on wellbeing. Dominic has worked extensively with OECD Social Policy Division in evaluating child and family policies and in designing frameworks through which indicators of child wellbeing outcomes can be compared. Dominic has been a contributor to UNICEF Innocenti Report Cards on child well-being in rich countries, and authored a joint EC OECD project evaluating large international surveys of school children in developed countries.



Daryl Higgins, Associate Professor is the Deputy Director (Research) at the Australian Institute of Family Studies, where he has responsibility for the Institute's research program and its knowledge translation and exchange functions. The Institute undertakes a wide range of research, evaluation and dissemination projects focusing on policy- and practice-relevant issues affecting families in Australia. Daryl is also an Honorary Principal Fellow at the Melbourne School of Health Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences, the University of Melbourne. Daryl is a registered psychologist, and has been researching child abuse, family violence, sexuality and family functioning since 1993. He has extensive experience in managing and supervising research, and has led projects looking at child abuse and neglect, child protection, children in out-of-home care, child-safe organisations, Family Court processes for responding to allegations of child abuse, caring for a family member with a disability, welfare reform, family and interpersonal violence, jobless families, past adoption and forced family separation practices, and community development approaches to child and family welfare issues. He has considerable experience in qualitative and quantitative evaluation methodology and frameworks, and has a sound knowledge of state and territory policy contexts across Australia. Daryl has contributed to over 180 publications (including 70 journal/peer-review articles) and 330 presentations and media contacts.



Zitha Mokomane is an Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology at the University of Pretoria, South Africa. She holds a MA and a PhD in Demography, both from the Australian National University. She has extensive research, policy and programmatic expertise in the fields of family studies, with specific interest in work-family interface; social policy analysis; as well as poverty reduction and social protection. Examples of her recent work in this regard includes the development of the South Africa White Paper on Families which was approved by cabinet in June 2013; the drafting of the African Common Position on the Family (African Union Commission, 2012); the development of a Policy Framework on Social Security to Youth in South Africa (National Department of Social Development, 2012); and the development of the Social Policy Framework for Africa (African Union Commission, 2008). Among her most recent publications in these areas is a paper entitled *Social Protection as a Mechanism for Family Protection in sub-Saharan Africa* (International Journal of Social Welfare, 2012) and an edited book entitled *Work-Family Interface in sub-Saharan Africa: Challenges and Responses* (Springer publishing, 2014).



Scott Behson is a Professor of Management at Fairleigh Dickinson University, a national expert in work and family issues, and was a featured speaker at the recent White House Summit on Working Families. He is the author of the Amazon.com best-seller, *The Working Dad's Survival Guide: How to Succeed at Work and at Home*, has published 17 journal articles, presented over 50 times at prestigious national and international conferences, won six research awards, is a two-time nominee for the prestigious Rosabeth Moss Kanter Award for Work-Family Research, and was recently named as a Who's Who in Work-Family Research by the Sloan Work-Family Research Network. He was named the Silberman College of Business Teacher of the Year for 2010-2011. Scott also founded and runs the popular blog, *Fathers, Work, and Family*, dedicated to helping working fathers and encouraging more supportive workplaces. He writes regularly for the Harvard Business Review Online, Huffington Post and the Good Men Project, and has also written for Time and the Wall Street Journal. Scott has appeared on MSNBC, CBS This Morning, Bloomberg radio and NPR Morning Edition, and his work has been featured on such sites as the Atlantic, Esquire, MSN Money and Salary.com.



Rosario Esteinou got her PhD in Sociology at the University of Turin, Italy. She is a family sociologist and has been a researcher for 30 years at the Center of Research and Higher Studies in Social Anthropology in Mexico City. She is a fellow of the National System of Research of the National Council of Science and technology, fellow and chair of the Social Sciences Division of the Mexican Academy of Sciences, fellow of the National Council of Family Relations, the American Sociological Association, the International Sociological Association, and the International Association for Relationship Research. She has published articles, chapters and books about the family in Mexico, especially in the field of sociology, anthropology, demography, history and social psychology. Currently, her research interests focus on family relations, particularly on adolescent social competence and parenting, and couple relationships. She has been a visiting professor at the Centre of Family Research at the University of Cambridge, the London School of Economics in the United Kingdom, the University of Newcastle in Australia, and the University of Nebraska in the United States.



Wendy Wang is a senior researcher at Pew Research Center. She conducts demographic research on issues related to family, gender, race, aging, health and time use. Wang is also involved in survey questionnaire and sample designs. Prior to joining Pew Research Center in 2008, Wang was a research assistant at the Maryland Population Research Center. She received a Ph.D. from the University of Maryland and a M.A from Arizona State University, both in sociology. Before her graduate studies in the U.S., Wang was a researcher at Shaanxi Academy of Social Sciences in Xi'an, China, researching demographic issues in China. She is an author of reports on Breadwinner Moms, Modern Parenthood, Multi-generational Families, The Rise of Intermarriage, Asian Americans and Growing Old in America. Her publications also have appeared in journals such as the American Journal of Sociology and the Journal of Marriage and Family. She regularly presents research findings at national conferences on population research and survey methodology, and she talks about the Center's reports in print and broadcast media.