

Teaching Work and Family: Challenges, Strategies, and Resources

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Why Workplace Flexibility Matters: A Global Perspective
May 18, 2006



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The Sloan Work and Family Research Network is designed to support research and teaching, promote best practices at the workplace, and inform state policy on issues that affect the lives of working families and the places where they work. [Click here](#) for more.

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Research/Teaching Homepage

This portion of the website has been designed specifically for academics, including researchers and teaching faculty, interested in work-family issues.

Please choose a topic from the list below and click go.

BROWSE BY TOPICS

Please select a topic
 Afterschool Care
 Changing Definitions of Families
 Dependent Care Tax Assistance
 Family & Medical Leave Act (FMLA)

Can't find a topic relevant to your interests? [Click here](#).

WORK-FAMILY TIMELINES

► [Click here](#) to view our collection of timelines that identify key events, experiences, publications, and people that have marked the progress of the work-family area of study.

MATRIX OF INFORMATION DOMAINS

► The Editorial Board of the *Work-Family Encyclopedia* has prepared a Matrix as a way to locate important work-family topics in the broad area of work-family studies. Matrices can be found at the end of most of our [Encyclopedia](#) entries. [Click here](#) to learn more about the Matrix.

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Curriculum Task Force of the Sloan Work and Family Research Network



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 - Boston College
- Ellen Ernst Kossek
 - Michigan State University
- Carrie Leana
 - University of Pittsburgh
- Shelley MacDermid
 - Purdue University
- Patricia Raskin
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- Mary Secret
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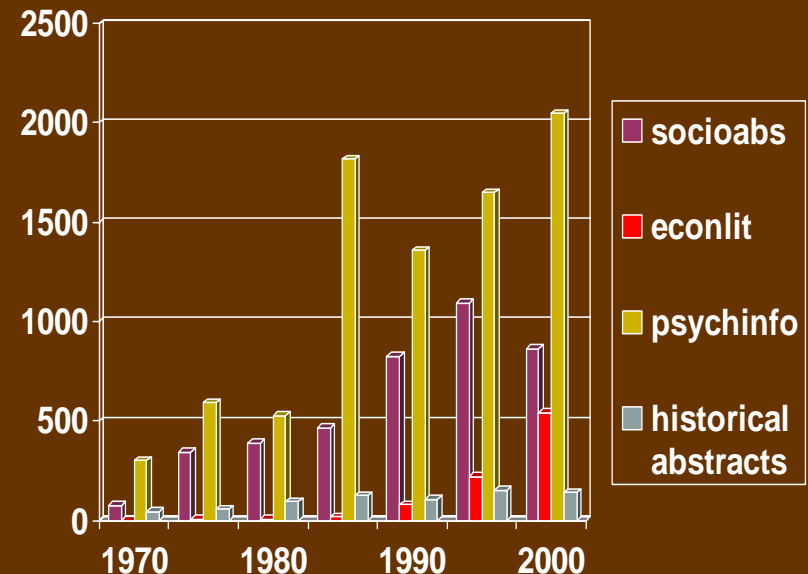


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Teaching Challenges

- Breadth and Scope of Area of Study
 - *Diversities* of families, workers, and workplaces
 - *Multi-disciplinary* perspectives
 - Wide-ranging *methodologies*
 - Vistas of *policy* initiatives
- Complexity
 - *Linkages* between institutions, history, and policy
- Students' Limited "Real Life" Experience
 - Of family and work *roles, demands, resources, and constraints*


Tracking Journal Articles on Work-Family: 1970-2000



Source: Pitt-Catsoupes, Ernst Kosseck and Sweet. 2005. *Work and Family Handbook*. Lawrence Erlbaum Associates. Mahwah, NJ.

Work-Family Modules


www.bc.edu/wfnetwork



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*Work-Family
Teaching
Modules*

*Developed by
the Curriculum
Task Force*



Research/Teaching Workplace Practice State Policy

May 2006

- **Goals and Learning Objectives**
- **Overviews of Class Activities**
 - Class Lecture Topics
 - Key Concepts
 - Teaching Notes
 - Suggestions for Reading Assignments
 - Suggestions for Class Activities and Assignments
 - PowerPoint Slides
- **Resources**

Work Family Modules

Modules currently in place (available on the CD ROM distributed)

1. Overview of Work-Family Issues in the United States
2. Work-Life Policies, Practices and Culture: The Employer Perspective
3. Work-Family Policy in the United States
4. Surveying the “Best of the Best”: A Seminar Based on Research Articles Nominated for the Rosabeth Moss Kanter Award for Work-Family Research

Modules in development

5. Writing Publishable Work-Family Papers: A Seminar for Submission to the *Work and Family Encyclopedia*
6. Analyzing the National Study of the Changing Workforce: A Research Seminar
7. Work Family Linkages in the Home
8. Global Perspectives

Module: Overview of Work-Family in the United States

Class 1: Fundamental concepts in work and family

Class 2: Historical overview of work-family: Changes from pre-industrial to industrial arrangements

Key Concepts

- Definitions of families
- Diversity of employment and family contexts
- Institutional interfaces, spillover, crossover, conflict, and enhancement
- Multidisciplinary perspectives



Module: Work-Life Policies, Practices and Culture: The Employer Perspective



Class 1: Overview of the workplace response to work-family issues of employees, with the workplace organization as a key stakeholder

Class 2: The “business case” for work-family policies and practices

Key Concepts

- Employer-sponsored work-family policies and programs
- Impact of work-family conflicts and supports on work outcomes
- Workplace culture
- Relationships with supervisors and co-workers
- Workplace flexibility
- Business cases for employer response to work-family issues
- Private versus public approaches for work and family support

Module: Work-Family Policy in the United States

Class 1: Introduction to work-family policy as public issues

Class 2: Work-family policy at the state and federal levels

Key Concepts

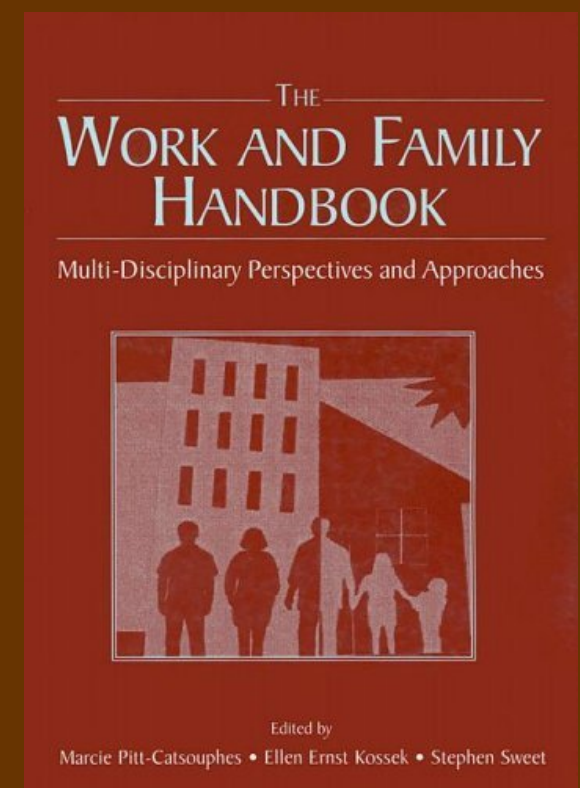
- Public policy
- Work-family policy
- Examples of State Policies
- Examples of Federal Policies



Module: Surveying the Best of the Best: A Seminar Based on Research Articles Nominated for the Rosabeth Moss Kanter Award for Work-Family Research



The screenshot shows the website for the Center for Families at Purdue University. The header includes the Purdue University logo and the text "College of Consumer and Center for Families". A navigation menu lists: ABOUT US, PROJECTS, PUBLICATIONS, MIDWESTERN WORK-FAMILY ASSOCIATION, FAMILY IMPACT SEMINARS, KANTER AWARD, GIVING, and NICHD CONFERENCE. A blue button reads "Guiding Human Service Providers". The main content area features a photo of two women on the left and text on the right: "The Rosabeth Moss Kanter Award for Excellence in Work-Family Research". Below this, it states: "A partnership of The Center for Families at Purdue University and The Center for Work and Family at Boston College Alliance of Work-Life Progress". On the left side of the main content, there are links for "Kanter Award", "Publications", and "Nominations".



Ongoing Initiatives

- *Work and Family Teaching Resource Guide*. [Ed] Stephen Sweet and Marcie Pitt-Catsouphe.
- Call for
 - Syllabi
 - Classroom exercises and assignments
 - Suggestions for articles to reprint
- Submit files in MS Word format to ssweet@ithaca.edu
 - Deadline June 15, 2006

Enjoy Your Lunch!



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