

Cornell Evolving Family Conference:  
***MARRIAGE AND FAMILY: COMPLEXITIES AND PERSPECTIVES***  
April 7 – 8, 2006  
423 ILR Conference Center, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

***Friday, April 7, 2006***

8:05 – 8:15 Chartered bus is available for boarding in front of the Holiday Inn to go to the ILR Conference Center

8:15 – 9:00 Registration, Continental Breakfast will be available.

***Introduction***

9:00 – 9:15 Welcome and Introduction to the Workshop  
[David Harris](#), Vice Provost for the Social Sciences and  
Robert S. Harrison Executive Director of the Institute for the Social Sciences,  
Cornell University  
and  
[Elizabeth Peters](#), Team Leader, Evolving Family Theme Project, Cornell  
University

***Session 1: Theoretical Perspectives on the Changing Meaning of Marriage***

Session Chair: [Elaine Wethington](#), Human Development, Cornell University

Lead Papers:

9:15 – 9:35 *Reading the Past, Present, and Future Sideways: Historical and Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Family Life*, [Arland Thornton](#), Sociology, University of Michigan

9:35 – 9:55 *Women's Lives: Fertility, Family, and the Future*, [Bobbi Low](#), Natural Resources and Environment, University of Michigan

9:55 – 10:15 *A Gender Perspective on Marriage*, [Paula England](#), Sociology, Stanford University

Panel Discussants:

10:15 – 10:30 [Shelly Lundberg](#), Economics, University of Washington

10:30 – 10:45 [Jennifer Johnson-Hanks](#), Demography and Anthropology, University of California - Berkeley

10:45 – 11:00 [Paul Amato](#), Sociology, Pennsylvania State University

11:00 – 11:30 Group Discussion

11:30 – 12:30 Lunch

***Session 2: Empirical Evidence on Mate Selection and Marriage: Economic and Evolutionary Perspectives***

Session Chair: [Elizabeth Adkins-Regan](#), Psychology and Neurobiology and Behavior, Cornell University

Lead Papers:

12:30 – 12:55 *The Economics of the Marriage Contract: Theories and Evidence*, [Imran Rasul](#), Economics, University College London

12:55 – 1:20 *Human Pair-Bonds as Mixtures of Cooperative and Conflictual Elements: An Evolutionary Perspective*, [Steven Gangestad](#), Psychology, University of New Mexico

Panel Discussants:

1:20 – 1:30 [Sandra Murray](#), Psychology, State University of New York - Buffalo

1:30 – 1:40 [Cynthia Hazan](#), Human Development, Cornell University

1:40 – 2:10 Group Discussion

2:10 – 2:25 Break

***Session 3: Contemporary Families***

Session Chair: [Anna Marie Smith](#), Government, Cornell University

Lead Papers:

2:25 – 2:50 *The Association between Change and Stability in The Family of Origin and Mental Health Across the Transition to Adulthood*, [Claire Kamp Dush](#), Institute for the Social Sciences, Cornell University

2:50 – 3:15 *Reconsidering the Association between Stepfather families and Adolescent Well-Being*, [Megan Sweeney](#), Sociology, University of California – Los Angeles

3:15 – 3:40 *Gay Parenthood and the Redefinition of Motherhood, Fatherhood, and the Politics of Gender and Family*, [Judith Stacey](#), Sociology, New York University

Panel Discussants:

3:40 – 3:50 [Lawrence Wu](#), Sociology, New York University

3:50 – 4:00 [Gary Gates](#), The Charles R. Williams Project on Sexual Orientation Law, University of California – Los Angeles

4:00 – 4:10 [Frances Goldscheider](#), Sociology, Brown University

4:10 – 4:40 Group Discussion

4:35 – 4:45 Chartered bus is available for boarding in front of the ILR Conference Center to return to the Holiday Inn

Break

6:00 – 7:00 Wine and Cheese

7:00 – 9:00 Dinner

Keynote Address: *The International Revolution in Marriage*, [Stephanie Coontz](#), History and Family Studies, Evergreen State College

**Saturday, April 8, 2006**

7:50 – 8:00 Chartered bus is available for boarding in front of the Holiday Inn to go to the ILR Conference Center

8:00 – 8:30 Continental Breakfast available.

**Session 4: Cohabitation**

Session Chair: [Kara Joyner](#), Policy Analysis and Management, Cornell University

Lead Papers:

8:30 – 8:55 *The Role of Cohabitation in Family Formation – The United States Experience in Comparative Perspective*, [Patrick Heuveline](#), Sociology, University of Chicago

8:55 – 9:20 *Why Shack Up? Motives to Cohabit among Young Adults in the United States*, [Pamela Smock](#), Sociology, University of Michigan and [Wendy Manning](#), Sociology, Bowling Green State University, with Penelope Huang, Mills College, and Cara Bergstrom, University of Michigan

Panel Discussants:

9:20 – 9:30 [Sharon Sassler](#), Policy Analysis and Management, Cornell University

9:30 – 9:40 [Thomas Deleire](#), Congressional Budget Office

9:40 – 10:10 Group Discussion

10:10 – 10:35 Break

**Session 5: Issues Surrounding the “Strengthening of Marriage”**

Session Chair: [Rachel Dunifon](#), Policy Analysis and Management, Cornell University

Lead Papers:

10:35 – 11:00 *The Case for Preventive Interventions to Strengthen Couple Relationships: Good for Couples, Good for Children*, [Philip Cowan](#) and [Carolyn Pape Cowan](#), Psychology, University of California - Berkeley

11:00 – 11:25 *The Goals and Challenges of Federal Initiatives Evaluating Marriage Education Programs Among Low-Income Populations*, [Lisa Gennetian](#), MDRC

11:25 – 11:50 *Differentiating Among Types of Domestic Violence: Implications for Healthy Marriages*, [Michael Johnson](#), Sociology, Pennsylvania State University

Panel Discussants:

11:50 – 12:00 [Maureen Waller](#), Policy Analysis and Management, Cornell University

12:00 – 12:10 [Laura Sanchez](#), Sociology, Bowling Green State University

12:10 – 12:20 [Richard Heyman](#), Psychology, State University of New York – Stony Brook

12:20 – 12:30 [Theodora Ooms](#), Center for Law and Social Policy

12:30 – 1:00 Discussion

1:00 – 1:45 Lunch

***Session 6: Wrap-up: Discussion of The Future of Marriage***

Session Chair: [Elizabeth Peters](#), Policy Analysis and Management, Cornell University

1:45 – 1:55 [Shirley Hill](#), Sociology, University of Kansas

1:55 – 2:05 [Steven Nock](#), Sociology and Psychology, University of Virginia

2:05 – 2:15 [Tamara Metz](#), Government, Harvard University

2:15 – 2:25 [Daniel Lichter](#), Policy Analysis and Management, Cornell University

2:25 – 3:15 Discussion

3:20 – 3:30 Chartered bus is available for boarding in front of the ILR Conference Center to return to the Holiday Inn