Please join us in San Diego August 12-15! The annual APA Convention is being held for the first time in beautiful San Diego, one of the most popular convention destinations in the United States.

Division 37 has a series of exciting events planned for the Convention. Symposia and Poster Sessions will showcase the latest developments in policy and practice. Discussion Sessions in our Hospitality Suite will encourage discussion and debate. Social Hours, also in the Suite, will provide opportunities for members to meet each other and see old friends.

Our formal program, organized by our wonderful Program Chair, Dr. Rich Puddy, offers symposia on child mental health care in community-based, rural and small community settings; child maltreatment prevention; child sexual exploitation; clinical diagnosis for children and adolescents; translational research; a public health lens on improving child well-being; and much more. Please see the entire schedule of Division 37 Convention programming in this issue and plan to attend as many sessions as you can.

All of our symposia and posters were reviewed and accepted by our program committee. I highlight a few here, to pique your interest. Coinciding with
APA President Carol Goodheart’s Convention theme on family caregivers, Dr. Kim Shifren of Towson University will chair a symposium on “Experiences of Child Caregivers—What Do We Know Now?” Dr. Shifren is editor of the volume How Caregiving Affects Development: Psychological Implications for Child, Adolescent, and Adult Caregivers published by APA Books. The issue of children as caregivers is often overlooked, with children seen most commonly as recipients of care, rather than providers. This symposium will examine the role of children as caregivers and the resulting impact on child development.

From the Convention’s host city, Dr. Ann Garland, Professor at the University of California-San Diego and Associate Director of the Child and Adolescent Services Research Center at Children’s Hospital and Health Center, San Diego, will chair a symposium on “Improving the Effectiveness of Community-based Child Mental Health Care—Data-driven Recommendations”. The symposium will share how evidence-based practices can improve the care received by children in community settings.

Two of our sessions will focus on interdivisional task forces /work groups where Division 37 and its member have played a role. A conversation hour on the “Summit on Young Children’s Mental Health—Ways Forward” will describe next steps emanating from the Summit, held in Denver in 2009. The conversation will be led by Dr. Mary Ann McCabe, Chair of the Summit Planning Committee and Dr. Karen Saywitz, Division 37’s Representative to the APA Council. The Summit, convened by the Society for Research in Child Development and APA with the support of more than 20 other organizations, brought together an invited group of diverse stakeholders in child and family mental health. The Summit emphasized collaboration among various stakeholders and communication scientists to articulate the importance of children’s mental health for optimal child development. The goal of the Summit was to inform public attitudes and social policy. Dr. McCabe has provided a summary of the Summit activities in this issue (see next column). A report is available online at: http://www.apa.org/pi/families/summit-report.pdf

The symposium “Refugee Children and Family Resilience” will present some of the work of the APA Task Force on the Psychosocial Effects of War on Children and Families Who are Refugees from Armed Conflict Residing in the U.S. Dr. Katherine Porterfield, Chair of the Task Force, will also chair the symposium and present her work on “Resilience and Risk After Severe War Trauma: A Family Case”. She will be joined by Task Force members Dr. Maryam Kia-Keating, who will present on “Resilience Among Refugee Youth: Acculturation, Transformation, and Reconnection” and Dr. Theresa Betancourt, who will speak on “Protective Processes and Resilience in Somali Refugee Families”.

The Division’s Business Meeting session will include a symposium chaired by Dr. Cindy Miller-Perrin, President of the Section on Child Maltreatment, on “Human Trafficking of Children”. The symposium will address the prevalence of child trafficking, risk factors associated with it, as well as intervention, prevention, and policy efforts to eliminate it. Another session will present the winners of our Division awards, the Nicholas Hobbs Award and the Distinguished Contribution to Child Advocacy Award, with brief addresses by the awardees. Two poster sessions will feature work on child and family research, policy, and practice, with many posters authored by graduate students. During the poster sessions, up to five Student Poster Awards will be presented to students who are first authors of outstanding posters.

During past Conventions, attendees at Division 37’s symposia have expressed a desire for more in-depth discussion with presenters, beyond the (often brief) question-and-answer period at the end
of the symposia. To address this need, after several of our symposia this year, we will have Discussion Sessions in our Hospitality Suite. Attendees will have an extended time to talk with presenters, providing a rich opportunity for further discussion and debate.

In addition to the above substantive sessions, Division 37 will be co-sponsoring a variety of social events. On Friday evening, we will join with Division 43 (Society for Family Psychology) and the APA Committee on Children, Youth and Families for a social hour, “Networking Together to Advance Children’s Mental Health”. This event follows the Division 37 Awards presentation and honors the awardees. We will also sponsor the 3rd annual “Meet a Mentor: Connecting with Mentors in Policy and Practice”. This program is geared to early career psychologists and students and is a wonderful opportunity to talk with experienced people in the Division about career plans and ways to meet career goals. Finally, there will be a Student Social Hour, organized by our Graduate Student Representative, Sangeeta Parikshak, in collaboration with other child- and family-related divisions. The Division’s Hospitality Suite will be in the San Diego Marriott Hotel, which makes it easy to stop in for a break or a snack and to meet with a friend. Jenelle Shanley, Program Chair for the Section on Maltreatment, is hosting the Suite and has a list of meetings/activities scheduled for it in this issue.

I hope that this column will increase your interest in joining us at our Division 37 events in San Diego August 12-15. We look forward to seeing you there!

Sandra J. Bishop-Josef, Ph. D. is a developmental psychologist who is currently Assistant Director at Yale University’s Edward Zigler Center in Child Development and Social Policy and an Associate Research Scientist at the Child Study Center, Yale School of Medicine. She previously held appointments at Massachusetts General Hospital and in the Department of Child Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School. In 1996-1997, she was the Esther Katz Rosen Congressional Fellow in Children’s Policy and worked on the Labor and Human Resources Committee staff of Senator Edward M. Kennedy. Dr. Bishop-Josef’s primary interest is in applying empirical research on child development to the formulation of social policy. She directs the Zigler Center’s fellowship training program which gives young researchers and clinicians the opportunity to conduct policy-relevant research, learn about current policy issues affecting children and families, gain an understanding of how policy is made and develop some of the skills necessary to work effectively in the policy arena. Dr. Bishop-Josef has conducted research and engaged in policy analyses in the area of child maltreatment. Her interests also include early childhood intervention programs and other services (mental health, early childhood education) children receive. Finally, she is interested in children’s rights and the usefulness of a rights-based framework for improving child and family policies, and, ultimately, child outcomes.

Dr. Bishop-Josef’s publications include the edited volumes *Child Development and Social Policy Knowledge for Action* (APA Books, 2007) and *Children’s Play The Roots of Reading* (Zero to Three, 2003), as well as several peer-reviewed papers, book chapters, and editorials.

Dr. Bishop-Josef is the 2010 President of the Society for Child and Family Policy and Practice (Division 37). She has previously served as Co-chair of the Division 37 Task Force on Advocacy Training and as a consultant to the Divisions 27/37 Policy Advocacy Task Force. Dr. Bishop-Josef is also a member of the Section on Child Maltreatment (Section 1, Division 37) and has served the section as Member-at-large, Chair of the Social Policy Committee, Program Chair, and member of the Task Force on Physical Punishment of Children.
The Society for Child and Family Policy and Practice was one of more than twenty organizations to provide support for an interdisciplinary summit held last year, Healthy Development: A Summit on Young Children’s Mental Health. The Summit emphasized collaboration among researchers from many disciplines such as mental health experts, other stakeholders, and communication scientists about the importance of children's mental health for optimal development in order to inform public attitudes and public policy. The key findings and policy implications from the Summit are now being shared for advocacy.

The origins of the Summit date back to the declaration of a crisis in children’s mental health care in the “Report of the Surgeon General’s Conference on Children’s Mental Health: A National Action Agenda” (US Public Health Service, 2001). Following this report, APA took several steps: forming a cross-directorate Working Group on Children’s Mental Health to identify key strategies that APA should pursue; creating a Task Force on Psychology’s Agenda for Child and Adolescent Mental Health to develop implementation plans (which then became the work plan for the APA Interdivisional Task Force on Children’s Mental Health), and, in 2006, convening a planning group meeting to explore a national Summit on children’s mental health. Because interdisciplinary collaboration was felt to be critical to the success of the Summit, SRCD became the lead organizational sponsor in 2007. The Summit planning committee included Barry Anton, Mary Campbell, Mary Ann McCabe (chair), Karen Saywitz, Stephen Shirk, Patrick Tolan, and Don Wertlieb.

The Summit was held at the University of Denver in conjunction with the biennial meeting of SRCD in April, 2009. The meeting was dedicated to the life and work of Jane Knitzer, a longtime advocate for scientifically-based mental health policy. Summit participants included 42 experts who represented diverse perspectives (e.g., advocacy, economics, nursing, pediatrics, policymaking, psychology, psychiatry, social work); it was this very diversity that was believed to be necessary to generate the difficult dialog that could move progress. Mental health was broadly defined as including mental, social, emotional, and behavioral health. The focus of the Summit was early childhood because science clearly demonstrates the importance of young children’s mental health for healthy development, the effectiveness of early prevention and intervention, and the economic benefits of early investment.

The format of the Summit included a few presentations designed to catalyze discussion about young children’s mental health - what promotes it and what derails it. However, the real work of the meeting happened in four small groups, each focused on one of the domains in children’s mental health outlined by Tolan and Dodge (2005): (1) The importance of mental health for normal child development; (2) Everyday challenges for parents; (3) Prevention opportunities; and (4) Child mental health disorders: Treatment works. Each group discussed: Among those findings that are empirically supported, what are the most critical and useful ideas to improve public understanding? An important aspect of the Summit was the participation of communication scientists from FrameWorks Institute, who are conducting ongoing work to apply Strategic Frame Analysis™ to children’s mental health. The Summit agenda, bios for participants, speaker slides, and other materials can be found at http://www.srcd.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=353&Itemid=1

Each of the four small groups generated several “key points” supported by research that garnered consensus as being the most critical to improving public understanding about children’s mental health. Additionally, converging themes were noted across groups (e.g., the importance of reducing the effects
of poverty), and healthy tensions were identified that pose ongoing challenges (e.g., balancing funding for research with funding for programs and services). The Summit proceedings, including all of these ideas, can be found in the report of the Summit at [www.apa.org/pi/families/summit-report.pdf](http://www.apa.org/pi/families/summit-report.pdf).

The Summit report was disseminated in early 2010 to more than 500 stakeholders, including advocates, leaders of professional organizations, state and local policymakers, and staff of federal agencies. However, a final step in the dissemination process was a Congressional staff briefing held on May 3, commemorating the beginning of both Children’s Mental Health Week and Mental Health Month. The briefing was designed to broaden policymakers’ view of children’s mental health as spanning the four domains of the Summit and to heighten awareness of the importance of promotion, prevention, and intervention for young children’s mental health. It is hoped that children’s mental health will be considered, in terms of both priority setting and funding, in many policy areas currently under consideration, such as: child care, early education, education reform, teacher preparation, school bullying, welfare reform, child welfare, disasters, health disparities, health care reform, health care delivery systems, and mental health parity.

Speakers for the briefing were all participants at the Summit, including: Mary Campbell, M.S., Director of the APA Office for Children, Youth and Families (moderator); Carol Brunson Day, Ph.D., Executive Director of the National Black Child Development Institute; Mary Ann McCabe, Ph.D., Associate Clinical Professor at the George Washington University School of Medicine and Affiliate Faculty at George Mason University; Karen Saywitz, Ph.D., Professor at the UCLA School of Medicine (and Division 37 representative to APA Council); Jean Smith, M.D., a developmental pediatrician in Wake County, NC; and Don Werlieb, Ph.D., Professor at Tufts University. Commentaries were provided by Joan Lombardi, Ph.D., Deputy Assistant Secretary and Inter-Departmental Liaison for Early Childhood Development, Administration for Children and Families (ACF) and Corina Barrow, RN, MSN, Military Nurse Fellow in the office of Senator Inouye. The standing-room only audience included staff from Congressional offices, federal agencies, professional organizations and advocacy groups. Speaker slides and additional materials from the briefing can be found under Policy Events on the SRCD webpage at [http://www.srcd.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=57&Itemid=527](http://www.srcd.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=57&Itemid=527).

The planning committee hopes that the Summit will inform public policy for children’s mental health, and would like to extend heartfelt thanks to Division 37 for its early and continuous support. Please join us for a Division 37 Conversation Hour to discuss next steps following the Summit at the APA convention in San Diego on Friday, August 13 at 2:00pm!

References:

Members of the Summit Planning Group at the Congressional staff briefing. Left to right: Patrick Tolan, Karen Saywitz, Mary Campbell, Mary Ann McCabe, Barry Anton, and Don Werlieb. Not shown here: Stephen Shirk.
As many of you know, one month each spring is designated as National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Since 1983, the President of the United States has issued a proclamation every April, encouraging public awareness of child abuse and neglect and promoting community involvement to address the problem. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Administration for Children and Families has recently released the most current U.S. statistics on child abuse and neglect in its annual report “Child Maltreatment 2008” which can be found at: http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/pubs/cm08/.

Current statistics indicate that an estimated 772,000 children in the United States were determined to be victims of abuse or neglect during the year 2008. Perhaps most alarming is the fact that, of those victims, children from birth to 1 year had the highest rate of victimization. These figures help to remind us of the Section’s obligation to support and promote scientific inquiry, training, professional practice, and advocacy in the area of child maltreatment in order to improve the lives of children and their families.

In an effort to meet this obligation, various members of the Section have been engaged in a number of laudable activities over the last several months. There is a new interdivisional task force forming on adoption and foster care. We would like to include Section representation on this task force. Mary Haskett will serve as our initial liaison to this task force and would like to include anyone from the Section who might be interested in being involved. Please contact Mary if you have interest (Mary_Haskett@ncsu.edu). Amy Damashek, our new Member-at-Large, is currently working on updating the Section’s website which will include a brand new look and a greater number of resources for our members. Lisa Jones, Member-at-Large, has recently moved into the Section's position of Chair of the Social Policy Committee. In this role, she will be leading an effort to review the literature and provide policy recommendations on the need for improved child abuse and neglect epidemiological data. If you are interested in helping Lisa with this effort, please feel free to contact me (cindy.perrin@pepperdine.edu). Efforts to maintain and increase membership in the Section continue, under the leadership of our hard-working membership Chair, David Kolko and Member-at-Large, Rochelle Hanson. If you have not renewed your membership, please do so as soon as possible at the Section’s website (www.apa.org/divisions/div37/child_maltreatment/child.html). You can download the appropriate form and send your check directly to APA.

Our current APA Program Chair, Jenelle Shanley, has been busy planning Section activities for the 2010 APA Convention to be held in San Diego, California (August 12-15). Both Division 37 and the Section are offering a number of presentations of interest to child maltreatment professionals as well as a number of interesting Hospitality Suite events (see the Division 37 Program Summary and Hospitality Suite schedule included in this issue of the Advocate). The program includes several symposia that are relevant to the Section’s efforts. The first is the Section’s Presidential symposium entitled Human Trafficking of Children. The symposium will focus on some of the efforts of an interdivisional task force on human trafficking. Presenters will focus on the parameters of child trafficking, potential negative effects, as well as possible intervention and prevention efforts. The symposium will feature presentations by me as well as Thema Bryant-Davis, Nathan Moon, and Melissa Anderson-Hinn. Other symposia will focus on Child Sexual Exploitation, Evidence-based Practices to Prevent Child Maltreatment, and Ethnicity, Culture, and Child Maltreatment. In addition to offering these symposia, the Division and Section will host a Question and Answer period in the Hospitality Suite following each symposium.
In closing, I would like to invite anyone interested in becoming involved in the Section and its activities to attend our annual Executive Committee meeting at the APA Convention. The meeting will take place in the Section’s Hospitality Suite on Friday, August 13 from 12-2 pm. We need your commitment and expertise! Please also consider nominating yourself or a colleague for one of our open positions on our Executive Committee (see announcements included in this issue of the Advocate). Feel free to contact me about the many ways in which you might be involved in the Section (cindy.perrin@pepperdine.edu). I would be pleased for you to join the Section in its efforts to promote safer families and communities. I hope to see you all in San Diego this August!

Cindy Miller-Perrin, Ph.D. is the Chair of the Social Science Division at Pepperdine University, Malibu, California. She is also Professor of Psychology and Blanche E. Seaver Professor of Social Science at Pepperdine. A clinical child psychologist, Dr. Miller-Perrin has been a leader in the field of child maltreatment and family violence for the past 20 years. She has coauthored three books including Child Sexual Abuse: Sharing the Responsibility (with S. Wurtele, University of Nebraska Press, 1992), Child Maltreatment: An Introduction (with R. Perrin, 1999, 2007) and Family Violence Across the Lifespan (with O. Barnett and R. Perrin, 1999, 2005). She is also the author or coauthor of a number of articles and book chapters on topics including child sexual abuse prevention, perceptions associated with child maltreatment, family violence, and psychology and religion. She enjoys teaching and researching with undergraduates and is the recipient of the 2008 Howard A. White Award for Teaching Excellence. She has also received honors for her research, including the 2008 Pro Humanitate for a paper published in Child Maltreatment. She is currently serving as the President of the Section on Child Maltreatment of the Division 37 Society for Child and Family Policy and Practice.

I hope that all of you are planning to attend the APA convention this August in San Diego! APA is a great way to meet other psychology students and professionals interested in child and family policy and practice. This year we are organizing a student social hour in conjunction with Division 53 (Society for Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology) and 54 (Society of Pediatric Psychology). I hope you all join in collaborating with other divisions, which is a great way to share information and interests related to child and family policy.

Another activity to look forward to is the Third Annual Speed Mentoring which will be held on Friday, August 13th at 7pm. Last year this event was a big hit with many students who felt that the informal environment was a great way to learn from individuals who have seen the field of child and family mental health evolve over the years. The individuals at the mentoring workshop have a lot to offer in terms of knowledge and expertise in child maltreatment and policy. Please take advantage of this great opportunity! Other events to look forward to at convention are a wide range of symposia covering topics in children’s mental health such as human trafficking, revisions to the ICD/DSM, child maltreatment prevention, and child sexual exploitation.

Finally, Division 37 is creating a student board that will be comprised of 6 students on 3 committees: Membership, Student Outreach, and Programming. Anyone interested in becoming a member should submit an application by August 1st to Sangeeta@ku.edu. Applications should include: 1) A copy of your CV; 2) A brief (one page) statement of why you would like to join the board, which committees you would like to be a part of (please indicate 2 and rank order them), and why you would be suited for the position.
If you have any questions or topics of interest you would like to discuss please join the Division 37 student listserv, which provides a forum for students to stay connected. To join the listserv simply go to Division 37’s website (http://www.apa.org/divisions/div37/) and follow the link to join. Thanks for reading and I look forward to seeing you in August!

Sangeeta Parikshak, M.S., is a doctoral student in the Clinical Child Psychology Program at the University of Kansas. She received her B.A. from Brown University and her M.S. in Psychology from DePaul University where she completed her master’s thesis examining court officials training in child maltreatment cases. Her research interests include child abuse and neglect, protective factors in children, parenting across cultures, and cultural differences in psychological development. She has received travel grants from APA and is the recipient of a fellowship from APA’s Minority Fellowship Program. She is the Graduate Student Representative for the APA Society for Child and Family Policy and Practice.

As summer arrived in Washington, DC, the news cycle relentlessly served up crisis-level headlines from the national and international stages. Furthermore, with the U.S. midterm elections impending, policy matters, such as the repeal of Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell and final negotiations over the financial overhaul legislation, barely dented the front pages of domestic newspapers.

In the midst of this fixation on the urgent and political, however, it was becoming clearer that laws enacted since the start of 2010 would carry lasting consequences for government and society. Understanding the outcomes of these changes, of course, requires the benefit of time, but the situation underscores the capacity for considerable reform in the most charged of political atmospheres.

Likely benefitting from some distance from the spotlight, positive movement continues on child and family issues. Unfortunately, red ink in the federal budget may portend difficult times for certain programs related to these populations, but advocates and policymakers continue to work to craft sound, cost-effective policy. What follows is an update from APA’s Public Interest Government Relations Office on its priorities and activities related to children and families.

Children’s Mental Health

Congressional Briefing. On May 3, APA co-sponsored a congressional briefing held by the Society for Research in Child Development on the report of Healthy Development: A Summit on Young Children’s Mental Health. This critical effort brought top experts in the field together with leading communications scientists to produce a work that outlines how best to communicate with the public and policymakers about children’s mental health.

**Fellows Applications: Division 37**

Applications for new Fellow status are now being accepted from individuals who are members of Division 37. Applications must be completed and submitted by November 15, 2010.

Send all nominations, applications, and requests for applications to:

Diane J. Willis, Ph.D.
Professor Emeritus, OUHSC
4520 Ridgeline Drive
Norman, OK 73072
Diane-Willis@ouhsc.edu

**From the Hill**

Crises, Politics, and Movement on Critical Issues

Micah Haskell-Hoehl

American Psychological Association
health issues. Mary Campbell, Director of APA’s Office on Children, Youth, and Families, moderated the panel, and APA members Mary Ann McCabe, PhD, Karen Saywitz, PhD, and Donald Werlieb, PhD, provided remarks and responded to questions from the capacity audience.

**National Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day (NCMHAD).** 2010 marked the fifth anniversary of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s (SAMHSA) NCMHAD. PI-GRO worked closely with APA’s Children, Youth, and Families Office to ensure strong cross promotion of relevant SAMHSA and APA resources. APA also used the event to disseminate the Report of Healthy Development: A Summit on Young Children’s Mental Health.

**Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)**

**ESEA Reauthorization.** In preparation for the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, last reauthorized as No Child Left Behind, APA’s Education GRO and PI-GRO worked in close coordination to develop comprehensive, association-wide priorities for this critical law. Sent to the House of Representatives in late March and the Senate in late April, this set of recommendations addresses critical issues for APA in federal education policy, including: promoting school mental health and preserving existing mental health programs; improving school climate and reducing the use of zero tolerance practices; increasing the use of bullying prevention, threat assessment, social and emotional learning programs, and school-wide positive behavior supports; defining ‘teaching skills’ within the law; addressing the underreported problem of violence against teachers; using core knowledge from psychology in teacher professional development; and many others.

ESEA officially expired in October of 2007 and has been extended in its 2002 form, No Child Left Behind, since that time. Committees of jurisdiction in the House and Senate continue to work on details of this critical reauthorization, and the Obama Administration released earlier this year its Blueprint for Reform. Contentious issues, including teacher merit pay and testing and assessment, have made progress difficult, and advocates anticipate now anticipate a likely 2011 reauthorization.

APA’s Education GRO and PI-GRO continue to work with congressional committees and members to secure the inclusion of key association priority within this forthcoming legislation.

**Education of Neglected, Delinquent, and At-Risk Children and Youth.** PI-GRO responded to a Senate request for more information about meeting the needs of students served by Title I, Part D of ESEA, which provides federal funds and guidance for programs for neglected, delinquent, and at-risk youth. Over recent years, stories emerged of funds under this part of the law supporting unnecessary residential treatment facility (RTF) placements; youth in these settings frequently receive sub-standard educational programming. PI-GRO worked with APA expert members to develop recommendations for meeting the disproportionate mental and behavioral health needs of this population, while also ensuring maximum stability in educational placements and creating procedural requirements for Title I, Part D funds to support RTF placements.

**Juvenile Justice**

**Congressional Testimony**

**APA Member Testifies.** On March 11, Linda Teplin, PhD, presented a statement to the House Education and Labor Subcommittee on Healthy Families and Communities based on her study of Chicago youth detained in the juvenile justice system. Her written testimony addressed the needs of all youth—boys and girls—while her oral remarks outlined the stark situation faced by detained girls, including:

- mental health disorders in 75 percent of girls;
- co-morbid disorders in over 50 percent of girls; and
problems related to histories of physical and sexual abuse and post-traumatic stress disorder.

Dr. Teplin also made recommendations for improving service delivery to these youth, including:

- increasing diversion before detention;
- improving mental health screening at intake and detention;
- appropriate treatment in detention and connection to community-based care, upon release; and
- the need for appropriate interventions for co-morbid disorders.

Joint Statement. PI-GRO spearheaded the submission of written testimony from APA, the Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law, Mental Health America, and the National Disability Rights Network for an April 21 hearing held by the U.S. House Committee on Education and Labor on Reforming the Juvenile Justice System to Improve Children's Lives and Public Safety. The joint statement recommended changes to the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act to address critical challenges related to mental health, such as the high rate of need for services and child custody relinquishment. Recommendations included creating incentives for better cross-agency collaboration, promoting evidence-based practices, increasing diversion, and improving training and technical assistance.

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). In May and June, PI-GRO engaged in efforts to raise awareness around critical mental and behavioral health issues in juvenile justice policy. These activities included ad hoc coalition meetings with lead OJJDP staff and a briefing given by the National Center for Mental Health and Juvenile Justice for members of the Mental Health Liaison Group. APA and other groups undertook these activities out of concern for the recent omission of mental and behavioral health priorities in Department of Justice policy documents on juvenile justice.

Get Involved in Advocacy!

We invite you to join our Public Policy Advocacy Network (PPAN) by visiting us at http://www.apa.org/ppo/ppan/homepage.html. Through PPAN, you can sign up for our timely action alerts and you can stay informed about (and involved in) federal policy. In addition, if you are interested in becoming involved in legislative and regulatory initiatives impacting children, youth, and families, please contact Micah Haskell-Hoehl at 202.336.6166.

Micah Haskell-Hoehl is the Senior Policy Associate at the Public Interest Government Relations Office of the American Psychological Association (APA). In this role, he is responsible for issues related to education, children’s mental health, violence prevention, criminal justice, media and technology, and other children, youth, and families issues. Micah represents APA at numerous national coalitions, serves on the Advisory Board of the Center for School Mental Health at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, and sits on the Steering Committee of the Mental Health Liaison Group (MHLG) and co-chairs the MHLG Social Policy Committee. He also coordinates all communications efforts for the office and serves as Administrator of APA’s Congressional Fellowship Program, a prestigious program that provides APA members the opportunity to serve for a year on the staff of a Member of Congress or Congressional Committee.

Prior to joining APA in 2007, Micah worked in the Government Relations Office of the College Board, where he was involved in advocacy efforts and the production of annual reports on college pricing, student aid, and outcomes associated with postsecondary degree completion. He graduated cum laude from Indiana University with a major in psychology, a cognitive science concentration, and a minor in American studies. His thesis addressed deviant behavior among youth and patterns of contact with law enforcement and the distribution of mental health services.
Thursday, August 12, 2010

11:00 AM - 12:50 PM Symposium: Improving Effectiveness of Community-Based Child Mental Health Care—Data-Drive Recommendations; San Diego Convention Center, Room 16A

1:00 PM - 1:50 PM Symposium: Experiences of Child Caregivers—What Do We Know Now?; San Diego Convention Center, Room 31B

3:00 PM - 3:50 PM Symposium: Refugee Child and Family Resilience—An APA Task Force Symposium; San Diego Convention Center, Room 29B

Friday, August 13, 2010

8:00 AM - 8:50 AM Symposium: Evidence-Based Practices to Prevent Child Maltreatment; San Diego Convention Center, Room 31C

9:00 AM - 9:50 AM Symposium: Child Sexual Exploitation—A Global Perspective and National Prevention Plan; San Diego Convention Center, Room 31B

11:00 AM - 11:50 AM Poster Session I; San Diego Convention Center, Exhibit Hall ABC

2:00 PM - 2:50 PM Conversation Hour: Summit on Young Children’s Mental Health—Ways Forward; San Diego Convention Center, Room 31B

3:00 PM - 4:50 PM Business Meeting and Section Presidential Address: Human Trafficking of Children; San Diego Convention Center, Room 29D

5:00 PM - 5:50 PM Invited Address: Nicholas Hobbs Award; Distinguished Contribution to Child Advocacy Award; San Diego Convention Center, Room 22

6:00 PM - 6:50 PM Social Hour: Networking Together to Advance Children's Mental Health; San Diego Marriott Hotel, Torrey Rooms 1 and 2

Saturday, August 14, 2010

9:00 AM - 9:50 AM Symposium: Classification and Diagnosis for Children and Adolescents—ICD/DSM Revisions; San Diego Convention Center, Room 29B

11:00 AM - 11:50 AM Poster Session II; San Diego Convention Center, Exhibit Hall ABC

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM Symposium: Improving the Well-Being of Children and Families—Through the Public Health Lens; San Diego Convention Center, Room 25A

1:00 PM - 1:50 PM Symposium: Challenges and Opportunities in Rural and Small Community Practice; San Diego Convention Center, Room 26B

Sunday, August 15, 2010

9:00 AM - 9:50 AM Symposium: Ethnicity, Culture, and Child Maltreatment—Where Are We Now?; San Diego Convention Center, Room 32A

11:00 AM - 11:50 AM Symposium: Trials and Tribulations of Translational Research; San Diego Convention Center, Room 25C

Note: Please check convention program book as locations and times are subject to change.
Division 37 Society for Child and Family Policy and Practice
Section on Child Maltreatment

The Hospitality Suite is located at:
San Diego Marriott Hotel and Marina
333 West Harbor Drive
San Diego, CA 92101
Room to be determined

Please feel free to stop by or contact Jenelle Shanley (Jenelle.Shanley@gmail.com) if there are other meetings you would like to schedule in the suite.

Hospitality Suite Schedule

**Thursday, August 12th**
- 2pm to 3pm: Experiences of Child Caregivers Symposium Question & Answer
- 4pm to 5pm: Refugee Child and Family Resilience Symposium Question & Answer
- 5pm to 6pm: Division 37 Executive Committee Meeting

**Friday, August 13th**
- 10am to 11am: Child Sexual Exploitation Symposium Question & Answer
- 12pm to 2pm: Section on Child Maltreatment Executive Committee Meeting
- 7pm to 8pm: Meet a Mentor - Connecting With Mentors in Research, Practice, and Policy

**Saturday, August 14th**
- 10am to 11am: ICD/DSM Revisions Symposium Question & Answer
- 2pm to 3pm: Rural and Small Community Practice Symposium Question & Answer
- 6pm to 7pm: Division 37 Student Social Hour (Location to be determined)

**Sunday, August 15th**
- 10am to 11am: Ethnicity, Culture, and Child Maltreatment Symposium Question & Answer

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**Division 37 Call for Submissions: 2011 Convention in Washington, DC**

It’s time to begin planning to submit symposia and posters for the August 4-7, 2011 APA Convention in Washington, DC! The major theme for the Division’s 2011 APA Convention will be on **Strengthening Parenting in Real-World Practice and Policy**. This theme encourages papers on bringing the evidence base on parenting and parenting-related interventions to a wide range of practice and policy contexts. We are particularly interested in papers that address (1) dissemination and implementation processes and outcomes, (2) children and families at risk, and (3) parenting across diverse situations (e.g., teen parenting, adoption, parents with disabilities). Research and program evaluations pertinent to these three themes, child maltreatment, and child, adolescent and family mental health are encouraged. For symposia, indicate whether the presenter(s) would also consider poster discussion formats.

**Student Poster Awards**

Poster presentations are a wonderful way to share research and program evaluations. Awards are made for best student posters. **To be eligible for these awards the student must be the first author.**

Directions for submissions and on-line submission are available at [www.apa.org](http://www.apa.org). The submission deadline is December 1, 2010.

We look forward to your submissions!

Karen S. Budd, PhD  
President-Elect, Division 37

Aaron R. Lyon, PhD  
Division 37 Program Chair, 2011
2010 Distinguished Contribution to Child Advocacy Award: Dr. Ellen L. Bassuk, M.D.

This award is presented to a non-psychologist who has made significant contributions to advocacy on behalf of children, youth, and families.

Dr. Ellen Bassuk is an Associate Professor of Psychiatry and founder/president of The National Center on Family Homelessness, the nation’s preeminent authority on family homelessness. As a clinical researcher, psychiatrist, and advocate, she is at the forefront of research and evaluation, program design, and service delivery on behalf of homeless children and families. Her 1984 seminal study, *Is homelessness a mental health problem?*, challenged conventional understanding of homelessness as primarily a social problem which simply required more housing. Additionally, her 2009 study, *America’s Youngest Outcasts: A State Report Card on Child Homelessness*, raised attention in the highest policy-making groups in the country, guaranteeing a seat at the table for poor, marginalized, homeless women and children. She is currently the project director for the National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative’s National Collaborative for Trauma Surviving Homeless Children, and she is the technical project director for the federal Chronic Homelessness Initiative.

2010 Nicholas Hobbs Award: W. Rodney Hammond, Ph.D.

The Hobbs Award was established in 1983 and is presented annually to a psychologist who exemplifies the ideals and devotion to child advocacy and policy characterized by Dr. Hobbs.

Dr. Hammond is currently the Director of the Division of Violence Prevention, which is the largest Division within the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control at the Center for Disease Control. The Division oversees research, surveillance, and programs in intentional injury, homicide, suicide, child maltreatment, family and intimate partner violence, and sexual assault prevention. The Division includes multi-disciplinary staff in public health, medicine, behavioral and social sciences, and health psychology and has a budget of over $100,000,000. As well as facilitating the work of others he has directly contributed to using scientific knowledge in nationally recognized programs such as *Dealing with Anger: A Violence Prevention Program for African American Youth* and *Project Pact* (Positive Adolescents Choices Training) which have had successful violence prevention outcomes in schools and community settings. Dr. Hammond has been an effective, cogent, and resolute voice for science-based public policies that invest early in children, youth, and families to promote healthy social and emotional development/environments.
Section Elections

The Section on Child Maltreatment will hold an election for three positions on the Executive Committee, with terms to begin January 1, 2011:

Nominations are now being sought for these positions: President-Elect, Secretary, Member-at-Large

President-Elect:
The President-Elect serves a term of two years. The President-Elect serves as a member of the Executive Committee with the right to vote, and performs the duties traditionally assigned to a Vice-President. In the event that the President is unable to serve his/her full term for any reason, the President-Elect becomes the successor and serves through his/her own term, but with the total number of years not to exceed three.

Secretary:
The Secretary serves for a term of three years. The Secretary serves as a member of the Executive Committee with the right to vote, safeguards all records of the Section, and keeps the minutes of the meetings of the Section and of the Executive Committee, assists the President in preparing the agenda for business meetings of the Section and of the Executive Committee, maintain coordination with the Division and the Central Office of the American Psychological Association, issues calls and notices of meetings, informs the President in preparing the agenda for business meetings of the Section and of the Executive Committee, informs the membership of action taken by the Executive Committee, and performs all other usual duties of a Secretary.

Member-at-Large:
Each of the Section’s three Members-at-Large provide direction to the Executive Committee and, in consultation with the other members of the Executive Committee, creates and carries out at least one project over his or her 3-year term.

Participation on the Section Executive Committee helps to promote the mission of the Section and is an effective way of starting or expanding participation in a range of Section, Division, and APA activities. Previous experience in Section or Division activities is not required, and people who have never held an office in APA and who are eager to participate in Section activities are encouraged to apply. To run for and to serve in office, membership in the Section is required. All terms begin January 1, 2011.

Self-nominations are encouraged. Self-nominations may be made by sending a vitae and letter of interest. Those wishing to nominate someone else should check to see that he or she would be willing to accept the nomination, and then submit a letter or nomination. The nominee will also be asked to submit a curriculum vitae to the Elections Committee.

Nominations must be received by November 10, 2010, so that candidates will have sufficient time to submit a brief statement that will be printed with the ballot.

All nominations should be sent to:
Anthony P. Mannarino, PhD
Professor and Vice President
Drexel University College of Medicine
Four Allegheny Center
Pittsburg, PA 15212
amannari@wpahs.org
Dear Division 37 and Section 1 Members,

As you prepare for the APA Summer Convention in San Diego, please visit the Division 37 website to preview the exciting program on the Convention page. Also, be sure to tell your students about the excellent Graduate Program Guide on the Section website for students interested in pursuing a graduate degree (MA, Ph.D., Psy.D.) in a program that offers training in the area of child maltreatment. As always, I welcome your thoughts and ideas about how best to serve your communications and technology needs. Please feel free to contact me at lcamparo@whittier.edu.

Best regards,
Lori Camparo

Division 37 Listserv and Division 37 Student Listserv

Join the 451 other Division 37 members and 88 students who already subscribe to the Division 37 listserv and Division 37 Student listserv. The listservs are a quick and easy way to request or share information and learn about upcoming funding opportunities, meetings, research, practice, and policy related to children, youth, and families. Subscribing is easy:

- For the Div37 listserv, send an e-mail to apadiv37@yahoo.com. In the subject line type “new member,” and include your first and last name in your request.
- For the Div37 Student listserv, send an e-mail to div37stu@yahoo.com. In the subject line type “new member,” and include your first and last name in your request.

Your subscription request should be processed within a few days. If you have any questions, please contact Lori Camparo at the e-mail addresses listed above.

Division 37 Website

Bookmark Division 37’s website, www.apa.org/divisions/div37, and visit it often for important information about Division 37 and Section 1 activities and opportunities, and to access recent issues of The Advocate. While you are there, browse through the Division 37 program for the upcoming APA Convention in San Diego.

Lorinda Camparo received her Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology from UCLA and is an Associate Professor in the Psychology Department at Whittier College. Her research focuses on two areas: the efficacy and developmental appropriateness of various techniques for interviewing children about forensically relevant information and the development of prejudice.

Dr. Camparo is a member of the Executive Committee for American Psychological Association’s Division 37, Society for Child and Family Policy and Practice. She has served Division 37 as Program Chair and Editor of Division 37’s newsletter, The Advocate (three three-year appointments). She began a three-year term as Member-at-Large for Communication and Technology for Division 37 in January, 2009. Beyond her teaching and scholarship activities, Dr. Camparo also provides seminars on child development and child forensic interviewing for lawyers, judges, police officers, and social workers, and has served as an expert witness on cases involving children alleging sexual abuse.
On the eve of 15,000 psychologists assembling in San Diego for the upcoming annual American Psychological Association Convention in August, I thought that readers interested in child and family advocacy would like to hear about the strong advocacy for children demonstrated by California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

On Monday, 26 April 2010, the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) agreed to hear “Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor of California, et al., Petitioners v. Entertainment Merchants Association, et al.” (docket 08-1448) on appeal from the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in Sacramento. The issue revolves around a recent regulation passed by the California Legislature, and signed into law by Governor Schwarzenegger, which prohibits the rental or sale of violent video games to anyone under the age of 18. The law never took effect because it was blocked by a court challenge from the video game industry, claiming that video games are protected forms of expression under the First Amendment. In opposition, supporters of the law argued that the same legal justifications for banning children’s access to pornography can support a ban on the extreme violence of M-rated, or mature, video games.

And so, somewhere in the Board Rooms of the video gaming industry, WMDs (“Weapons of Mass Deregulation”) are being constructed for use in the initial hearing before the Supreme Court later this Fall. And, in a bomb-proof room under The Michigan Stadium (known to sports fans as “The Big House”), University of Michigan psychologist Brad Bushman and a gaggle of like-minded psychologists and lawyers, along with assorted rabble rousers (aka, child and family advocates) are constructing an Amicus Curiae brief for the Supreme Court, based upon over a half century of research on media violence and its effects on children (e.g., Anderson et al., 2010; Bushman & Huesmann, 2008; Grossman, 1996; Murray, 2008; Pecora, Murray & Wartella, 2007; Strasburger, Wilson & Jordan, 2009; Thompson, 2005; Vorderer & Bryant, 2006). Hmm, that is a bit melodramatic and begins to sound like a bad premise for a violent video game….perhaps, a more genteel summary would be to note that differing points of view about the results of research and the impact of media violence on children are likely to be discussed by the various parties in the SCOTUS.

This is not exactly terra incognita because the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) have wrestled with issues concerning the protection of children from media violence and, in the 1990s, the topic was a popular Law School forum, such as that in the Hofstra Law Review (Friedman, 1994; Rabinowitz, 1994).

One of the major points of discussion will be whether there is sufficient evidence of harm or risk to children and adolescents from viewing violence and playing violent video games. As you might imagine, there have been many debates about these issues. One of the most focused inquiries on violence began in the 1960’s—following the assassinations of President John F. Kennedy, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Senator Robert Kennedy—by the establishment of the National Commission on the Causes and Prevention of Violence. In 1969, the Violence Commission issued a “bookshelf” of reports, nine volumes in all, on various aspects of violence in American society and, in one volume devoted to media violence (Baker & Ball, 1969), the authors concluded that viewing television and film violence was one contributor to the violence in society. This was quickly followed by the establishment of a special research program, under the direction of the United States Surgeon General, to investigate the specific effects of television violence on children (Surgeon General’s Scientific Advisory Committee on Television and Social Behavior, 1972; Murray, 1973).
In the ensuing years, various commissions and committees were established to review the evidence on the impact of media violence on children. Prominent among the reviews were the reports from the National Institute of Mental Health (1982), the Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry (1982), American Psychological Association (Huston et al., 1992; Eron, Gentry, & Schlegel, 1994), and the American Academy of Pediatrics (2001). All of these reports led to the conclusion that viewing media violence adversely affects the attitudes, values and behavior of children and youth. These conclusions have been based on over 50 years of research (Pecora, Murray, & Wartella, 2007) or, perhaps, almost 100 years of research if we were to include the studies of the impact of media violence in radio, comic books, or films (e.g., Cressey & Thrasher, 1933) that pre-dated the concerns about television and video games.

What has changed over the 50 years of research on video violence is a growing understanding of the neurological components of the media-violence/aggression equation. We now have a sizable body of research that draws on the use of brain imaging, (fMRI) and other techniques that allow us to see where media violence is processed and stored in the child’s brain (Murray, 2011/in press). For example, the fMRI scans shown in Figure 1 (drawn from Murray, Liotti, Ingmundson et al, 2006) demonstrate that 8-12 year-old boys and girls who viewed violent video clips (boxing scenes from Sylvester Stallone’s *Rocky IV*) stored these images in the posterior cingulate, which is an area that is known to play a role in post-traumatic stress disorder—it is an area that stores significant images that have been accompanied by activation of the amygdala fear arousal response (in this study, the youngsters also activated the right amygdala along with the posterior cingulate). Other research, such as the work of group at the University of Indiana Medical School (e.g., Matthews et al., 2005) has demonstrated that these activations are also accompanied by a lack of activation in the prefrontal cortex—hence, a lack of forethought and integrated reasoning about the consequences of violent acts.

So, with this history of almost a century of concern about media violence and children, the discussion of the marketing and distribution of violent video games to minors that will take place in the Supreme Court case of *Schwarzenegger v. Entertainment Merchants Association* will provide insights into the resolve of our society to protect and enhance the lives of its youngest citizens. Stay tuned for the “Fall Season” of events.

References:
Cressey, P.G., & Thresher, F.M. (1933). *Boys, movies, and*
John P. Murray, Ph.D. is a Research Fellow in the Department of Psychology at Washington College; an Emeritus Professor of Developmental Psychology in the School of Family Studies and Human Services at Kansas State University; and a Visiting Scholar in the Center on Media and Child Health at Children’s Hospital Boston, Harvard Medical School.
He has conducted research on children’s social development for almost 40 years—starting in 1969 as a Research Coordinator for the Surgeon General’s Scientific Advisory Committee on Television and Social Behavior at the National Institute of Mental Health, in Washington. Subsequent appointments included teaching and research at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill; Macquarie University in Sydney, Australia; University of Michigan; the Boys Town Center for the Study of Youth Development; and Kansas State University.
His recent research projects are focused on children and violence and include studies mapping children’s brain activations—using functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI)—while the youngsters view violent and nonviolent videos, and studies of youth growing up in war zones and conflict areas.
Dr. Murray has published 14 books and about 90 articles on the social development of children and youth. His recent book—Children and Television: Fifty Years of Research (Norma O. Pecora, John P. Murray, & Ellen A.Wartella, Editors)—was published by Erlbaum Publishers in 2007.

expected, John P. Murray, Ph.D.
Child and Family Policy and Practice
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I am interested in joining APA Division 37.

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Fees for Div37 Membership only:  [  ] $35.00 for Members/Affiliates        [  ] $15.00 for Students

I would like to join Div37’s Section 1: Child Maltreatment
(Note:  Membership/affiliation in Div37 is encouraged but not required to join Section 1)

Fees for Section 1: Child Maltreatment Membership only:  [  ] $30.00 for Members/Affiliates     [  ] $20.00 for Students

Fees for Membership in both Div37 and Section 1:  [  ] $65.00 for Members/Affiliates     [  ] $35 for Students

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