

FOCUS TOPIC:

CHILDREN AND IMMIGRATION

CHILDREN AND IMMIGRATION - LOSS OF CHILD PROTECTION

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For professionals interested in child abuse and neglect, it is crucial to understand the complex factors that impact the lives of immigrant, refugee, or unaccompanied children and place them at risk. It is equally important for professionals to understand what kind of societal response exists to protect them. This article focuses on the unique vulnerabilities of these children and their families and presents examples of governmental and private responses to the issue. The locus of this discussion is the United States, where the immigration debate has permeated all sectors of society and grabbed ongoing public attention; however, the fundamental issues are naturally global and the debate in the U.S. mirrors a quandary confronted by many other countries, both those who see their citizens migrating to other places and those who see increased numbers of children and families entering their countries. This article offers resources, knowledge, ideas, and connections to organizations active in this field.

Protection from child abuse and neglect in the U.S. is sustained by a host of policies, services and approaches, among them a federal Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) that provides standards, national monitoring systems, a requirement of legal representation for every abuse and neglect judicial proceeding, and accountability for maltreated children by recognized public child welfare agencies in every state (or county), and tribe. The responsibility for child protection and child abuse and neglect prevention is publicly shared and transcends the family. As reported by NCANDS for 2007, more than one-half (57.7%) of all reports of alleged child abuse or neglect were made by professionals (teachers, police officers, lawyers, and social services staff). The remaining reports were made by nonprofessionals, including friends, neighbors, sports coaches, and relatives. An estimated 3.2 million referrals involving the alleged maltreatment of approximately 5.8 million children resulted in the determination that 794,000 children were victims of abuse or neglect during the year.

The national obligation to child protection and child welfare, however, intersects with immigration laws and the abilities of government, communities, and extended families to support parents so that they are prepared to raise their children become compromised. Immigrant families come to the attention of social services, particularly child welfare, predominantly for neglecting their children's basic needs (according to U.S. standards of neglect often unknown to newcomers) and for reasons that are common to native families as well: substance abuse, mental health and domestic violence, among others. However, the comprehensive service responses that help many citizen families overcome these problems are not easily accessible to most immigrant families and children. Factors that hinder the individual from accessing these services

such as language, culture, fear, or lack of awareness, are as important as other barriers such as eligibility due to immigration status and laws, lack of community supports, isolation, and funding. Without demonstrated improvements in parental capacity by parents, children may be taken from their families and placed in the foster care system, resulting in a missed opportunity for these children to grow with their own family and community and thus preserve their cultural identity and connections for their future.

The U.S. grew as a country of immigrants. According to the Migration Policy Institute, in 2007 there were about 16 million children age 17 and under with at least one immigrant parent. They accounted for 22.9 percent of the 69.9 million children and youth (age 17 and under) in the U.S.. Little consistent data exist to illustrate demographics that tell the story of immigration and its intersection with social services, the magnitude of the problem, and the impact of emerging practices that protect immigrant children. However, the generalized belief that immigrants are draining public resources has met multiple proofs and arguments that demonstrate the contrary. (*Undocumented Immigrants, Myths and Reality*. Randolph Capps, Michael E. Fix).

Immigrant youth may come to the attention of not only the child welfare system, but the juvenile justice system. Those who turn 18 while in the care of any system and whose immigration statuses are not determined confront compounded challenges. In spite of residence in the country, and often not knowing any other country, they are subject to detention and deportation. Workers charged with the supervision of these youth seldom have the knowledge or resources to pursue immigration status or legal reliefs since their role with immigrant children is still not fully understood and workers are generally not prepared to collaborate with immigration services.

The 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution guarantees citizenship to all individuals born in the United States, but thousands of children live in fear that their parents could be deported, and many have seen their families torn apart by immigration laws. Are the constitutional rights of these children being violated when the limitations imposed on their parents impact them, or when, in instances such as deportation, they too would have to leave the country or go into government care if their parents were forced to leave?

To answer this and other critical questions that put the lives of immigrant, refugee, and unaccompanied children in jeopardy, I invited a dialogue. In the following excerpts, we present perspectives ranging from the implementation of international frameworks and conventions to the systems in place in the U.S. to protect refugees and trafficked children, to the responses to needs of immigrant children by U.S. public agencies and coordination that takes place across borders, to examples of U.S. programs and coalitions, and to how international social work is organized when impacting U.S. children at home or abroad. Web links to these and other resources are provided. All contributors can be contacted with questions at CWMN@americanhumane.org.



Dear ISPCAN members,
Greetings from Argentina!

I am very pleased to be making two very important announcements in this edition of the Link newsletter.

First, ISPCAN's new office was officially opened on 7th December 2009 in Denver, Colorado. It is located in the Gary Pavilion at The Children's Hospital and we have been made very welcome by our nearest neighbours: the Kempe Foundation for the Prevention and Treatment of Child Abuse and Neglect, the Kempe Center, and the National Association of Counsel for Children.

The brand new office space provides ISPCAN with high quality, professional office work and meeting areas as well as with state-of-the-art conference rooms and superb technical facilities for video conferencing within the USA and internationally.

These technical facilities position ISPCAN in a unique situation regarding having an international training potential, in line with the short and mid term goals defined recently for our organization and with the needs of ongoing or under consideration projects (ITPI and consultation projects).

The added value to the material and technological advantages of the new office is that ISPCAN has returned to the city where it was founded and where it used to function until 1985 when Anne Cohn Donnelly took over the position of "Secretary General" and moved the activities associated with the Executive Council to Chicago, where she lived and worked.



The Gary Pavilion at
The Children's Hospital

The office is conveniently located approximately 15 minutes drive from the airport and 25 minutes from downtown Denver.

I hope many of you are able to come and visit ISPCAN's new office!

Prior to the move, ISPCAN donated 94 pieces of office furniture that would not be relocating with the office to Chicago area schools that truly needed the equipment. SCARCE, a local environmental education center, coordinated the donation to five schools.

The second announcement is regarding our staff. In December, Sherrie Bowen was appointed Acting Executive Director. Sherrie has been senior ISPCAN staff member since 2005. She brings to her new position not only her first-hand knowledge of the organization, but also her demonstrated professional skills and a deep commitment to ISPCAN's mission and goals. In addition on staff, we have Mary Yapur, Training Program Manager, who has been with us since October and is fluent in Spanish and also speaks French and Czech; and Kayla Manzel, Membership Assistant, whom some of you may have had the pleasure of meeting on ISPCAN's stand at the recent San Diego Conference. Having completed our move to Denver, we are now in the process of recruiting for the remaining vacant positions.



Mary Yapur, Kayla Manzel &
Sherrie Bowen (from left)

On leaving Chicago, we said goodbye to: Laura Stokes-Gray, who had been Interim Executive Director for the previous 11 months; Lauren Haney (Membership Coordinator), Camille Golden (Events Coordinator), and Tatyana Bessonov (Congress/Conference Manager). Chuck Wilson, our Web Manager, kindly agreed to work long distance for a time to provide continuity until we appoint a local person to this important role.

I am sure you will join me in thanking all those in our Chicago office for their work and commitment to ISPCAN, as well as welcoming the new members of staff in Denver.

We are also paying tribute to two very dear friends and colleagues in this LINK: Ruth Kempe, a founding member of ISPCAN, and Erin Konanc, who served as an ISPCAN Councilor.

Best Wishes,
Irene Intebi
ISPCAN President

Planned Giving

ISPCAN is proud to present the ISPCAN Gift Giving Program. Planning your future with ISPCAN in mind is yet another way to ensure a healthy future for children around the world. Charitable gifts help the International Society of Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect meet the needs of abused and neglected children worldwide. Your contribution, along with our dedication to ending global violence, abuse, and neglect, will produce a legacy that could empower children ready to lead the next generation of young minds and hearts towards a non-violent world. Your gift, no matter how large or small, will strengthen the protection that ISPCAN provides to the children we serve. We would be pleased to work with you to create a plan that will meet your individual needs and make a positive impact in a child's future.

Circle of Friends

If our planned giving program does not align with your current goals, consider becoming a part of ISPCAN's Circle of Friends Club. The Circle of Friends - Children's Legacy Program is a program created to provide you the opportunity to share, alongside others, your promise of a bright future to hundreds of thousands of children worldwide. This program solicits unrestricted support for ISPCAN's current and future projects and programs. As an ISPCAN Circle of Friends member, your contribution will further assist us in our efforts to advance the field of child abuse and neglect prevention. Your membership entitles you to be acknowledged for your generosity in our Annual Report, which is published each spring and circulated worldwide. Members will also enjoy being featured on the homepage of the ISPCAN website, and in our Link Publication and ITPI Newsletter.

For more information or to join one of these programs, please contact: ispcan@ispcan.org

3rd Arab ISPCAN Regional Conference, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia 1-4 March 2009

Under the patronage of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah Bin Abdul Aziz, the Saudi National Family Safety Program (NFSP) held the 3rd Arab-ISPCAN Regional Conference on Child Protection in King Faisal Convention Hall on 1-4 March 2009. In addition to the International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect and the Saudi National Guards Health Affairs, another 10 regional and international organizations, including WHO and UNICEF, participated in the organization of this event.

Over 1600 participants from 30 countries around the world attended this event. The participants were CAN professionals, politicians, policy makers, and children. More than 90 Arab and international speakers presented their papers in 20 general, specialized and research sessions, 2 training institutes and 16 workshops.

Children participated in the spectacular session "Current and Future Ministers: Children's Rights" where a panel of children discussed their rights with Saudi Ministers of Health, Education, Information and Culture, and Social Affairs. They also participated in a session on corporal punishment, the opening and closing ceremonies and the organization of the conference.

The following conference recommendations were announced at its conclusion:

1. Send a letter to the Custodian of the Holy Mosques King Abdullah Bin Abdul Aziz expressing conference gratitude for his generous patronage for the event.
2. National strategies and action plans for Child Abuse and Neglect are to be prepared, utilizing the outcomes of the UN Secretary General Study on Violence Against Children. The strategies and action plans should include effective multisectoral mechanisms for mandatory reporting, response, intervention, and rehabilitation.
3. Develop and implement Child Protection Laws in the Arab countries and develop mechanisms to ensure their application.
4. Encourage research and national surveys to recognize patterns of Child Abuse and Neglect in Arab countries and develop national data collection tools.
5. Include Child Rights in all educational curricula at the different levels.
6. Raise community awareness about child's rights and build the capacities of professionals in the field of prevention of violence against children including legal, health, education and policy makers.
7. Improve the quality of the services provided for vulnerable children or children with special needs.
8. Forbid all forms of children's corporal punishment in educational and social institutes and substitute them with positive disciplinary methods.
9. Enhance effective collaboration between governmental organizations, NGOs, and regional and international organizations in implementation of child rights and child protection strategies.
10. Provide high quality services for the victims of child abuse including medical care, social and psychological support, and legal services.
11. Prevent violence against children in the media and communication tools, and to enhance media professionals' capabilities on dealing with child abuse cases and to support the Arab Media Professional Network.
12. Encourage effective participation of children in their related policies and strategies through national childhood parliaments.
13. Support the role of NGOs in child rights and protection advocacy.
14. Establish child help lines in Arab countries and for them to be considered one of the child protection tools.
15. Support national and regional Arab networks working for the protection of children against violence.
16. Update the current information available on the child rights and protection web pages in the Arab countries.
17. The organizers shall distribute these recommendations to all involved parties through the Arab League.

The Children's Drawing Contest was concluded on Wednesday, 12 January 2009. The contest was very spectacular and participants ranged across all age groups. Over 2300 portraits representing Safe Childhood, Child and Family, Child's Rights, and Child Abuse were received.

The judges (academics in art, child drawing psychologists, and artists) were amazed by the children's production. The material and colors were various and the ideas were amazingly creative. The participations were divided into 4 age groups: younger than 8, 8-10, 11-14, and over 14. The judging process went for 6 hours and in 3 stages.

In the 1st stage, the judges chose 240 of the highest quality drawings that matched with the child age developmental skills. In the 2nd stage, the judges selected the best 80 portraits according to creativity, artistic composition, color harmony, and proportion appropriateness. In final stage, the best 10 portraits in each age group were chosen by judges.

The judges described some participations as "real pieces of art" and "although some are very young but definitely those will be the future artists". They offered to freely enroll some of those young artists in art teaching workshops which they provide.

The Judges were:

- 1) Mr. Hsan Mohammed Hsan Albsrei
- 2) Dr. Awad Alyamei
- 3) Dr. Mohammed Alnamlah
- 4) Mrs. Areeg Alkamees
- 5) Dr. Hnan Alobaid
- 6) Dr. Najeiah Abudlrzag
- 7) Dr. Zainab Mnsoor
- 8) Mr. Abudlaziz Alnajem
- 9) Mr. Ahmed Aldheem

*CHILDREN AND IMMIGRATION (Continued from page 1)***RELATIONSHIP OF U.S. CHILD PROTECTION MEASURES TO INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS AND INSTRUMENTS**

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<http://www.abanet.org/child/>

There are several international conventions and documents that assure that children's best interests become the focus of interventions with any child who has crossed a national border and has been abused or neglected at home or elsewhere. The first, unfortunately ratified by very few countries to date, is the 1996 Hague Convention on Jurisdiction, Applicable Law, Recognition, Enforcement and Co-operation in Respect of Parental Responsibility and Measures for the Protection of Children. This could become a universally adopted mechanism to address the plight of minor children who find themselves without any parental care or supervision in countries other than those of their habitual residence/citizenship.

The United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child issued, in September 2005, a document to help guide policy and practice on the "Treatment of Unaccompanied and Separated Children Outside Their Country of Origin" (CRC/GC2005/6). An international convention that needs to be followed more scrupulously is the 1963 Vienna Convention on Consular Relations. Child welfare agency personnel must establish links with foreign consulates to provide the required notification (Article 37) when an unaccompanied or separated immigrant child is taken into child welfare agency custody. Article 5 states that a key consular function is the "safeguarding, within the limits imposed by the laws and regulations of the receiving State, the interests of minors and other persons lacking full capacity who are nationals of the sending State, particularly where any guardianship or trusteeship is required with respect to such persons."

There are other international documents that address child protection issues, but space to discuss them is limited. Some of these include the recent (September 2008) "U.N. Approach to Justice for Children" and the related "U.N. Guidelines on Justice in Matters Involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime." Both critical documents help assure that child victims of abuse and neglect are fairly and effectively treated in judicial proceedings. Other documents address children in the juvenile justice system, many of whom are prior victims of abuse or neglect. No country should ignore the scholarship and expertise that went into development of international protocols, guidelines, and standards for better protecting children.

REFUGEE AND TRAFFICKED CHILDREN IN THE U.S.: POLICIES AND PRACTICES

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<http://www.lirs.org/>

The U.S. began developing policies around the protection and care of Unaccompanied Refugee Minors (URMs) during World War II. However, it was the Indochinese Refugee Program in 1979 that resulted in the development of a coherent system of care for URMs. The program required close cooperation between the Department of State, the Office of Refugee Resettlement and two national voluntary agencies, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) and the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops (USCCB). Care for URMs was further formalized in the U.S. with enactment of the Refugee Act of 1980. This specialized population, defined as children under the age of 18 that are accepted into the U.S. as

refugees and are traveling without parents or other adults able to provide for their care, has since been referred to a network of foster care service providers. This network operates in affiliation with either LIRS or USCCB and offers specialized long term foster care services for URMs. Children are cared for in least restrictive settings, generally being placed with foster families that provide the warmth and support of a family setting while assisting the child to adjust to life in a new country, learn English, advance educationally, and overcome traumatic pasts. Facilitating an unaccompanied minor's participation in their cultural community in their new location is considered a critical element in the care and placement of URMs.

The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 provided eligibility for refugee benefits to foreign born victims of severe forms of human trafficking located within the U.S. This cleared the path for unaccompanied minor victims of trafficking to be placed into the network of URM foster care programs where they may receive services tailored to meet the needs of this very vulnerable population: culturally competent programming that includes pro bono legal representation, therapeutic services, and individualized safety

At the age of 12, Alana came to the U.S. from Romania on a visitor's visa to stay with her cousin. Always a good student at home, she expected that she would be joining her cousin's family for a while and attending school here. She was enrolled in school upon arrival, but soon found herself being required to stay out of school and expected to work in her cousin's bakery or take care of his house and three young children. When Alana requested to be allowed to continue in school, she was told that she owed her cousin for all he was doing for her and that she had overstayed her visitor's visa. If she was uncooperative, he would report her to immigration officials and she would be put in jail. All of her contact with her family back home had been cut off. This situation continued for 2 years when a regular customer at the bakery inquired of Alana why she was always working and was not attending school. This customer was familiar with the issue of human trafficking and assisted Alana in getting help. Alana was placed in a URM foster care program through the LIRS network where she received the protection and care she needed so that now, at age 22, Alana is independent and blossoming, attending college at the local state university.

plans.

CHILD WELFARE RESPONSES TO IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT IN THE UNITED STATES

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www.f2f.ca.gov

The escalation of enforcement efforts by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has placed an enormous burden on states and local child welfare agencies responding to the dilemmas of short- and long-term child welfare decisions for children. According to a report published by Human Rights Watch, deportations separated more than one million family members in the United States from a parent or spouse between 1997 and 2007.

In the process, tens of thousands of children of undocumented immigrants have seen their families separated, sometimes with or without the intervention of the public child welfare system. It is difficult to gauge the extent of the impact of immigration enforcement action since this information is not collected by either ICE nor U.S. child welfare agencies.

The arrest of an undocumented parent alone will not warrant child welfare intervention unless there is belief of abuse, neglect or maltreatment of the child or a charge of "abandonment" where there is no other appropriate caretaker available to care for the minor child. The situation is treated by child welfare as an "emergency," as defined by the death or absence of a parent or caretakers (i.e. car or medical accident, parent detained by law enforcement, etc.). After

an undocumented parent is detained, what happens to their children can vary greatly. In 2007, ICE developed policy memoranda that considered the needs of children in immigration enforcement proceedings. All arrestees are to be asked if they have children in need of care, and the policy recognizes childcare responsibilities as a ground for release for monitoring and/or reporting in lieu of detention. Those who aren't released can designate a legal family member or friend to take of their children while the parent is in detention. This is called a "power of attorney" and varies from state to state. And, if no one can take care of the child, ICE will contact local child protective services to intervene. Finally, there are some cases where whole families of undocumented immigrants are detained together in one of two federal family detention centers, located in Berks, Pennsylvania or Hutto, Texas.

Because the public child welfare system in the U.S. is a state- or county-directed system, how jurisdictions have responded vary greatly. For example, the Illinois Department of Children and Families, which has a long tradition of partnership between child welfare agencies and the immigrant community, developed a policy, "Emergency Care Plan for Children with Undocumented Caregivers", which described the social worker's responsibility to develop an emergency care plan of alternative caretakers for their children in the event they are detained, including a list of agencies who can assist immigrants in developing their guardianship documents. Another example is the Los Angeles Department of Children and Family Services' Special Immigrant Status Unit and their relationship with the Mexican Consulate. The department has established best practice protocols for assessment and finding appropriate relative placements in child welfare decision making. Conversely, the Nebraska Supreme Court recently ruled that the state child welfare agency acted improperly when it terminated the parental rights of an undocumented Guatemalan woman's rights to her two American-born children after she was deported.

A GROWING COALITION ADVANCES ISSUES THAT IMPACT FAMILIES AT THE CROSSROADS OF IMMIGRATION AND CHILD WELFARE

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Formed in 2006 as a result of a conference convened by American Humane and partners, the Migration and Child Welfare National Network (MCWNN) has four main areas of focus, each addressing distinct issues impacting immigrant families along the areas of policy and advocacy, promising practices, research, and transnational relations. With the financial support of American Humane Association and the Annie E. Casey Foundation, plus other in-kind support provided by its leading members such as Casey Family Programs and other partners representing legal, research and other child welfare organizations, MCWNN is developing partnerships and practical policy/program solutions for agencies and institutions that must respond to the complex needs of immigrant children and families in the U.S.

The committees are creating resources and knowledge on the intersection of immigration and child welfare, such as a practice toolkit, and the adaptation of family engagement models to the needs of immigrant families. One of these models is Family Group Decision Making (FGDM). American Humane has promoted decision making by groups of families in the child welfare and other systems over the past 15 years as it believes that family engagement is vital to ensure and sustain the goals of a case. FGDM recognizes the necessity of gathering and empowering the broadest group of family members to use their resources, strengths and connections with one another to protect children against child abuse and neglect. When working with immigrant populations, particular challenges contribute to the

difficulty of meeting the case planning goals of extended family involvement. Practices that engage families from two sides of borders with support by both country agencies have represented creative and successful ways to carry out child welfare practice with immigrant families. ("Using Family Group Conferencing to Assist Immigrant Children and Families in the Child Welfare System" By Michelle Howard, MS, LPC, and Lara Bruce, MSW.) Other recent resources provided by the network and the committees include a focus on regional immigration issues, exemplified by the recent conference hosted by the MCWNN, Immigration, Child Welfare, and Borders, in Texas, as a forum to examine problems and solutions for borderland populations, and several research projects that collect and examine data to illustrate the magnitude of the problems and the efficacy of solutions being tested.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SERVICES IN THE US: SERVING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SEPARATED BY INTERNATIONAL BORDERS

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<http://www.iss-usa.org/>

International Social Service-United States of America (ISS-USA) branch provides services to children and families separated by international borders in partnership with an international federation of ISS units in 150 countries around the world. The Federation was founded in the late 1920s in response to the growing concern around the world for women and children separated from the heads of their families who had migrated to the Americas. The women and children attempting to reunite their families faced long journeys, health problems, exploitation, difficulties in finding accommodation, confusing regulations and language barriers. These circumstances illustrated a need for an organized multinational response. Today ISS-USA works on a number of crucial issues affecting children and families separated across international borders.

ISS-USA, in collaboration with the Office of Refugee Resettlement with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families and the U.S. Department of State Overseas Citizens Services, provides repatriation assistance to American children no longer in the care of their parents overseas. These children are returned to the U.S. and ISS-USA coordinates placement with appropriate family or social service agencies.

ISS-USA assists U.S. local and state workers to find and place American children currently in foster care with their families in other countries and assists partners outside the U.S. to find and assess families for the placement of children outside the U.S. with U.S.-based family members. ISS-USA believes that thousands of children in the care of American social service agencies may have placements with first and second degree family members in other countries that are willing and able to care for them. ISS-USA, through the ISS Federation, searches for and evaluates family members for these children. If no search is undertaken for these family members, the children face the possibility of remaining in foster care until they reach the age of maturity. Research shows that children who spend extended periods of time in foster care, whether in a family setting or in an institution of some kind, do not fare nearly as well as children who are placed in kinship care or who are adopted.

ISS-USA is working to support federal funding of a national resource center to find families for all children in America regardless of where that family may live.

Sonia C. Velazquez, Vice President, Children's Division

NEW ISPCAN MEMBERS 2009

ISPCAN warmly welcomes new members joining January – December

ARGENTINA <i>Alejandra Barbich</i>	<i>Sarah Stevenson</i> <i>Lisa Tassone</i> <i>Suzanne Vardy</i>	ISRAEL <i>Shalhevet Attar-Schartz</i>	PAKISTAN <i>Pervaiz Tufail</i>	SRI LANKA <i>Amarasiri de Silva</i>	<i>Jenean Castillo</i> <i>Sandra Cuadra</i> <i>Gwen L. Dean</i> <i>Tobi DeLong Hamilton</i> <i>Kirsten DiNicola</i> <i>Bill Forbes</i> <i>Rachel Freeman</i> <i>Maria Gallagher</i> <i>Karen Griest</i> <i>Colette Gushurst</i> <i>Harold Hedley</i> <i>Monique Higginbotham</i> <i>Tanya Hinds</i> <i>Lynda L. Hinkle</i> <i>Phillip W. Hyden</i> <i>Eileen Ihrig</i> <i>Jeffrey Jentzen</i> <i>Leila Kawar Goldsmith</i> <i>JoAnn Merriman</i> <i>Ginette Messer</i> <i>Patricia Nellius</i> <i>Donna M. Pence</i> <i>Martin F. Petosa</i> <i>Channing Petrak</i> <i>Trupti Rao</i> <i>Rebecca Russell</i> <i>Paula Samms</i> <i>Jacqueline Schelfhaudt</i> <i>Suzan Seger Cook</i> <i>Kathy Swafford</i> <i>Suzanna Tiapula</i> <i>Terry Tidwell</i> <i>Christian Tirado</i> <i>Sheryl Tyson</i> <i>Benjamin Weisbuch, Esq.</i> <i>Sarah Wilson</i> <i>Nancy L. Wolfe</i> <i>Joanne Wood</i>
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BELGIUM <i>Elisa Moragan</i> <i>Ankie Vandekerckhove</i>	CROATIA <i>Vesna Katalinic</i> <i>Jelena Tomic</i>	JAPAN <i>Kota Takaoka</i> <i>Fumitake Mizoguchi</i>	PERU <i>Mariella Greco</i>	SWEDEN <i>Anna De Geer</i> <i>Marie Kohler</i>	TANZANIA <i>Elipendo Kazimoto</i> <i>Wilbert Muchunguzi</i>
BENIN <i>Eleonore Soglohohou</i>	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC <i>Coco Barrett</i>	KENYA <i>Nancy Kanyango</i> <i>Harish Shamil Murthi</i>	PHILIPPINES <i>Zenaída C. Bobo</i> <i>Sedfrey Candelaria</i> <i>Sharon L. Dalde</i> <i>Emelita R. Estola</i> <i>Aida Lego-Paner</i> <i>Filomena Portales</i> <i>Zenaída S. Rosales</i> <i>Tamara Tutnjevic Gorman</i> <i>Evelyn Valencia</i> <i>Naresh Norma Yee</i>	THE NETHERLANDS <i>M.I. Hilhorst</i> <i>F. Lamers-Winkelman</i> <i>M.H. van Ijzendoorn</i>	TOGO <i>Enyo Gbedemah</i>
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ISPCAN International Congress: Honolulu, Hawai'i, USA, 26-29 September 2010

ISPCAN and the Hawaii Local Organizing Committee are very honored to invite you to attend the XVIIIth ISPCAN International Congress, which will be held on September 26th to 29th, 2010 in beautiful Honolulu, Hawai'i, USA. The Local Organizing Committee consists of a consortium of over 20 Hawai'i organizations and government departments that have implemented innovative programs to protect children and strengthen families for almost 40 years. ISPCAN, in collaboration with our Hawai'i 2010 Local Organizing Committee, is excited about bringing the world together to become one family of many cultures, working together to build a better world for our children, our keiki.

THEME:

"One World, One Family, Many Cultures"

DATES:

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CONGRESS SUBTHEMES:

1. Cultural Perspectives in Strengthening Families and Protecting Children
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3. Impact of Armed Conflict on Families and Children
4. Family Strengthening: A Key to the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect
5. Youth Empowerment in the Prevention of Generational Child Abuse and Neglect

KEY DATES:

Online Registration is now open on the Congress website: www.ispcan.org/congress2010

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LANGUAGE

English will be the official language of the Congress.

CONGRESS WEBSITE

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Family, Colleagues and Friends of Ruth Kempe:

Our school, the metropolitan Denver community, and the world lost a wonderful colleague on 24 July 2009. Ruth Kempe, MD, Emerita Professor of Psychiatry and Pediatrics and a founding member of ISPCAN, passed away suddenly at the age of 87.

Ruth was a member of our pediatric and child psychiatry faculty for more than five decades. She was an extraordinary woman who balanced her career working with her spouse, C. Henry Kempe, in their pioneering work on child abuse and her own child psychiatry practice, as well as supporting the needs of her spouse, five daughters, 18 grandchildren and a generation of pediatric residents and their spouses and children.

She was always there with food, advice and whatever support new mothers and fathers needed after the birth of their babies – whether they were her own relatives or just part of the extended family she helped create within the Department of Pediatrics. Ruth was as calm as Henry was energetic and was a perfect foil and help to him. A memorial was held on July 31 in Denver.

Richard D. Krugman, MD

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In Memoriam:

Esin Konanc, a former ISPCAN councillor, tragically died in a road traffic accident in North Cyprus on December 20, 2009.

Esin served as an ISPCAN Councilor for twelve years. She was a founding member and first president of the Turkish Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect. Most recently, Esin had been working as Dean of the Law Faculty at the University of North Cyprus.

Esin was a loyal colleague and a good friend. She will be greatly missed.

Dr. Sezen Zeytinoglu

zeytinoglu@superonline.com

General Comment for Article 19 (GC19) of the United Nations, Convention on the Rights of the Child

The International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect and the International Society for Child Rights and Development have jointly organized an international leadership group from all major regions and cultures of the world to direct and conduct the drafting of a General Comment for Article 19 (GC19) of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Article 19 embodies the Convention's central orientation to child protection. This group of highly respected leaders, who have specialized working in child protection and/or child rights includes a 14 member Working Group, an Expert Advisory Panel and official liaisons with UNICEF, WHO, and the NGO Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child. A Focal Group from the Committee on the Rights of the Child (the Committee) will provide essential assistance to the Working Group throughout the GC19 program development.

A wide variety of related global consultations are being conducted in person and via multimedia modalities including employment of an interactive web site to allow interested parties around the world to provide perspective and advice. These will all be carefully considered as the GC is drafted to respect the desires and requirements of the Committee, which will make the final decisions on all aspects of GC19.

Added to the development of a draft GC19, a number of components to support its implementation are to be planned/designed. A General Comment for Article 19 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child offers an opportunity to achieve a major transformation in child protection by infusing a holistic child rights approach in all its aspects.

Article 19 encourages interpretations beyond the need for protection against immediate harm and loss of life to assure a life worth living by securing the protection and promotion of the child's rights, well-being, health, and development as well as providing the necessary social supports for those who have care for the child. The GC19 will establish the Committee's interpretations, applied to monitor, guide, and encourage States Parties toward implementation of the Convention.

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Co-Chairs of the GC 19 Working Group

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