



NEWS LETTER: CHILDREN'S VOICES

Dear Friends in India and around the World,

Warm greetings from SERFAC.

This issue of SERFAC's Newsletter, brings to all our readers information on a new publication of SERFAC '*Giving Children A Voice-The Transforming Role of the Family,*' published By Cambridge Scholars Publishing, UK. This volume is a compilation of papers presented at the Global Conference in 2009 in New Delhi India. Also included is a write up on the Family in the Sustainable Development Goals with reference to its 'first goal' eradication of child poverty. (International Federation for Family Development (IFFD-NO 43))

The book and the article affirm the primary role of parents: care, nurturing and protect children within family and larger society. Such environments are essential to enable the child in its healthy development, positive socialization and relational well being.

The papers in this volume challenge the stereotypes of what children and families are expected to be and do. They challenge society at large to note the seriousness of child abuse, and the impact of technology on children. They also raise questions on the rights of the child and the role of parenthood in today's contexts. It is an excellent resource manual for those in professional practise, and/or wishing to further research.

We at SERFAC believe that the contents of this book can and will be a potent vehicle to build a more humane, caring and technologically balanced world where knowledge sharing, coupled with delicate human love will enrich each one of us with the wisdom that holds the key to the future-this is what family is all about. This is what children need and want. With this, the family will become a capable institution where parents guide the young, and together they transform our globalised and globalising world order, making it a haven of peace and security for our children

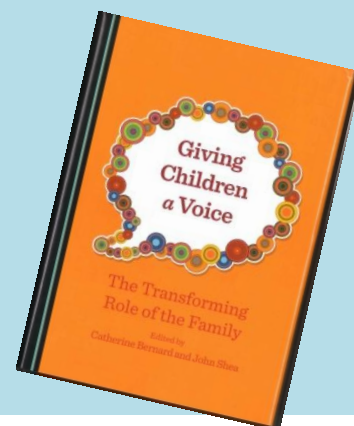
The future of the world is in the hands of our children. Society today often fails to hear the 'wakeup call' embedded in the happenings of the world, which in many ways is driven by technology and concerns for profit at the cost of human lives, especially the lives of children. The future is for the children of today - we need to give it to them today.

This book may be ordered from Cambridge Scholars Publishing,
Newcastle uponTyne,NE62PA,UK.

We invite you to own your copy and wish you enlightened reading.

Warm regards,

Catherine Bernard.



The Family in the Sustainable Development Goals : Child Poverty Goal 1.

End poverty in all its forms everywhere The United Nations has passed a resolution about the family's role in nurturing and protecting children. According to it, "the family has the primary responsibility for the nurturing and protection of children and children, for the full and harmonious development of their personality, should grow up in a family environment and in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding."(A/RES/68/136). Between 2007 and 2012, child poverty has increased in 19 of the 28 countries involved in the European Union. In 2012, more than one-quarter of children in Bulgaria, Greece, Italy, Romania and Spain were living at risk of poverty (Eurostat, 2014). The pervasiveness of these numbers have raised concerns about how so many children growing up in poverty will affect the future productivity and economic competitiveness of European nations (European Commission, 2014; International Labour Organization, 2014/15). The major cause of the rise in child poverty in the United States, according to recent estimates, is the decline in married-couple households. In 2000, about 11 million children lived in poverty. If the share of children born to two married parents was the same in 2000 as it had been in 1970, between 2.2 million and 3.2 million children would be raised above the poverty line (Amato & Maynard, 2007). These poverty-fighting benefits of marriage are pervasive, reaching across all socioeconomic groups, education levels, and races (with particularly strong effects among African American families). What Effect Does Poverty Have on Children? Families are a powerful influence on children's development that begins before they are born and extends throughout their life (Future of Children, 2014). Children who grow up in poverty start kindergarten behind their more affluent peers. During the school years, they fall further behind. Children in low-income families hear fewer words, engage in fewer conversations with adults, and spend less time being read to. Evidence suggests that programs to support low-income children are not working as well as they could or should (Haskins, Garfinkel & McLanahan, 2014). What Can we Do to End Child Poverty? We have some idea how to deal with a poverty of income (McLanahan, 2004). Around the world, we have policies on the books that help create a decent standard of living: policies that "make work possible," such as subsidized child care, and policies that "make work pay," such as supplementing income through policy levers such as the Earned Income Tax Credit and stronger child support enforcement (McLanahan, 2004). We know how to address low-income families' need for food or housing by issuing food stamps or housing vouchers (Tough, 2012). We know less about how to counter the family impacts of economic changes like unemployment or employment in very low-wage jobs, which have made both men and women in the lowest income strata less "marriageable." Nor do we know how to offset how this decline in marriage has made family life less stable and more chaotic. We know less about how government can foster the stable, predictable, and orderly family life that allows parents to invest the time, resources, and supports that kids need to succeed. A new promising approach to child poverty is two-generation approaches. Instead of focusing in children and parents individually, a family approach will be used that simultaneously provides high-quality programs for children and their parents. Typically two-generation programs enroll parents in education or job training, while at the same time enrolls their children in high-quality child care and early childhood education programs. What's more, strong connections are built between the parent and child programs, which are designed to be of equal duration and intensity (Future of Children, 2014)

SERVICE AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE ON FAMILY AND CHILDREN (SERFAC)

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INVITATION TO MEMBERSHIP IN SERFAC

(Please fill in and return to SERFAC)

We at SERFAC seek your help in taking the message of family unity, family happiness, family togetherness and peace to more couples /families and larger social and institutional settings. To do this we invite you to become a member of SERFAC. There is a small fee to help us move forward in fulfilling this mission.

As a mark of our gratitude we wish to keep in touch by remembering you on your special days.

Your Name (s):

Names of your child /children

Address for communication:

Tel.Nos:

Email id.

Your Date(s) of Birth :

Date of your Marriage :

For priests & nuns : Date of your ordination /
religious profession or feast day:

- Tell us something about yourself / yourselves:
- Are there any names you wish to suggest to help connect for inviting them to become members of SERFAC.
- Is there any other way you wish us at SERFAC to keep in touch with you:

Your signature (s)

Date:

Form / fee details are overleaf:



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STATEMENT OF INTENT

I /We hereby recognize that marriage and family are the basis for a healthy society. I /We believe that gender equality is the essence of stability, justice, peace and happiness in family, society and nation.

I/We subscribe to and support the values, vision, mission and work of SERFAC by becoming a member(s):

Date:

Signature:

S.No	Membership status:	Entrance Fee (in Rs.)	Annual Fee (in Rs.)	Lifetime Membership (in Rs.)
1.	Couple / Individual	250.00	500.00	5000.00
2.	Organisation / Institutional Members	1000.00	2000.00	15000.00
3.	NGO Members	500.00	800.00	5000.00
4.	Students	200.00	500.00	-

This duly filled form is to be returned and addressed to: **Director SERFAC, 1/157, Manimangalam Road, Varadarajapuram, Chennai – 600 048.** The Membership fee may be sent by cash or demand draft drawn in favour of SERFAC General Account: on any bank in Chennai.

By Bank Transfer: (India Only)

A/C Name : SERFAC General Account
A/C No. 0370104000057789
IFSC Code : IBKL 0000370
MICR : 600259017
Bank Name : IDBI

**For Foreign membership please email
to us for a separate form & Bank**

Bank Address: IDBI, Tambaram, No.4, Near Dr. Agarwals Eye Hospital,
Duraismy Reddy Street, Tambaram West, Chennai – 600 045
Tamil Nadu, India.

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