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### AFCC and NCJFCJ Approve Statement on Parent-Child Contact Problems

The Boards of Directors of both the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges have approved a Joint Statement on Parent-Child Contact Problems. The statement accomplishes several objectives. It acknowledges risk to children of polarized perspectives and emphasizes the importance of effectively addressing parent-child contact problems by adopting a child-centered approach. In order to reach these objectives, the statement calls for increased professional competence, screening for safety, conflict, and parent-child contact problems, the full consideration of all factors that may contribute to parent-child contact problems while conducting individual case analyses and referring to appropriate and proportional services and interventions when necessary. [Read the entire statement.](#)

### 15th Symposium on Child Custody Las Vegas, Nevada November 10-12, 2022



Presenting Sponsor



**SOBERLINK**

[AFCC Chapter Conferences](#)



your eligibility and [apply today!](#) The application deadline is **September 16, 2022.**

### Exhibitor Prospectus

Exhibitors at AFCC conferences enjoy the opportunity to reach hundreds of professionals dedicated to the resolution of family conflict. Your business could hit the jackpot, too! [Read the prospectus](#) and contact [Patrick Sommer](#) to sign up now.

[Register Now](#)

### AFCC Virtual Training Programs

**The Fundamentals of Parenting Coordination**  
December 5-8, 2022

**Advanced Issues in Child Custody**  
January 17-19, 2023

**The Fundamentals of Conducting Parenting Plan Evaluations**  
March 13-16, and  
March 20-22, 2023

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## Ask the Experts: Ten Tips for Working with Vaccine-Hesitant Parents

*Kate Allan, PhD, MSW*

The COVID-19 pandemic has placed the issue of vaccine hesitancy front and center in multiple sectors, including family law. Decisions about vaccination for children have become a contentious issue within many families, in some cases requiring the family court system to settle a dispute about child vaccination when parents cannot agree. Whether working with families involved in high-conflict custody cases, or other family law matters, there is a need to understand parental vaccine hesitancy and the best strategies for addressing it in practice. These ten tips provide an overview of best practices with respect to understanding and responding to parental vaccine hesitancy.

[Continue Reading...](#)



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## Webinar Corner

### [The Power of Values in Family Law Disputes](#)

*Bernie Mayer, PhD and April Harris-Britt, PhD*

Wednesday, **September 14, 2022**  
1:00pm – 2:00pm Eastern Time (US/Canada)

Registration will close on **September 13, 2022** at **9:00am Eastern Time US/Canada.**

Value conflicts are often viewed as the hardest to resolve, and we are often cautioned to keep our personal values under wraps in our professional lives. But our values and our clients' values inevitably inform our practice and



their needs. Rather than avoid addressing value differences, perhaps we need to encourage our clients to embrace them, and we perhaps should not shy away from doing the same. In this webinar we will discuss the role of values in family conflict. We will discuss how personal and cultural values affect family conflict, how we can help parents recognize and navigate their value differences, how values can help us bring our most authentic selves to the table in constructive and powerful ways, and how we can find value congruence amid seemingly highly polarized differences. We will also explore value hierarchies in family conflicts and illustrate the challenge and potential of working with value differences.

**Bernie Mayer, PhD** has provided conflict intervention services for families, schools, public interest groups, communities, NGO's, unions, corporations, and governmental and agencies throughout North America and internationally for over 40 years. He is Professor Emeritus of Conflict Studies, Creighton University, and a founding partner of CDR Associates, a conflict intervention firm headquartered in Boulder, Colorado.



**April Harris-Britt, PhD**, is a licensed psychologist and parent coordinator. She provides training to mental health professionals, attorneys, and judges and has presented at numerous conferences regarding services for families engaged in high-conflict custody disputes. Dr. Harris-Britt is currently a member of the AFCC Task Force on Model Standards of Practice for Child Custody Evaluations, and AFCC Task Force on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.



**Registration**

Members: \$15

Non-Members: \$50

**Certificate of Attendance**

Members: \$15

Non-members: \$20

[Register Now!](#)

**More Upcoming Webinars!**

**Representing Children in International Cases**

*Melissa Kucinski, JD, James Netto*

October 18, 2022

**Understanding Adults who Sexually Abuse Children**

*Dr. Graham Hill*

November 16, 2022



## [Family Dispute Resolution Research](#)

Marsha Kline Pruett, PhD, ABPP  
December 13, 2022

## [Access to Justice/Family Dispute Resolution Services](#)

Jeannie Sato, JD, Loren P. Hildebrandt, JD  
January 11, 2023

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## [AFCC 60th Anniversary Conference](#) Call for Proposals

### [60 Years of Asking the Difficult Questions](#)

May 31-June 3, 2023  
Westin Bonaventure  
Los Angeles, California

**AFCC is accepting proposals for 90-minute workshop sessions.** Read the [Call for Proposals](#) thoroughly for complete instructions. Proposals must be submitted using [the online form](#) by the deadline on **October 5, 2022**.

#### Proposed topics may include but are not limited to:

- Access to Justice
- Cultural Issues in Family Law
- International Family Law Perspectives
- Direct and Cross-examination
- Family Court Reform
- LGBTQ+ Families
- New Ideas for Parent Education Programs
- Innovations in Family Court Services
- Parent-child Contact Problems
- Parenting Plan Evaluations
- Intimate Partner Violence
- What do Judges Need to Know?
- Parenting Coordination
- Family Law and Mental Health
- Research on Family Law
- Allegations of Child Sexual Abuse
- Family Dispute Resolution Innovations



[Submit Your Proposal](#)

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**Save the Dates!**

## [AFCC Virtual Training Programs](#)

Save the date for upcoming AFCC Training Programs:

## **The Fundamentals of Parenting Coordination**

December 5-8, 2022

## **Advanced Issues in Child Custody**

January 17-19, 2023

## **The Fundamentals of Conducting Parenting Plan Evaluations**

March 13-16, and March 20-22, 2023

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## **Chapter News**

### **AFCC California 2023 Annual Conference - Call for Proposals**

#### **Runnin' On Empty: What Do You Do When You Haven't Got a Clue**

February 10-12, 2023

Westin South Coast Plaza

Costa Mesa, California

AFCC-CA is requesting proposals for 4-hour Institutes, 90-minute workshops, and 120-minute Workshops.

The conference aims to:

1. Provide cutting edge and creative solutions to the increasingly difficult times in which we practice.
2. Promote opportunities for engagement and partnerships with other professionals (e.g., police, physicians, clergy) who are the first to be involved with domestic abuse, a deteriorating adult relationship, or inappropriate parental practices.
3. Examine alternative interventions and therapies for issues ranging from resist-refusal issues to mental health issues to unique and challenging treatment of alcohol, drug and other addictions to dealing with the epidemic of domestic violence and other conditions which impact the ability to parent children.
4. Engage conference participants in the exchange of ideas and practices.
5. Develop practices to protect professionals from burnout.

The submission deadline is **September 9, 2022**. [See complete instructions](#).

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### **AFCC eNEWS**

The *AFCC eNEWS* is the monthly e-newsletter of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. The *eNEWS* provides up-to-date information for professionals including practice tips, international news, and the latest initiatives in family law and conflict resolution. The *AFCC eNEWS* is provided at no charge to you; anyone can subscribe. [Subscribe here](#).

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