

**ARAB FAMILIES WORKING GROUP**  
**CORE GROUP MEETING**  
**MARCH 26-28, 2002**  
**CAIRO**

**Attendees**

Suad Joseph, Penny Johnson, Martina Rieker, Hoda Rashad, Naila Sabra, Dina Craissati, Ray Jureidini, Nadine Naber, Jihad Makhoul, Zeina Zaatari, Ibrahim Elnur, Hania Sholkamy, Iman Bibars

Research Assistants: Nahla Zarroug, Rania Salem, Rania El Abd, Ghalia Gargani, Khalid Dinnawi

**MARCH 26, 2002**

Acknowledgments / Announcements

Mona Khalaf is ill and had to cancel. Madhavi Sunder had to cancel. Leila Bisharat had to cancel because of a business trip to Eritrea. Lina Abu Habib could not get a visa. Mishka Mojabber Mourani is coming. Hoda Elsadda is arriving this afternoon. Barbara Ibrahim is coming tomorrow. Lamis Abu Nahleh had to cancel.

I would like to thank the International Development Research Center and especially Iman Bibars, for granting AFWG \$12,000 for this meeting. And I would like to thank the Population Council, especially, Barbara Ibrahim and Moushira El Geziri, for granting AFWG \$10,000 for this meeting.

We have funds for approximately one year for a full time research assistant. The American University in Cairo has given us an office, though we need to reapply for next year. The University of California has allowed us to have the services of Dina Marks as our grants officer and the use of UC computers.

I also want to thank the Social Research Center for funding Rania El Abd to work as an RA for the Well Being Research Project Group and to thank SRC, especially Hoda Rashad, for allowing us to meet here.

Nahla Zarroug has served also as an RA for the Well-being and Border Crossings Groups Research Project Groups. Ghalia Gargani has assisted with literature review for the Public Discourse Research Project Group. Khalid Dinnawi UC/AUC assistant has also helped in many logistics.

I thank them all.

## **I. Arab families: Border Crossings, Displacement, and War Research Project Group Presentation**

### **Presenter I: Nadine Naber**

First I will talk about the interests of our group members who could not attend this meeting. Rabab Abdulhadi works on gender and sexuality in Lebanon and Eileen Kuttub works on refugees and family in Palestine.

In our Beirut meeting, held on January 12-13, 2002, we found a couple of themes that link all our interests. One of these links was the shifting of Public/Private Boundaries. For instance, how the boundaries are shifting, the fluidity and policing of these boundaries, and how they shift and under what circumstances do they shift. For example, communities that are faced with cultural erasure will fix family boundaries in a way that would not be the same under different circumstances.

### **Presenter II: Ibrahim Elnur**

One of my interests is in the project of refugees and domestic workers, especially in Egypt. There are two students working on this project at AUC. One is trying to look at the domestic labor market, and the other is looking at refugee domestic workers. So I feel that there is a good possibility on collaborative work on this project. My other interests are female-headed households and family survival strategies that are related to displacement and war. We emphasized the different types of population flows as a common subject in our research for the group.

### **Presenter III: Ray Jureidini**

We had a good meeting in Beirut because we were able to get to know the common areas of interests between our group members. However, we still have a diverse set of research proposals in our group that still need to be worked on to get to a collective project. We were able to develop two topics for our literature review:

A. The existing literature on Public/Private, which are developed into two ideas on Public/Private:

1. Gender and the State
2. Feminist Critiques

B. Displacement - Problem of Displacement in relation to Public/Private

1. War, displacement, and exile
2. Labor Migrations/Immigrations

The general problem is the question of the blurring of Public/Private boundaries. How do the boundaries of the Public/Private shift? Is it due to Socio-Economic circumstances, political factors, or displacement by war, etc.? Also the way Public/Private shifts points to strategies for resistance, and responses to conditions of displacement. And what are the mechanisms for policing community boundaries?

## **Discussion**

### **Hoda Rashad**

Ibrahim, what did you say about domestic workers?

### **Ibrahim Elnur**

I have found that there has been no work done on Egyptian domestic workers.

### **Hoda Rashad**

I think the issue of domestic workers fits in more with our group on Well-being, Women, and Work.

### **Ray Jureidini**

Yes I agree with you. However, this depends on what questions we want to ask.

### **Suad Joseph**

Yes, there are a lot of interfaces, for example children.

### **Naila Sabra**

One can look at the effect of foreign domestic workers on the family and children etc.

### **Ray Jureidini**

We are not focusing on foreign domestic workers. It is just one element that we feel cannot be overlooked. The main issue is the effect of these workers on the dynamics of the family.

### **Zeina Zaatari**

In Lebanon, Syrians and Palestinians worked as domestic workers before war. Do we look at them as “foreign” workers? They are unlike the Asian domestic workers because their culture is not that different from the Lebanese culture. There is also the issue of labor migration, mainly rural-urban, which I think is more of an issue.

### **Penny Johnson**

The shifting boundaries of the public and private also came up in our group discussion. The effect of return migration is an interesting topic. Soraya Altorki talked about this in our last Public Discourse meeting with regards to the Egyptians in Saudi Arabia their return to Egypt, and the changes there were in family dynamics, ideas, issues etc. So there are different types of return.

### **Hania Sholkamy**

What is interesting are their reasons for leaving and returning. The reason for their leaving affects the blurring of boundaries.

### **Ray Jureidini**

The issue of blurred boundaries fits into the issue of globalization.

**Suad Joseph**

I see Public/Private and displacement as an anchor between the Well-being and Border Crossings Research Project Groups, where displacement is of different kinds and which trigger different family transformations. So I see a possibility of collaboration and continuity.

**Jihad Makhoul**

A common thread is Arab family and what it is as a result of displacement etc., and the changing roles of family members as a result of marriage, having children etc. Marriage could be seen as a visa out of bad conditions both inside and outside of the family. So we can find border crossings within the family structure as well.

**Suad Joseph**

I agree with you Jihad. Negotiating marriage was discussed in the Public Discourse workshop, and there seem to be powerful strings pulling the two groups together.

**Ray Jureidini**

Locating these commonalities is no problem, but how to operationalize them into a collective project is the question.

**Ibrahim Elnur**

We need to develop cross-cultural, cross-regional links to our common topics.

**Martina Rieker**

It seems that the other groups are bringing in their own personal research projects into the AFWG project. The Public Discourse Group is not working in that way. We are developing new projects.

## **II. Women, Work and Family Well-Being Research Project Group Presentation**

### **Presenter I: Hoda Rashad**

#### **The members of the Well-being group are:**

Hoda Rashad

Mona Khalaf

Huda Zurayk

Afaf Meleis

Hania Sholkamy

Marwan Khawaja- not a member yet but will join

Naila Sabra

Rania El Abd is our research assistant who started one month ago.

In our Beirut workshop we discussed our topic and we produced a concept paper, which Hania Sholkamy will present. I will then talk about what happened after the Beirut meeting.

People seem to be happy to talk about ideas but we need to look at commitment and who will do what, how much time it will take, and what work will one give over to the group. I think these are important issues that we need to discuss. For example, Huda Zurayk, AUB, is doing a large research on women and health of which one part is on women and the care of the elderly. This is a topic that will fit into our group research. However, it is work for AUB. How do we proceed from there? The same goes for Mona Khalaf and her research at LAU. This is an issue that we, as the Core Group, need to discuss.

### **Presenter II: Hania Sholkamy**

In Beirut we developed a concept paper, whose function was to make a whole of our ideas. It was a process of exclusion, rather than inclusion, that helped us focus our research ideas. Our aim was to focus our research on the concepts of women's work and well-being, where there are variations in the parameters of women's work and well-being, both in the family and for the individual. We will be doing this research comparatively using life cycles.

We decided to use a working definition of well-being which are the socially accepted terms for success. We decided to concentrate on work for cash, that is paid work outside of the home.

This is to help us examine family pathology and the effects of the absence of the mother in the home, and not to demean other types of women's work.

The rationale for this research is that economic burdens are placed on women without regards to their wants, needs, support, or public recognition of this work.

We are also going to be looking at non-working women within the same life cycle and then look at the impact of work and no work on the family.

We also want to look at the effects of women's work on other members of the family, like men and children. We will be collecting data for our research.

There are three parts to our research focus:

1. To document the realities of women's employment and unemployment realities.

2. To look at the dynamics of dependency in family and how this shifts over time.
3. To look at public policy discourses and see how they affect women's work and family.

### **Hoda Rashad**

We want to search for models of successes in well-being and look for studies which link women's work and well-being, and not just literature on children, working women and well-being.

We also want to look at the are measures of well-being, and the policies that contribute to the well-being of the family.

We have three efforts that we will be working for:

1. The first effort deals with the literature review. We decided to do three things for the literature review:
  - a.) Collect a bibliography and summarize the articles - This will be done by Nahla Zarroug.
  - b.) Family policy - I met a researcher, Amy Mina Kall, that was interested in family policy and volunteered to produce a document on the dichotomy of family policy.
  - c.) Rania El Abd has produced a background document linking women and well-being.
2. The second effort deals with the data sets that are around. We want to look at these data sets and link women's work, their outcomes and indicators. The Social Research Center has one such data set entitled "*The Impact of Family Planning on Women's Lives*" which looked at the lives of women using family planning and those who were not. We want to look at the available data sets first before initiating new data collections. Mona Khalaf and Huda Zurayk are to bring in the data sets from their institutions so that we can link all the information that we have.
3. The third effort we are looking at developing a pilot study from our concept paper. This pilot study will be led by Leila El Zeini which will be a solid piece built into the overall project. The Ford Foundation Grant allows for the production of a pilot project and will allow for the use of a small portion of the grant to build a concept paper.

Leila El Zeini will be the PI on this project. She does not see herself as member of the AFWG Core Group, maybe she will be later.

Hania Sholkamy is not clear if she will be on the pilot or not, but the others will advise on the pilot.

We will be working with three classifications for women:

1. Working
2. Not working
3. Working before marriage

We will choose families where there is a married woman with a husband present and children. Our concentration will be in the early years of marriage and motherhood. We are thinking of starting to collect data within six weeks.

### **Presenter III: Rania El Abd**

I have had one month to work on Women, Work and Well-being. I have looked at women's ability to access work and the effects of this on family well-being.

I started with literature on what is household and what happens in reality. I have also looked at the conditions that affect family well-being. I did not exclude important examples from other developing countries because there are similarities.

The types of households that I looked at can be roughly divided among the following categories:

1. Single person Household
2. Single sex household
3. Single headed household

There are two theories that I used in the paper:

#### 1. Neo-Classical Theory

Where the household is viewed as a homogeneous unit, which does not see to individual needs.

#### 2. Bargaining Model

This looks at challenge and conflict within the family. There is no definition of well-being that is agreed upon, it is a fluid idea.

I took well-being to be "autonomy of decision making" for the purposes of paper. I am now starting to look at the practical and strategic aspects of gender needs. Practical gender needs allows them to facilitate existing needs and roles, while strategic gender needs allows them to go beyond existing needs and roles. I will also be looking at gender ideologies and discourses

### **Discussion**

#### **Jihad Makhoul**

I would like to comment on a couple of things. It seems that you are thinking of doing empirical research. This boils down to two things:

1. Survey
2. Documentation of realities

How would you go about this? You mentioned family pathology. This assumes that there is a norm and that there is one normal family. What is this assumption?

With regards to success and well-being, I am concerned that you are overlooking the lay explanation of well-being and are concentrating on the professional health issues of well-being.

#### **Hania Sholkamy**

With regards to pathology, there are clear ideas of some forms of pathology that are seen as the norm or common both in the Arab and non-Arab world. There is a political assumption of the pathology of the family, in that there are goals for the family that change over time and at different points of the family's life. If these goals are not met, then the family is usually considered out of the norm. What we would like to look at are the realities, what actually happens to deviate the family from the political goals/assumptions.

With regards to the parameters of success, we will look at it within its context. For example, success definitions in the rural and urban areas. You will find that they differ.

**Ray Jureidini**

In the deliberations of gender, did you discuss issues of male well-being? If you use the term gender it has to be male inclusive otherwise it would be best to remove the term.

**Hoda Rashad**

You are right. Personally I was interested in the women's well-being, especially at the later stages of life and their levels of satisfaction with their lives etc. I think that in terms of the family, the male aspect will come in.

Another thing that I think is important is the issue of the double burden. This is changing within a certain class of women, where husbands will care for children when the mother works. This is an area that needs to be studied.

**Ray Jureidini**

There is another interesting topic that concerns foreign domestic workers. It is said that the decision for these women to work abroad is a collective family decision and not just an individual decision. This is something that needs to be studied.

**Penny Johnson**

I am interested in the comparative aspect of your work. What concerns me is the separation of women's work in the formal and informal economy and the exclusion of the home economy.

**Hoda Rashad**

Yes, there are many things to ask and I cannot talk for all the members of the group. I was even interested in the pace-setters/the highly educated women, but I feel that the broader you go, the less focus you will get. I would rather tackle a smaller group and get a result rather than a flow. With regards to the comparative aspect, we decided to go with Lebanon and Egypt because our group is concentrated in these areas.

**Hania Sholkamy**

My interest is in unpacking the functionalist aspects of this topic and in finding new definitions. Families change overtime. Women tend to lose out in the period when the family is no longer needed by the men and children, this is the time when women need the family most. We need to find out what it is that they miss out in. What is mostly required of women is to be physically there. Hopefully we will be able to access this aspect of women's lives.

**Suad Joseph**

I am interested in the link with the Public Discourse group. There is a political discourse to this, a discourse within the family and how the family is perceived to be a unit while its boundaries continually shift. Could you discuss this further with the possibility of linking with the Public Discourse group?

**Hania Sholkamy**

There is the issue of how individuals use public discourse to further their own interests. For example, one discourse that affects women's well-being/identity is when women work but continually say that they should not work and only do so for economic reasons.

**Zeina Zaatari**

Given the public discourse that idealizes notions of motherhood, I was wondering if you want to take single women as members of the family?

**Hania Sholkamy**

We have a multitude of definitional tasks. There are many definitions of women, mothers/wives/sisters/aunts etc. We need to draw attention to other women in the household that takeover duties that help the working mother/wife.

**Ray Jureidini**

One issue that has come up in the foreign domestic workers study, is the issue of substitute mothers. Other issues are women working out of the home, and issues of neglect and satisfaction of working women.

**Dina Craissati**

Hania's points link with the Public Discourse group because they tend to point to public discourse influencing the family. You have been discussing ruptures within certain models or assumptions, and it will be interesting to see how these changes go public. I think this group links to the Public Discourse group.

**Martina Rieker**

What constitutes well-being? For whom is this well-being? How do women define well-being, is it through health, satisfaction, money? It strikes me that the Well-being research can be linked with that of the Public Discourse because well-being could be the women's perception.

**Hania Sholkamy**

I am interested in the temporality and contextuality of well-being. For example, the issue of breast-feeding. Women working and successfully breast-feeding means that she is up all night and then goes to work in the morning. So there are shifting notions of well-being.

**Hoda Rashad**

Each person or group has a notion of well-being which may not be the same to others. So I think we need to focus on a certain small group but be open to other ideas. This small focus group will be the pilot and we can expand from there.

**Suad Joseph**

I see a lot of links between the other groups and constructedness,

Constructedness:

1. Well-being
2. Public/private
3. Discourses

I agree on focusing on something small and then expanding once definitions are set.

**Nadine Naber**

You are looking at practices/experiences of well-being, and well-being as a discourse. It is in the second part the questions will emerge. There is another layer, class, that could link with the concept of well-being in the discourse. The ideal will emerge for women and work, which will have a class concept and what it means for women who work and the type of children she raises and how they reproduce class boundaries.

### **III. Arab Families in Public Discourse: Representation and Lived Realities Research Project Group Presentation**

#### **Presenter I: Martina Rieker**

We envisioned the larger project so we did not develop concrete projects and did not start with our individual research.

We spent a lot of our time to find a title for a communal project. We eventually came up with “*Arab Families and their Modernities*”

for the title of the multi-volume project of AFWG Core Groups umbrella.

Our specific interests are:

1. Negotiating families
2. Producing families

#### 1. Negotiating Families

Marriage and marriage contract as one site where family is negotiated.

#### 2. Producing families

How families are produced in 20<sup>th</sup> century. This focuses on the law and on the majalla in 19<sup>th</sup> century. State laws are a place where family is produced and the notion of public/private as boundaries between family and State get produced.

The way families are constructed in State and Islamic projects.

Making modern families as a legal entity.

#### **Presenter II: Penny Johnson**

“Arab families in Public Discourse: Representation and Lived Realities” is the title of our group.

The constant interest in our definitions was marriage contracts. This topic covers a wide range of issues such as the actual document and its change over time, and the material exchanges between husband and wife and other family members.

We were interested in seeing the changes over time. We decided to start in 1875 when the codification of laws came in (Tanzimat). Hoda Elsadda suggested that we start with the numerous debates over the marriage contract. Almost everyone saw the link to the nationalist project and its decline. In this we link issues of boundaries of the public and private etc. As a group we think of marriage in terms of:

1. The political economy
2. Perceptions
3. Exchange
4. Written and unwritten documents

Many members of the group were interested in children and youth, and I think we had problems placing these two topics because they are very broad.

I think that, in our case, we have not problematized the question of children. Some of the issues that deal with children are:

- Socialization of the young
- Lateral relation in family
- Citizenship
- Brothers and sisters in citizenship
- How people become citizens

Some members were interested in the 1-3 age group, others were interested in the 10-14, while others were interested in adults.

Children dominate in the development literature in family and we had trouble figuring out how to include children.

We did end with some assignments with regards to literature reviews that would lead to a proposal in the future.

### **Martina Rieker**

We began by thinking of family as a core institution. The ways in which family is the site around which identities are created brings up issues of children, men, citizenship, masculinities, femininities etc.

### **Suad Joseph**

The State was a thread throughout our group's discussion. For example, in marriage contracts there is the issue of who writes it, the rules under which marriage is negotiated etc. The State has an invested agenda with the construction of the family, where the family as a site for producing identity is linked to issues of citizenship in which the mechanisms that the State use are curricula, schools, the media, literature, laws, etc.

### **Discussion**

#### **Hoda Rashad**

I think that the three groups can be linked by three things they are all thinking of:

1. They realize change (displacement/war etc.)
2. Response of change by the family (gender dynamics, husband/wife relations etc.)
3. Because of change there is discrepancy between public and private

These are the three commonalities between the three groups.

#### **Ray Jureidini**

Another link is change and continuity.

#### **Nadine Naber**

There are the issues of ideals and how people negotiate agency or family. For example, discourse and practice, myths and realities.

**Penny Johnson**

I agree with you Nadine. There are also the ideals and national projects. Suad, you say that the family is a creation of the modern State. Is this a common assumption? We need to see if we agree to this and see if we should explore this further.

**Suad Joseph**

Yes, I would say that the family is a product of the modern State because the vocabulary of the family looms large in this century, which raises questions of its historicity.

**Ray Jureidini**

I would say that childhood was constructed in the same period.

**Suad Joseph**

Yes, childhood as a discipline also developed in the same period.

**Ray Jureidini**

These institutions coincide with the development of institutions such as prisons and this suggests the State taking responsibility for the people.

**Penny Johnson**

This line of thought is very westerncentric.

**Ray Jureidini**

I agree with you, it is.

**Martina Rieker**

Political modernity is a global way of thinking and is being challenged differently in the Arab world.

**Dina Craissati**

I think we should not start the project with assumptions. What does it mean to be Arab? I also question the centrality of the family. For example in Palestine, where does violence get bred, in the family or the street? In this case I would question the centrality of the family.

**Nadine Naber**

I agree with Dina about the assumptions. I suggest that we change the title on a more questioning line rather than an assumption.

**Hoda Rashad**

With regards to the question of Arab, are we Arab families in Arab countries?  
Another thing that is characteristic of Arab families is sexual contact outside of marriage. It does happen, but in general it is not accepted by Arab families.

**Dina Craissati**

I raised this not to debate it but to question it and we should not assume it in our title.

**Nadine Naber**

I would like to hear from the Public Discourse group about the type of research you imagine yourselves doing. I sensed that your project is different from the others in that it is a more general study of the family.

**Penny Johnson**

There are a number of topics that we are looking into and marriage is only one of them.

**Mishka Mourani**

One other important topic we came up with was the issue of citizenship and nationality.

**Hoda Rashad**

I have just remembered that we have done a national survey on marriage in Egypt, and I think it would be good for the Public Discourse to look at it. However, I do not feel that your title does not reflect your issues.

**Zeina Zaatari**

With regards to the issue of discourse and lived realities, I was thinking of contested marriage contracts and how people are trying to negotiate marriage. There are also interesting shows on the television and radio that advise on how to bring up children, and these shows indicate the link between discourse and lived realities.

We cannot look at lived realities outside of the discourse.

**Hoda Elsadda**

I feel that there is a gap between what is produced in television and radio and what actually is, that is ...lived realities. I have recently been looking at lived realities and how people express their lived realities. For example, Hajj Metwalli and the discussions around this television serial, especially what people do and what they are expected to do etc.

**Ray Jureidini**

Where does authority come up here?

**Suad Joseph**

This is where sites of representation come up. If we talk about the discourse of family as a construction, then we need the language to represent this discourse. The site where construction is done has power and authority.

**Penny Johnson**

When we talked about sites we mostly looked the media and law as the areas of interest for the construction of families.

**Suad Joseph**

We should focus on the project and not the title.

**Nadine Naber**

When you spoke of family as constructed, I felt that it is something that we are all doing, and I feel that it needs to be articulated.

**Jihad Makhoul**

When we are talking about reconstruction we are also talking of destruction due to war etc.

#### **IV. Thematic Commonalities**

##### **Discussion**

##### **Suad Joseph**

Where do you see the thematic commonalities?

##### **Penny Johnson**

Public/private-shifting boundaries.

##### **Martina Rieker**

Notion of change in family and family norms.

##### **Ray Jureidini**

Change in family dynamics.

##### **Jihad Makhoul**

Change in terms of the context of the family – political economy. Historical perspectives of change.

##### **Martina Rieker**

Individual subjects and the family.

##### **Penny Johnson**

Family as a producer of political and social subjects.

##### **Nadine Naber**

Problematizing the concept of the family.

##### **Penny Johnson**

Relationship between the family and the nation. This can be found in the Border Crossings and Public Discourse groups.

##### **Suad Joseph**

The way family crosses the boundary of the nation and its effects on the nation.

##### **Ibrahim Elnur**

Networks and transnationalism.

##### **Ray Jureidini**

Adaptation of family to changing circumstances. For example, now after September 11 in the United States, Arabs are changing their names and this will affect the family.

##### **Martina Rieker**

Ways in which the family is constructed in a national, transnational level and urban housing space.

**Zeina Zaatari**

We should look at the ethical concerns of research for the Core Group.

**Dina Craissati**

I wanted to concentrate the collective framework on issues like,

Why research on the family?

Why is it crucial now?

How can research contribute to address issues of concern?

The major trends we see.

We need to concentrate on a larger question, a larger theoretical framework. We should aim at opening forums for discussion.

**Hoda Elsadda**

In thinking along the line of activist research, to what extent do we want to use research to intervene in political and public discourse that would affect our lives?

**Dina Craissati**

If we want to put in the proposal something connected to emancipatory values, then there is a danger in working through the family and I do not think the group wants to go there.

**Nadine Naber**

I am concerned with the ethical concerns, and I am also concerned with working in a top-down approach.

**Dian Craissati**

I brought this up because at times words and expressions can be misused, and I feel that we should not use broad terms.

**Thematic Commonalities**

1. Public/Private – the shifting boundaries of the public/private
2. Social Changes in General – Historicity/contextualizing in family - ideas of change.
3. Representation in Discourse - Symbolism, myths of family, the way family is lived, and the way these become material.
4. Relation between the individual subject and the family - productive tension and creative tension.
5. Creating Subjects - Family as producing social and political subjects and the family is being produced by State and public policy to produce social and political subjects.

6. Problematizing the concept of the family – What is the family? The family as the core of society.

7. Nation/State and family –Family as a national project, family across nation (transnational)

8. Family identity and law - people change identities in migration or internally. State, citizenship and nationality. How people change names for social/political reasons. Reason to ask father's name is to identify religion.

9. Family and Space – how families reproduce themselves in transnational projects, local projects, national spaces, transnational spaces, urban spaces, local spaces. Spaces as sites for transformation and creation of familial relations, dynamics.

10. Activist Research - Policy implication of our Work

a) Most of us were excited to have the chance to theorize the family – we haven't had a chance to think about concepts, ideas and theory.

b) Well-being research project group has a clear activist direction. They want to influence policy. We are all interested in activist research.

## **V. Protocols**

### **ARAB FAMILIES WORKING GROUP PROTOCOLS CAIRO, MARCH 28, 2002**

#### **I. Membership**

1. The Core Group of the AFWG is understood to be the members confirmed on the list as of the March 26-28, 2002 meeting of the AFWG revised from the AFWG Core Group list of the May 2001 Cairo AFWG meeting. AFWG Core Group membership is closed, except by invitation, following new membership procedures listed below. AFWG Core Group members are expected to contribute to the research, writing, fund raising and other work of the AFWG Core Group. Every AFWG Core Group member belongs to a Research Project Group. AFWG Core Group members agree to actively participate and contribute to a Research Project Group.

2. New AFWG Core Group members are admitted through invitation to membership in a Research Project Group. After one year of active participation in a Research Project Group, the candidate may be nominated for membership in the AFWG Core Group by a unanimous vote of the AFWG Core Group members of the Research Project Group. The RPG submits the name and candidate information to the AFWG Core Group Coordinator to be circulated in advance of the AFWG Core Group meeting. The nomination is considered by the AFWG Core Group at their next duly constituted meeting. A yes vote of two thirds of the AFWG Core Group members present at the duly constituted meeting of the AFWG Core Group will be considered confirmation of new membership to the AFWG Core Group. In special circumstances agreeable to the AFWG Core Group, a person may be elected to membership in the AFWG Core Group by unanimous vote of the Core Group at a duly constituted meeting of the AFWG Core Group. An invitation to AFWG Core Group membership will be sent to the candidate by the AFWG Core Group Coordinator. The candidate must inform the Coordinator of acceptance of the invitation within thirty days of receipt.

3. Removal of membership: Removal of membership can be initiated by a member who wishes to withdraw and submits his/her resignation from the AFWG Core Group and RPG to the Coordinator. Removal may also be accomplished by a fifty percent vote of the RPG membership to remove an AFWG Core Group or RPG member. The RPG will submit its vote and rationale for removal of the AFWG Core Group or RPG member to the AFWG Core Group at its next duly constituted meeting. A fifty percent vote of agreement on removal of the member, of the AFWG Core Group members present at a duly constituted meeting will be required to cancel the membership of an AFWG Core Group or RPG member from the AFWG Core Group or RPG. Removal of an AFWG Core Group member may also be initiated by the AFWG Core Group. A fifty percent vote of agreement by the AFWG Core Group members present at the duly constituted meeting, on removal of the candidate of the AFWG Core Group, will constitute cancellation of membership. The AFWG Core Group may cancel the AFWG Core Group and/or RPG membership of an AFWG Core Group member based on:

a. Lack of participation. Participation entails attending at least one meeting in the calendar year of the AFWG Core Group or RPG; contributing adequately

to the research work of the AFWG Core Group or the RPG; contributing to the writing of the RPG or the AFWG Core Group; contributing to the fund raising work or other needed work of the RPG or AFWG Core Group. Lack of participation in any of these activities or combination of these activities may be constitute; grounds for cancellation of membership in the AFWG Core Group and the RPG.

b. Engaging in procedures which violate the spirit or substance of the Protocols.

## **II. Meetings**

1. The AFWG Core Group members agree to meeting at least once a year and members agree to attend at least one AFWG Core Group or RPG meeting a year. The Research Project Group agrees to meeting at least once a year and members agree to attend once a year a Research Project Group meeting or an AFWG Core Group meeting.

2. Meetings of the AFWG Core Group and RPGs will be announced in advance and efforts will be made to accommodate member schedules to maximize attendance. A duly constituted meeting of the Core Group or a RPG is considered scheduled once fifty percent of the members of the Core Group or RPG's have confirmed that they will attend the announced meeting.

3. A quorum at an AFWG Core Group or RPG meeting consists of fifty percent of the membership of the AFWG Core Group or RPG. If less than fifty percent of the membership of the AFWG Core Group or RPG are present for any meeting, all decisions will have to be ratified by vote of the full AFWG Core Group or RPG conducted by email or regular mail. Ratification is considered to be a two thirds "yes" vote of the full membership of the AFWG Core Group or the RPG.

4. Good will efforts will be made to fund costs of these meetings through AFWG Collective Funds. RPG members also agree to trying to raise funds from their institutions to attend AFWG Core Group and/or RPG meetings.

5. As conditions and funding permit, AFWG Core Group and RPGs will try to rotate their meeting places to facilitate participation and dialogue of all members.

6. As conditions and funding permit, AFWG will agree to have periodic meetings which include AFWG Core Group and members of RPG's (including non-Core Group members of RPGs) to facilitate dialogue.

7. Decisions made at duly constituted AFWG Core Group and RPG meetings are binding on all AFWG Core Group members and relevant RPG's.

8. AFWG Core Group meetings will be divided into closed and open sessions. The AFWG Core Group may invite special guests to the open sessions. Special guests may include potential funders and research assistants employed by RPGs or the AFWG Core Group. Research Project Groups may also invite fellow Researchers, at the cost of the RPG, to attend those sessions of the AFWG Core Group meeting which are relevant to the research they are carrying out in conjunction with a specific RPG project.

9. As conditions and time permit, AFWG Core Group meetings may include a session for intellectual discussions not directly related to the specific projects of the group. This may include viewing films, or discussing readings assigned in advance, or inviting guest speakers. Suggestions for such sessions may be submitted to the Planning Committee of the AFWG Core Group meeting in advance of the meeting.

## **III. Research**

1. AFWG members agree that research projects and publications and other creative works of the AFWG will be collaborative, including the participation of two or more AFWG Core Group members.
2. AFWG agree that research will be comparative (not single country studies), with a focus on comparisons of Egypt, Lebanon, Palestine and their diasporas.
3. AFWG agree that research projects and proposals are vetted, reviewed and approved by AFWG Core Group and appropriate RPG prior to initiation. Review of research projects and proposals will include an ethical review in the AFWG Core Group and RPG. Proposals and projects must be submitted to the AFWG Core Group or appropriate RPG in advance of a duly constituted meeting. A two thirds vote of the members present at a duly constituted AFWG Core Group meeting is required for approval of a research project or proposal. A unanimous vote of approval of the members present of a RPG at a duly constituted RPG meeting is required for approval for a RPG project or proposal.

#### **IV. Authorship**

1. The AFWG Core Group and RPG members agree that authorship of all research project work funded by AFWG or RPG's will be collaborative, including two or more AFWG Core Group members. We agree that we will not single author work emerging from the collaborative work of the AFWG Core Group or the AFWG RPG. Authorship entails writing of journal articles, books and monographs, book chapters, conference proceedings, newsletters, newspaper articles, and creative works including films, videos, and tape recordings and CDs and the like.
2. AFWG Core Group and RPG members agree that theoretical work, literature reviews, and other dissemination emerging from AFWG collaborative work will be collectively authored by at least two or more AFWG Core Group members.
3. Individual authors of sections of a published AFWG Core Group or RPG work may be identified in footnotes or other appropriate means (ex. Section I written by author X, Section II written by author Y).
4. AFWG Core Group and RPG members agree that they will acknowledge the contribution of AFWG when their individual work has benefited from and is informed by their participation in AFWG Core Group or RPG.
5. AFWG Core Group and RPG members agree that all forms of publication and dissemination will be submitted for a review process within AFWG prior to dissemination.
6. The Review process for published (and other creative AFWG Core Group or RPG work) will entail:
  - a. AFWG Core Group will develop author guidelines for work published as AFWG Core Group or RPG work.
  - b. The draft of the publication is edited by the authoring team in consultation with the appropriate AFWG Core Group or RPG members.
  - c. The clean draft of the publication is sent to the AFWG Core Group Coordinator.
  - d. The AFWG Core Group Coordinator sends the draft to two or more of the appropriate AFWG Core Group members for review.

e. The draft is evaluated by the readers and sent back directly to the authors within six weeks of receipt or within a time frame appropriate to the venue of dissemination.

f. The readers make a final reading of the revised draft of the document and endorse publication.

g. The final draft is sent to the AFWG Core Group Coordinator.

h. The AFWG Core Group Coordinator and the authoring team approve the final proofs of the document prior to printing.

i. All AFWG publications (and other creative works) will include the following statement:

“This work was produced under the auspices of the Arab Families Working Group (AFWG). AFWG is a collaborative enterprise which relies on the dialogue of its members. However, the final responsibility for this publication rests with its authors.”

j. Appeal of the Review process: Should authors and readers be unable to reach an agreement on the final draft of a publication, the following process will be initiated and concluded:

1.) An Ad Hoc Review Committee will be appointed to include two AFWG Core Group members appointed by the AFWG Core Group Coordinator and one AFWG Core Group member selected by the authoring team.

2.) The Ad Hoc Review Committee will review and respond to the appeal within four weeks of receipt. They will respond directly to the Coordinator of the AFWG Core Group and the authoring team with their individual judgments and their committee recommendations. The Ad Hoc Review Committee will be charged with attempting to reach a consensus. If consensus cannot be achieved, the majority vote (two out of three) will prevail.

7. AFWG members agree that all forms of publication and dissemination of work funded by AFWG will acknowledge the collective work of the AFWG, list all AFWG members, list the relevant RPG members, and acknowledge the funders of AFWG.

The following standard statement will be included on all work funded by AFWG Core Group or the AFWG RPGs.

“This work is based on the theoretical frameworks and empirical research developed over a several year collaborative initiative initiated of the Arab Families Working Group (AFWG). AFWG is administered through the University of California, Davis and the American University in Cairo. This program of work has benefited from the institutional collaboration of the following organizations: American University in Cairo, Provost’s Office; Social Research Center of the American University in Cairo; Canadian International Development Agency; Institute of Women’s Studies, Birzeit University; International Development Research Center, Cairo; Middle East Awards of the Population Council, Cairo; University of California, Davis. AFWG has been funded by the International Development Research Center, Cairo; the Population Council, Cairo; the Social Research Center, American University in Cairo; UNICEF, Cairo.

“AFWG Core Group members include: Suad Joseph (Coordinator), Rabab Abdulhadi, Lina Abu-Habib, Lamis Abu-Nahleh, Soraya Altorki, Dina Craissati, Ibrahim Elnur, Hoda Elsadda, Barbara Ibrahim, Penny Johnson, Ray Jureidini, Mona Khalaf,

Eileen Kuttab, Jihad Makhoul, Annelies Moors, Nadine Naber, Hoda Rashad, Martina Rieker, Naila Sabra, Hania Sholkamy, Malak Zaalouk, Zeina Zaatari, Huda Zurayk.”

“Research Project Group members include:

(1) Women, Work and Family Well-Being RPG: Mona Khalaf and Hoda Rashad (Facilitators), Marwan Khawaja, Afaf Meleis, Naila Sabra, Hania Sholkamy, Huda Zurayk, Leila El Zeini.

(2) Border Crossings, War and Displacement RPG: Ray Jureidini and Nadine Naber (Facilitators), Rabab Abdulhadi, Leila Bisharat, Ibrahim Elnur, Eileen Kuttab, Jihad Makhoul, Madhavi Sunder, Jamil Hilal.

(3) Public Discourse and Representations RPG: Suad Joseph and Martina Rieker (Facilitators), Lina Abu-Habib, Lamis Abu-Nahleh, Soraya Altorki, Dina Craissati, Hoda Elsadda, Omnia El Shakry, Barbara Ibrahim, Penny Johnson, Annelies Moors, Mishka Mourani, Malak Zaalouk, Zeina Zaatari.”

8. Organized panels and papers at professional meetings may be undertaken by a RPG collectively, or by the Core Group collectively. The Core Group Coordinator should be informed in advance of all such forms of dissemination.

## **V. Funding**

1. AFWG agrees to raise funds collectively for the work of the AFWG.

Funds raised for the collective work of the AFWG are distributed equitably for the administration, meeting and research costs of the AFWG Core Group and the RPGs. Funds will be distributed to the RPGs on the basis of research project needs and research budgets which have been approved by the AFWG Core Group, with a commitment to aim for equity.

Proposals for funding should be submitted to the AFWG Core Group Coordinator and circulated in advance of a duly constituted AFWG Core Group meeting. Budget decisions on proposal for funding are made by a two thirds majority vote of those present at the duly constituted AFWG Core Group meeting.

AFWG Core Group central office, staffing and overhead costs will be allocated from the collectively raised funds.

AFWG agrees to raise funding for dissemination of AFWG work in English and Arabic wherever possible.

2. Proposals for funding by initiated by other agencies which include funding for AFWG collectively or AFWG RPGs require approval by AFWG Core Group. Those sections of the external agency proposal which include funding for AFWG (including the budget) will be circulated in advance to the AFWG Core Group by email or other appropriate form. The approval may be sought by email or vote at a duly constituted meeting of the Core Group. An approval consists of a two thirds majority of those who respond to the email or those present at the duly constituted meeting.

3. Proposals for funding by Research Project Groups must be written by at least two or more AFWG Core Group members of the RPG. Proposals must be comparative and collaborative, as defined in III. 1. and III. 2. above.

## **VI. Dissemination**

1. Dissemination includes all forms of publications such as articles, pamphlets, books, Panels at professional or other meetings
  - Talks at formal or informal groups
  - Videos, films, tape-recording
  - Conferences and workshops
2. Procedures for dissemination
  - a. Dissemination can be initiated by the AFWG Core Group or the RPG.
  - b. All forms of dissemination require review and vetting by the AFWG Core Group through the review process.
  - c. AFWG Core Group and RPG members agree to disseminate through collective authorship or creative work (not single author or single producer of creative work).
  - d. Dissemination will entail the acknowledgment procedure outlined above.

## **VII. Grievance Procedure**

Any AFWG Core Group member may bring a grievance involving AFWG to the attention of the AFWG Core Group Coordinator. The AFWG Core Group Coordinator will review the grievance and evaluate the need for an Ad Hoc Grievance Committee. If a Grievance Committee is deemed necessary, the AFWG Group Coordinator will appoint an Ad Hoc Committee comprising three AFWG Core Group members. The Ad Hoc Grievance Committee is charged with producing a consensus outcome if possible. If resolution is not forthcoming, the AFWG Core Group Coordinator will bring this grievance to the attention of the AFWG Core Group by email or at the next duly constituted AFWG Core Group meeting, as deemed appropriate to the urgency of the grievance. The AFWG Core Group will resolve the grievance by a two thirds majority vote of those present at the duly constituted meeting or of those responding to the email.

## **VIII. Revising the Protocols of the Arab Families Working Group**

1. Changes to the AFWG Protocols may be suggested by any two AFWG Core Group members. Any proposed changes must be submitted to the AFWG Core Group Coordinator and circulated to the AFWG Core Group in advance of a duly constituted AFWG Core Group meeting.
2. The approval of two thirds of those present at a duly constituted AFWG Core Group meeting will be required to change the Protocols.
3. Changes in the Protocols will be announced and distributed to the AFWG Core Group within one month of the approval.

## **IX. Effective Date of the Protocols of the Arab Families Working Group**

The effective date of the Protocols of the Arab Families Working Group is March 28, 2002.

**Vote on Protocols:**

**All who agree:**

Barbara Ibrahim  
Dina Craissati  
Hania Sholkamy  
Hoda Elsadda  
Hoda Rashad  
Ibrahim Elnur  
Jihad Makhoul  
Malak Zaalouk  
Martina Rieker  
Nadine Naber  
Naila Sabra  
Penny Johnson  
Ray Jureidini  
Suad Joseph  
Zeina Zaatari

**Change of Protocols:**

A.

By unanimous vote, can add send one person to Core Group

B.

1. Quorum of all Core Group is 50% of group (drop by confirmation)
2. If it is less than 50%, any decision will have to be notified by email and vote of 2/3 Core Group responding.

We voted unanimously to invite Annelies Moors.

**Funding scenarios**

There are three main types of funding that we can get.

1. Grants for AFWG collectively - These are grants applied for and intended for AFWG collectively.
1. Grants by other agencies which include funding for AFWG Research Project Groups – such proposals require the approval by AFWG Core Group. The approval may be sought by email and consists of two thirds of those who reply.
2. Grants by Research Project groups

## AFWG Deadline Dates

<b>June 15, 2002</b>	Research Project Group proposal statement, <i>3 pages</i> . Nadine Naber & Ray Jureidini – Diaspora Research Project Group Hoda Rashad & Hania Sholkamy – Well-being Research Project Group Martina Rieker & Suad Joseph – Public Discourse Research Project Group
<b>July 15, 2002</b>	Research Project Group Literature reviews, <i>3 pages</i> . Nadine Naber & Ray Jureidini Hoda Rashad & Hania Sholkamy Martina Rieker & Suad Joseph facilitate (Hoda Elsadda & Dina Craissati will write)
<b>September 1, 2002</b>	Barbara Ibrahim & Suad Joseph Theoretical Rationale, <i>3-5 pages, 1000-1500 words</i>
<b>September 15, 2002</b>	Final copy of Research Project Group Proposal Statement and Budget
<b>Sept 15- Oct1, 2002</b>	Barbara Ibrahim & Suad Joseph AFWG Budget
<b>October 1, 2002</b>	First draft of all components. Comments back to Suad Joseph by October 15, 2002
<b>October 15, 2002</b>	Comments from Core Group Members on first draft of all components due
<b>November 1, 2002</b>	Literature review for publication due, <i>10-15 pages</i>
<b>Nov 1-Nov 15, 2002</b>	Final draft of proposal

**Notice to whole Core Group.** If they were not able to attend this meeting they are responsible to read all materials and respond within 3 weeks and no response, endorsement and late response is up to discretion on coordinator unless something substantive and important at stake all. Will not email whole group response.

### **Next Core Group Meeting:**

Between December 2002 and February 2003.

-Before Christmas in 2002

-Or end of January, weekend time. Friday/Sat/Sunday in Cairo

## **VI. List of Possible Funders**

- I. Melon
- II. Hewlett-Packard
- III. Ford, Cairo
- IV. Gates Foundation (anti-research – want change and only health)
- V. Gender Desk French Government Budget
- VI. Dutch Development Cooperation
- VII. Swedish CIDA
- VIII. Norwegian CIDA
- IX. DIFED Department for Instrumental England (Naila Sabra)
- X. Japanese International Cooperation Agency - JICA
- XI. Norwegian, NOV-AID
- XII. Danish Aid - DANIDA
- XIII. ECHO, European Commission for Humanitarian Office?? (Naila)
- XIV. EU, Euro AID – not research
- XV. Macarthur
- XVI. Guggenheim
- XVII. Rockefeller
- XVIII. Hariri Foundation
- XIX. Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development (Mervat Badawi, Egyptian Economist in Kuwait)

### **Dina Craissati**

What are we looking for as a total budget?

### **Suad Joseph**

I am aiming at 1-2 million dollars for the whole group within the year.

## **VII. Title of Proposal**

Arab Families and their Modernities – Martina Rieker

Rethinking Arab Family – Penny Johnson

Debating the Arab Families – Dina Craissati

Changing Dynamics of Arab Families – Ibrahim Elnur

Arab Families: Public Debates and Lived Realities – Suad Joseph

Arab Families: Debates and Lived Realities

Arab Families: Myths and Lived Realities

Arab Families: Controversies, Contexts, Lived Realities – Jihad Makhoul

Arab Families: Controversies, and Realities

Arab Families: Controversies and Lived Realities

**All agree on “Arab Families: Controversies and Lived Realities”**