

Announcing a call for papers for a special issue of *Child Maltreatment* focusing on  
**Fathers & Physical Child Abuse & Neglect**

Submission Deadline: September 20, 2008

Fathers and father figures may play a key role in the risk that families face for physical child abuse and neglect (CAN) and are overrepresented as perpetrators of certain forms of severe maltreatment. Yet, little is known about how fathers and father figures influence risk for CAN. The goal of this special edition is to advance the research regarding fathers and CAN, inform child abuse service and policy strategies that target the entire family system, and illuminate the gaps, opportunities, and recommendations for future scholarship in this area. For the purposes of this call for papers we use the term “father” to refer not only to biological fathers, but also to the broader scope of men who play a parenting or other significant role in the family.

We invite empirical research on topics that include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Identifying the risk and protective characteristics of fathers that are linked with CAN, such as fathers’ parenting behaviors, mental health, substance use, economic contributions, involvement with the child, and/or interactions with the child’s mother.
- Assessment of diverse fathers (race/ ethnicity, geographic region, marital/residential status).
- Community-level influences that shape risk for paternal child maltreatment.
- Best practices for supporting positive father involvement in child welfare services, and the effectiveness of father-focused policies and practices within the child welfare system.
- Interventions that target or consider fathers’ roles in CAN prevention.
- Papers that advance theory or examine methodological issues related to the role of fathers in child maltreatment and fathers’ parenting behaviors.

Given the wealth of research concerning male involvement in sexual abuse, we are explicitly seeking manuscripts that target the role of fathers in physical child maltreatment. Similarly, manuscripts that address intimate partner violence will be considered, but must emphasize fathers or fathering.

The deadline to submit articles is September 20, 2008. All submissions will be peer-reviewed. Manuscripts should be no more than 30 double-spaced pages, inclusive of all tables, figures, and references, and be in APA format. Articles should be submitted electronically to the *Child Maltreatment* web site: <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/childmaltreatment>.

Email for special issue editors:

- Shawna J. Lee, Wayne State University, School of Social Work and Merrill-Palmer Institute for Child & Family Development: [shawnal@wayne.edu](mailto:shawnal@wayne.edu)
- Jennifer Bellamy, University of Washington, George Warren Brown School of Social Work: [jbellamy@wustl.edu](mailto:jbellamy@wustl.edu)
- Neil B. Guterman, University of Chicago, School of Social Service Administration and Chapin Hall Center for Children: [nguterman@uchicago.edu](mailto:nguterman@uchicago.edu)

Web site for journal: <http://childmaltreatment.sagepub.com>