

# Family Relationships Quarterly

The Newsletter of the Australian Family Relationships Clearinghouse

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## Welcome

Welcome to the second edition of *Family Relationships Quarterly*, bringing you the latest news on research and events aimed at enhancing family relationships.

The Internet has brought about massive changes to the ways that family members communicate, between themselves and others. While the changes have often been positive, for example, the sharing of information and photos with family members, the Internet has also negatively affected intimate relationships due to the simplification of access to materials, information and other people. Our feature article looks at the increasing prevalence of Internet affairs, and offers guidelines for practitioners in providing services to clients facing these issues.

Our second article examines the issue of family involvement in therapeutic treatment for young men with sexually abusive behaviours. *Cameron Boyd*, Research Officer with the Institute's Australian Centre for the Study of Sexual Assault, discusses the delicate balance between the need for parents to continue in a parenting role for the young person, whilst ensuring the safety of other children in the home. These factors are a cornerstone to effective treatment.

*Ruth Weston* and *Lixia Qu* follow up their summary of trends in couple formation from the first issue of the *Family Relationships Quarterly* by examining patterns of couple dissolution.

There are also our regular newsletter sections on conferences and literature highlights from recent additions to the Institute's library catalogue.

As always, the Australian Family Relationships Clearinghouse (AFRC) is keen to receive feedback on how we can better meet the needs of those committed to working to improve family relationships, so please provide us with your comments on current or future publications. If you would like to contribute an article or review to *Family Relationships Quarterly*, details of how to do so are provided on page 17 of the newsletter. All current and past AFRC publications are available on our website, as well as bibliographies on a range of family-related topics, links to relevant websites and information on useful resources.

**Elly Robinson**  
Manager

Australian Family Relationships Clearinghouse