

FPR Announces Second Interdisciplinary Conference:

“Four Dimensions of Childhood: Brain, Mind, Culture, and Time”

February 11-13, 2005

Korn Convocation Hall on the UCLA Campus

The effects of social, cultural, and family experiences on the neurobiological and psychological growth and development of children is the focus of The Foundation for Psychocultural Research and UCLA’s second interdisciplinary conference integrating the biological, clinical, and social sciences. The conference addresses critical and urgent concerns about the well being of children in the face of political and economic instability, social trauma, violence, displacement, and other inequities that texture their everyday lives.

Internationally recognized scientists and scholars will convene at UCLA on February 11-13, 2005, to engage each other’s work in order to present a multi-faceted view of how individual childhood unfolds in time and space. Sessions will include speaker presentations, clinical and ethnographic case studies, and interdisciplinary panels on such critical topics as: the formation of social behaviors during infancy; the social and cultural contexts of early childhood, including adverse experiences of neglect, maltreatment, bullying initiation rites, and social suffering; and some possible implications of early life stress on psychosocial development.

In addition to these discussions, on the evening of the first day of the conference (Friday, Feb. 11, 2005, 7:30-9:00 pm at Korn Hall), we are convening an interdisciplinary keynote panel that will specifically address the long-term psychosocial and cultural implications of the tsunami disaster in the Aceh region on Indonesian children and families.

Participants include Indonesian clinicians and administrators involved in recovery efforts as well as experts in child trauma and anthropologists and scholars whose work has focused on Indonesian history, society, and culture.

The conference, entitled “Four Dimensions of Childhood: Brain, Mind, Culture, and Time,” will take place on February 11-13, 2005, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, at Korn Convocation Hall on the UCLA Campus. The full conference agenda, list of chairs, moderators, and speakers, and registration materials are available at www.thefpr.org/conference2005. The Friday night tsunami panel is free and open to the public, although seating is limited. A limited number of media passes will be available for the three-day conference.

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