



Family Communication: Cohesion and Change

By Kathleen M. Galvin, Dawn O. Braithwaite, Carma L. Bylund

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Addresses the role of communication in developing and maintaining functional, diverse family relationships

Family Communication: Cohesion and Change encourages students to observe family interaction patterns analytically and relate communication theories to family interaction. Using a framework of family functions, first-person narratives, and current research, *Family Communication: Cohesion and Change* emphasizes the diversity of today's families in terms of structure, ethnic patterns, and developmental experiences.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Kathleen M. Galvin (Ph.D. Northwestern University) is a professor in the Department of Communication Studies at Northwestern University. Her research interests focus on the social construction of families, particularly the discourse-dependent nature of families formed outside of full biological and traditional legal ties. She is the author of “Diversity’s Impact on Defining the Family: Discourse Dependence and Identity” in *The Family Communication Sourcebook* as well as related pieces on adoption, particularly transracial and/or transnational adoption, and family decision making in high stakes health situations involving minor children. She is the senior author of “Whose Future Is It? Ethical Family Decision Making about Daughters’ Treatment in the Oncofertility Context” as well as a co-author “Learning about Cancer and Fertility: A Guide for Parents of Young Children.” In addition, she served as the senior author of *Family Communication: Cohesion and Change*, throughout its earlier eight editions and the editor of *Making Connections: Readings in Relational Communication*, now in its 5th edition.

Carma Bylund, PhD, is Assistant Director of Medical Education at Hamad Medical Center in Doha, Qatar. She is a researcher and teacher whose areas of expertise are healthcare communication and family communication about health. Dr. Bylund is the author of 59 peer-reviewed publications and 16 edited book chapters. Dr. Bylund received her PhD in Communication Studies from Northwestern University in 2001. Dr. Bylund was most recently Director of the Communication Skills Training and Research Laboratory at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and Associate Research Professor at Weill Cornell Medical College. Dr. Bylund’s teaching and research focuses on developing, implementing, and assessing interventions to improve patient and clinician communication. In addition, she has researched and published on family communication about genetics and family communication and storytelling.

Dawn O. Braithwaite, PhD, is a Willa Cather Professor and Chair of the Communication Studies Department at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She studies how people in personal and family relationships interact and negotiate family change and challenges. Her current work is centered in understudied families, communication rituals, and relational dialectics in the context of stepfamilies and voluntary kin. Dr. Braithwaite is the author of 95 articles in journals scholarly books, and co-author or editor of five scholarly books: *Family Communication: Cohesion and Change* (9th edition), *Engaging Theories in Interpersonal Communication*, *Engaging Theories in Family Communication*, *Casing Interpersonal Communication: Case Studies in Personal and Social Relationships* and *Handbook of Communication and People with Disabilities*.

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