President's Message: Toxic Stress & Immigrant Children

July 5, 2018

It has been said society will be judged by how it treats its most vulnerable. If you believe that then our society has failed in a catastrophic and inhumane way based on treatment of immigrant children and families seeking asylum on our southern border.

This failure is not a question about immigration policy. There are many views and ideas about how immigration should be addressed. This is not about left or right - it is about right and wrong. There can be no acceptable reason to forcibly separate children from their parents. I have heard politicians and government officials respond that these children are being well cared for - receiving food, shelter, clothing and toys to play with. While I am glad that this is true (though the lack of transparency makes this difficult to confirm), these individuals do not understand the impact of toxic stress that these adverse childhood events and trauma can cause.

Toxic stress in children is currently one of the Academy board’s five priorities. The evidence is clear. Exposure to toxic stress causes irreversible damage to a child’s brain and sets up a significant lifelong increase of physical and mental health conditions. The treatment of immigrant children has been a concern for the Academy. In fact in January 2016 the Academy published policy recommendations in Nursing Outlook with six specific recommendations in support of humanitarian aid to refugee children. (Visit here to read “Support for humanitarian aid to refugee children,” excellent work by our Expert Panels on Global Health and Child/Adolescent/Families.)

Last month, on June 19th (coincidentally Juneteenth, an annual celebration of the end of slavery in the United States), the Academy released a statement entitled “Separation of children from their parents increases likelihood of toxic stress.” Subsequently, the ANA and their Membership Assembly released a statement with four specific recommendations. The Academy also joined with a cross section of 31 nursing organizations in signing on to a letter to Department of Homeland Security Secretary Nielsen urging that the health of immigrant children be protected by ending the separation policy. While there has been some attempt to roll back this policy, well over 2000 children remain thousands of miles from their parents.

As both the Academy and individual members of the nursing profession, we must continue to speak out about this issue using the evidence that we know to be true. We cannot let this be a partisan issue. The children and their families are counting on us.

Sincerely,

Karen Cox, PhD, RN, FAAN
President

Policy Update

The Academy signed on to a letter to the House Energy & Commerce Committee from the APRN community thanking them for including Section 303 in HR 6, the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act. Section 303 of this legislation makes permanent the authorization for nurse practitioners and physician assistants to prescribe medication-assisted treatments and expand that authorization to the other APRN roles for five years. On June 22, the House passed HR 6 and the bill has moved on to the Senate.

Academy Selects Lori Trego as NAM Distinguished Scholar-in-Residence

The Academy has selected Lori Trego, PhD, CNM, FAAN, as the 2018–2019 Distinguished Nurse Scholar-in-Residence at the National Academy of Medicine (NAM). The program provides a yearlong opportunity to participate in shaping health policy. Inducted into the Academy in 2016, Dr. Trego is a certified nurse midwife and associate professor at the University of Colorado Denver Anschutz Medical Campus College of Nursing, where she teaches in the Veteran and Military Healthcare graduate program. As a NAM Distinguished Nurse Scholar-in-Residence, Dr. Trego will have the opportunity to engage in the development of policy recommendations that address the nation’s most pressing health challenges.
Visit here to take Nancy Fahrenwald, PhD, RN, FAAN, Susan Loeb, PhD, released a statement, was named the new dean of for engaging speakers, interesting sessions, networking with colleagues, the Living Legends Ceremony & Dinner, and the Induction Ceremony & Soirée. Register here. You can also reserve your hotel room at the Marriott Marquis today.

Review the Preliminary Program here for a preview of the policy conference’s exciting agenda. The conference also provides a unique opportunity for institutions to reach nursing’s most influential leaders with an advertisement, sponsorship or exhibit. View the Prospectus here.

Council for the Advancement of Nursing Science

The Council announces the re-election of Nancy Fahrenwald, PhD, RN, FAAN, of Texas A&M University College of Nursing, as the 2018-2021 Councilor of Finance and Records of its Leadership Council. In addition, Susan Loeb, PhD, RN, FGSA, FAAN, of Penn State College of Nursing, and Judith Vessey, PhD, MBA, FAAN, of Boston College’s William F. Connell School of Nursing, were elected to the Nominating Committee for 2018-2020. The Council also welcomes Demetrius Porche, DNS, PhD, RN, APRN, BC, and Victoria Vaughan Dickson, PhD, RN, CRNP, FAAN, to the Leadership Council. Dr. Porche is the new president of the Southern Nursing Research Society and Dr. Dickson is the new president of the Eastern Nursing Research Society. Click here for more information.

The Preliminary Program for the 2018 State of the Science Congress on Nursing Research - Precision Health is now available! Register by June 29, 2018 to take advantage of early-bird discounts. View the Preliminary Program and register here.

Learn about sponsorship, exhibiting, and advertising opportunities available at the 2018 State of the Science Congress by viewing the Prospectus here. New this year: Postdoctoral opportunities speed networking and employment opportunities speed networking sessions! Questions? Please contact Rachael James.

Support the Academy

Please click here to donate to the Rheba de Tornyay Development Fund!

Your gift, at a level that is meaningful to you, is truly appreciated and is a critical investment in the future of nursing policy. The Academy is an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and your financial gift is tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowable by law. With a donation of $1,000 or more, you become a member of the President’s Circle. Members of the President’s Circle are invited to a reception hosted by the Academy President during the annual policy conference.

In Memoriam: Susan M. Cohen

The Academy mourns the loss of Susan M. Cohen, PhD, CRNP, FAAN, who passed away on June 12, 2018 in Pittsburgh. She was 67. Dr. Cohen was an associate professor and family nurse practitioner at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing.
Dr. Cohen’s expertise combined the fields of women's health and complementary medicine. Through funding from the National Institutes for Health, Dr. Cohen, as Principal Investigator, was the first researcher to conduct a clinical trial for cancer survivors who use acupuncture to reduce hot flashes. Additionally, she was Co-Principal Investigator on the first NIH acupuncture study to reduce urinary incontinence. She also explored meditation for menopausal symptom reduction.

Dr. Cohen served as a board member for the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties and was a central part of the support for the development of Doctor of Nursing Practice competencies at the national level. She served as president and board member of the Society for Menstrual Cycle Research, an international organization dedicated to promoting women’s health research.

Susan M. Cohen was inducted into the Academy in 2006 and was a member of the Expert Panel on Women’s Health.

**Fellow Achievements**

Lauren S. Aaronson, PhD, RN, FAAN, received the Midwest Nursing Research Society Lifetime Achievement Award for her leadership in research. She is professor emerita at the University of Kansas School of Nursing and was the first and only nurse funded as a Principal Investigator of an NIH Clinical and Translational Science Award. Inducted into the Academy in 1995, she is a former Academy board member and treasurer.

Denise Link, PhD, WHNP-BC, FAAN, received the 2018 Advocate Award for Excellence for Arizona from the American Association of Nurse Practitioners. The award is given to an individual in each state who has made significant contributions toward awareness and acceptance of NPs. Dr. Link is a clinical professor at Arizona State University College of Nursing & Health Innovation and was inducted into the Academy in 1992.

Ruth Watson Lubic, RN, CNM, EdD, FACNM, FAAN, was recognized as the New York Academy of Medicine’s Urban Health Equity Champion. She is founder/president emeritus of the DC Developing Families Center. The birth centers she founded in the 1970s-1980s serve as prototypes for the nation’s 350 freestanding birth centers today. Dr. Lubic was inducted into the Academy in 1978 and celebrated as an Academy Living Legend in 2001.

Mary Lou Manning, PhD, CRNP, CIC, FAAN, professor at Jefferson College of Nursing, received the Distinguished Scientist Award from the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology for her contributions to the field. Over three decades, Dr. Manning has distinguished herself in infection prevention and control clinical practice, research, and education. She was inducted into the Academy in 2013.

Kathleen Mooney, PhD, RN, FAAN, Distinguished Professor at the University of Utah College of Nursing, received a five-year renewal on a $1.78 million Training Grant in Cancer, Caregiving, and End-of-Life Care (T32) from the NINR. Her team will focus on training doctoral students while conducting research into patient and family caregiver communication and health impacts. Dr. Mooney was inducted into the Academy in 1992.

Marie Ann Marino, EdD, RN, FAAN, was named the new dean of the Jefferson College of Nursing. Dr. Marino was previously the associate dean for academic affairs and strategic partnerships at Stony Brook University School of Nursing. She is a nationally recognized leader in the utilization of team-based models of healthcare that directly impact policy and improve outcomes. Dr. Marino was inducted into the Academy in 2017.

Ann Marie Mauro, PhD, RN, CNL, CNE, FAAN, was promoted to associate dean at Rutgers University School of Nursing, where she is professor and founder/director of the Center for Educational Research and Innovation. Dr. Mauro is president-elect of the Eastern Nursing Research Society and was named 2017 March of Dimes Nurse of the Year - Academic Educator. She was inducted into the Academy in 2016.

Sarah Thompson, PhD, RN, FAAN, has been named dean of the University of Missouri Sinclair School of Nursing. Previously she was associate vice chancellor of health professions and professor at the University of Colorado Denver Anschutz Medical Campus College of Nursing, where she also served as dean for six years. Her own research has focused on end-of-life care in nursing homes. Dr. Thompson was inducted into the Academy in 2009.
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<td>The Associate Dean for Research in the College of Nursing is a vital member of the executive leadership team who leads the Office of Nursing Research and facilitates programs of research and scholarly productivity among faculty and students. The college is building research strengths and capacity in health promotion for rural and underserved populations, forensic nursing violence/trauma prevention, and health professions education.</td>
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