

## **Call for Associate Editors of *Families, Relationships and Societies* - Deadline 7 March 2025**

Policy Press and the Editorial Management Board of *Families, Relationships and Societies* invite applications for Associate Editor positions, starting in April 2025 for an initial period of three years, with the possibility of renewing for a second two-year term. While the journal is long-established, it is developing considerably with an increasingly international scope and as well as Associate Editors with strong UK networks, we are also seeking Associate Editors who can use their international networks to support the journal.

### **About the journal**

*Families, Relationships and Societies (FRS)* is a vibrant social science journal advancing scholarship and debates in the field of families and relationships. It explores family life, relationships and generational issues across the life course. Bringing together a range of social science perspectives, with a strong policy and practice focus, it is also strongly informed by sociological theory and the latest methodological approaches. The title encompasses the fluidity, complexity and diversity of contemporary social and personal relationships and their need to be understood in the context of different societies and cultures. The journal impact factor is currently 1.3 and it publishes 4 issues a year.

### **Editorial team**

You will be working with the [new Editorial team](#) which commenced their editorship in January 2025:

[Harriet Churchill](#), *Co-Editor-in-Chief*, University of Sheffield, UK

[Katherine Davies](#), *Co-Editor-in-Chief*, University of Sheffield, UK

[Majella Kilkey](#), *Co-Editor-in-Chief*, University of Sheffield, UK

[Julie Walsh](#), *Co-Editor and Special Issues Editor*; University of Sheffield, UK

[Sundari Anitha](#), *Co-Editor*, University of Sheffield, UK

[Adam Carter](#), *Co-Editor*; University of Sheffield, UK

### **About the role**

Becoming an Associate Editor of a journal is a rewarding and fulfilling experience, providing an opportunity for you to make a contribution to the academic community and champion the research you care about, while developing your position as a leading figure in the field. As well as building your own networks, you will gain an insight into scholarly journals publishing. The journal is published by Policy Press, an imprint of Bristol University Press, a not-for-profit publisher whose goal is to publish the highest quality international scholarship and strives to ensure the work we publish makes a positive contribution and has impact beyond academia. This is an exciting opportunity to help shape and develop the journal over the coming years. The core roles of an Associate Editor include peer reviewing, handling

papers through the review process, being an ambassador for the journal and making a contribution to strategic and intellectual directions for the journal.

### **Job Description:**

Reviewing activities:

- Related to areas of expertise reviewing submissions to the journal in a timely way in line with reviewer guidelines and timeframes (7- 10 articles per year).
- Related to areas of expertise suggesting reviewers for submissions if requested.
- Related to areas of expertise provide assistance with the peer review process (for example adjudicating in cases where reviewers disagree).

Some paper handling activities which may include:

- Identifying reviewers and sending articles for peer review.
- Ensuring at least two independent reviews are obtained for each article.
- Making final decision recommendations on articles to the Editors in Chief/co-editors.

Being an ambassador for the journal which may include:

- Encouraging submissions of articles from colleagues, especially focusing on those in your area of expertise (e.g. geographical region or topical area).
- Promoting the journal at conferences and other appropriate gatherings. The Publisher can provide leaflets and PowerPoint slides to assist you in this.
- Submitting articles to the journal yourself.
- Using listservs, LinkedIn and other communication and social media channels to promote the journal in your networks, for example including the journal link in your email signature.
- Helping to promote key articles and special issues/themed sections in social media, blogs and within your networks.
- Encouraging your library to subscribe to the journal.
- Helping scholars find relevant articles by including articles in your reference lists and in presentations you give, and including materials from the journal in reading lists for teaching at your institution.
- Mentoring PhD/ECRs when they write articles prior to submission to the journal.
- Promoting wider journal activities and events among research and topic related networks

Using your expertise to input in a strategic way to the intellectual and organisational success of the journal. This may include:

- Advising the publisher and co-editorial team of developments in your area which

- could shape the journal strategy.
- Attending journal meetings (online or at relevant conferences) and providing brief reports on activities in your area as required.
- Voting on and contributing to discussions about key decisions e.g. prizes, special issues.
- Identifying possible (emerging) themes for a special issue/themed section and. Where appropriate, be willing to be editor/co-editor of special issues/themed sections.
- Advising the publisher of key contacts for promotion of the journal.
- Advising the publisher of promotional opportunities, particularly for special issues/themed sections.

## How to apply

Applications should include **a short CV (2-pages maximum)** highlighting relevant experience **and a response to the following:**

1. An outline of your research area and expertise (up to 200 words).
2. An overview of your reviewing experience (up to 200 words).
3. An overview of your expertise in evaluating research design, methods and ethical practice (up to 200 words).
4. An overview of how you will contribute to consolidating and increasing FRS's growing international presence (up to 200 words).
5. An overview of which areas/issues you feel are currently underrepresented in the journal and how you would support an increase in submissions on these issues (up to 200 words).

For informal enquiries about the role please contact one of the below:

- Harrie Churchill [H.Churchill@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:H.Churchill@sheffield.ac.uk)
- Majella Kilkey [M.Kilkey@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:M.Kilkey@sheffield.ac.uk)
- Katherine Davies, [K.Davies@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:K.Davies@sheffield.ac.uk)

Applications should be forwarded by email to Sharon Harris ([sharon.harris@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:sharon.harris@bristol.ac.uk)) Journals Development Editor at Policy Press no later than Friday 7 March 2025.

Sharon Harris PhD, *Journals Development Editor*

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