SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION COLLECTION **UNDER GENERIC CLEARANCES**

DATE OF REQUEST: 4/24/2009

SUB AGENCY (I/C): National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)

TITLE: Developing Best Practices to Encourage Non-Residential Fathers' Participation in the National Children's Study: Perspectives from both Unwed, Non-Residential Mothers and Fathers

GENERIC CLEARANCE UNDER OMB# 0925-0590 **EXP. DATE:** 06/30/2011

ABSTRACT:

Given the enormous percentage of nonresidential fathers in certain socio-demographic groups, best practices for negotiating participation in the NCS among unwed, nonresidential fathers must be developed. This study proposes to employ focus group methodologies to explore how best to facilitate participation of nonresidential fathers in the NCS. Specifically, 6 focus groups will be convened with pregnant or parenting women that do not live with the father of the baby to ascertain how best to convey the importance of father participation so that women will be likely to provide father contact information and/or facilitate his participation. Additionally, 6 focus groups will be conducted with nonresidential fathers of young children to develop best practices to describe the study and gain participation.

The results of this study will be used to inform our development of local strategies and activities to enhance the willingness of nonresidential mothers to facilitate NCS contact with the father of her baby and to create best practices for contacting, and enrolling, nonresidential fathers.

Qualitative methods will be used to seek input from both groups (non-residential fathers and mothers) on a variety of perceived facilitators and barriers to father participation in the NCS. Information will be gathered using focus groups and follow-up interview methods (if necessary).

> TOTAL ANNUAL BURDEN APPROVED: 5825 hours BURDEN USED TO DATE: 330 hours **BURDEN THIS REQUEST: 100.3 hours** IS RACE AND ETHNICITY DATA COLLECTED AS REQUIRED? __X__YES ____NO___N/A **OBLIGATION TO RESPOND:** X VOLUNTARY REQUIRED TO OBTAIN OR RETAIN BENEFITS ____ MANDATORY HOW WILL THIS SURVEY BE OFFERED? WEB SITE X TELEPHONE INTERVIEW ____ MAIL RESPONSE X IN PERSON INTERVIEW OTHER: **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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