



The National Council on Family Relations

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NCFR recognizes Gizem Erdem for student excellence, potential in family field

MINNEAPOLIS — The National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) is proud to recognize Gizem Erdem as the 2013 recipient of the [NCFR Student Award](#), which is given to an NCFR graduate student member who has demonstrated excellence as a student and shows great potential for contributing to the family studies discipline.

Ms. Erdem is a Ph.D. candidate at The Ohio State University, specializing in couple and family therapy. She recently completed her clinical internship and supervision training in the program, and has received her Marriage and Family Therapy license at the State of Ohio. She earned her bachelor's degree in psychology at Bogazici University in Istanbul, and her master's degree in human development and family science at The Ohio State University.

Ms. Erdem's research interests revolve around marginalized populations, particularly adolescents and young single mothers struggling with poverty, homelessness, substance abuse, and mental health issues. She explores capabilities, resilience, and coping strategies of at-risk adolescents and families, and is interested in developing treatment interventions for these populations.



“Gizem is one of those rare students that an adviser might be assigned once or twice a career,” writes Dr. Natasha Slesnick, who advises Ms. Erdem and nominated her for the award. “She genuinely enjoys, and experiences great satisfaction from ... identifying and addressing gaps in knowledge and contributing to it. And, while part of this enterprise may be the intellectual challenge and curiosity, her ultimate goal is solving important social problems. I strongly believe that she has the capacity to contribute great things and become a leader in the field.”

Ms. Erdem will be recognized for her achievement at the [2013 NCFR Annual Conference](#), planned for Nov. 6-9 in San Antonio, Texas.

The National Council on Family Relations is the premier professional association for the multidisciplinary understanding of families. NCFR has a membership of more than 3,400 family researchers, practitioners and educators. For more information on the National Council on Family Relations or its scholarly publications, visit the NCFR website at ncfr.org.

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This press release and photo download also are available [on the NCFR website](#).