

SRCD *Child Policy Nexus* Topic Proposal Instructions (updated 7.23.26)

Please answer the following questions in a Word document and email it to Lead Editor Lisa Berlin (CPN@srcd.org), who will respond within approximately four weeks.

1. Please list each author's name, title or position, and primary organizational affiliation(s).
2. Corresponding author: Contact information (Email address and/or website URL).
3. Working title of proposed CPN: To maximize accessibility to non-researcher audiences, we encourage prospective authors to use the CPN title to signal your principal policy consideration(s), e.g., Community-Based Doulas: A Proven Solution to Improve Prenatal Outcomes.
4. Brief description of topic (Maximum 100 words).
5. Brief explanation of policy context (Maximum 100 words).
 - a. Why are you addressing this topic (to what extent do the research findings you will share address social policy)?
 - b. Why are you addressing this topic now? What is new and/or timely?
 - c. Who is your anticipated target audience? In other words, whom do you anticipate can act on your policy considerations (for example, human services agency staff, legislators, school board members, county commissioners, members of Congress)? Please define your target audience as specifically as possible.
6. State your policy consideration(s) and the main research findings on which you base them.
Refer to the example below for reference.

Policy consideration 1: Strong research evidence supports the expansion of community-based doula services for improving perinatal outcomes in minoritized communities. **Research findings:**

- Community-based doulas increase attendance at medical appointments and childbirth education classes.
- Community-based doulas improve birth outcomes such as low birth weight, rates of preterm birth.
- Community-based doulas help foster nurturing and responsive child-parent interactions such as dialogic reading at age 3 months.

Policy consideration 2: Strong research evidence supports the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) child tax credit as a mechanism for reducing child poverty. **Research findings:**

- Child poverty fell to record levels in 2021.

- The degree of child poverty reduction varied by factors such as individual states' cost of living.

7. Optional: Briefly describe next steps for research to improve policy considerations in this area.

8. Optional: Briefly describe additional considerations for program/practice development.