

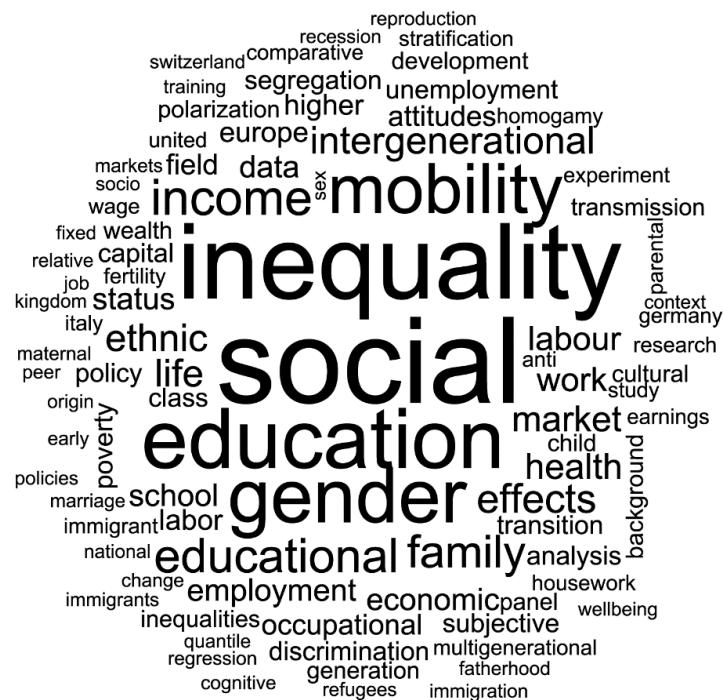


ECSR 2018 CONFERENCE · PARIS · 29-31 OCTOBER

ABSTRACTS BOOKLET

VOL. 2

POSTERS



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**Conceptualizing and measuring polarization in the social sciences:
An introductory review**

Paul Bauer

Mannheim Centre for European Social Research (MZES)

The increasingly popular concept of polarization is used to describe various social phenomena such as political, opinion, health and income polarization. Despite this popularity it is still debated within disciplines how polarization should be conceptualized and how it should be measured. In this study we provide a systematic, interdisciplinary overview of the conceptual and measurement literature on polarization. We first describe the challenge of conceptualizing polarization, a task that requires taking decisions about how to aggregate individual positions on one or more scales. Different distributional aspects may matter and the concept's meaning is related to the measurement level of the underlying scales. Then we review various polarization measures that have been developed during the last decades.

Keywords: ethnic polarization, income polarization, polarization, inequality, geographic polarization

Profiling success - Are there types of personalities which are determined to succeed?

Sandra Bohmann & Nicolas Legewie

DIW Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany

Using data from the British Cohort Study 1970, we use fuzzy set qualitative comparative analysis to investigate how childhood personality profiles are linked to different indicators of social status including the highest level of education, labour income and social class. In a second step, we also consider the joint effects of such personality profiles with parental socio-economic background. The evidence seems to indicate, that there are no personality profiles that inevitably lead to favourable socio-economic outcomes, but that there are some configurations of personality, skills and socio-economic background that make people especially resilient against socio-economic deprivation. In particular high cognitive skills, a strongly internal locus of control and well educated parents appear to be a recipe for preventing socio-economic deprivation.

Keywords: personality, socio-emotional skills, Socio-economic status, QCA

Do personality traits have an influence on the repartnering tendency after divorce?

Kathrin Stief

GESIS – Leibniz-Institute for the Social Sciences

This paper examines the influence of personality on repartnering after divorce. The three reasons to enter a partnership—need, attractiveness, and opportunity—are understood as the mechanisms through which the Big Five personality traits (openness, conscientiousness, extraversion, agreeableness, and neuroticism) are likely to influence repartnering. This study provides a theoretical framework for the influence of personality on repartnering, and further addresses the need to not only focus on remarriage but also cohabitation after separation.

Estimates from a Cox regression using recorded relationship histories from the German Socioeconomic Panel show that extraversion has a statistically significant positive effect on the repartnering tendency of women. In addition, contrary to expectations, the study shows that neuroticism has a positive influence on the tendency to repartner. Other personality traits do not have a statistically significant impact on repartnering.

Keywords: remarriage, postmarital cohabitation, personality, divorce, repartnering

**Contestation of the social order depending on political orientation and party choice:
evidence from a survey of public opinion in Switzerland**

Aurélien Abrassart & Stefan C. Wolter

University of Bern, Center for Research in Economics of Education, Switzerland

The foundations of the social order in contemporary societies have been shown to rest on nature and reason, whereby institutional arrangements influence the perception of the prestige of occupations through the legitimization of their role in the “natural” order of things. Because of an important consistency in prestige ratings from respondents across various social groups, countries and over time, the roots of “deviant” perceptions of the social order have attracted little attention. Yet populist surges in many modern democracies might be linked to a lower symbolic power and deference emanating from traditionally prestigious occupations. Whether challenges to the social order at the political level lead to divergent perceptions of occupational prestige at the individual level, or whether these divergent perceptions are simply the result of inherent belief systems, remains, however, unclear.

We contribute to this important question by analyzing a unique data set in Switzerland based on a survey of adults’ perception of the social prestige of occupations. Switzerland is a good test case because its political life has been deeply affected by a major populist far-right party since more than a decade. As our results indicate, identification with far-right populist parties does not significantly influence one’s view of the social world. However, the closer the political belief system of respondents to either extreme of the political spectrum, the less likely they are to assign social prestige to occupations according to their educational requirements. Instead, occupations more salient in autonomy are more valued among these respondents. These findings have important implications for the reproduction of social inequalities and the political foundations of liberal democratic societies.

Keywords: political orientation, party choice, occupational prestige ranking, autonomy, social order

**Changing structures, changing constituencies?
The effect of intra- and intergenerational social mobility on support
for social-democratic parties in the UK, Germany, and Switzerland**

Mathilde van Ditmars¹ & Macarena Ares²

¹Leiden University, the Netherlands

²University of Zurich, Switzerland

This paper investigates to what extent intra- and intergenerational social mobility affect the stable support for mainstream left-wing (social-democratic) parties in the United Kingdom, Germany, and Switzerland. We build on the literature that has associated changes in the composition of social-democratic constituencies to post-industrial transformations in the occupational structure. The focus of the analysis is on voters from classes who are identified as traditional and new core supporters of the left: production workers, service workers, and socio-cultural professionals. We hypothesize that changes and instability in the own occupational status over the life course can lead to volatility and demobilisation of (former) social-democratic voters. Moreover, we expect the intergenerational transmission of class identity and party identification to play an important role in stable left-wing party support. Making use of household panel data from three countries (UK, Germany, Switzerland), using longitudinal models we analyse to what extent changes in voters' labour market status affect their support for left-wing parties. Furthermore, we investigate to what extent the inheritance of the parents' class location contributes to a more enduring and stable party preference for the mainstream left. We expect to find differences between countries upon the strong presence of a radical right-wing party, as production workers have been found to form a new part of the constituency for these parties (Oesch, 2008).

Keywords: intergenerational mobility, social mobility, class voting, intragenerational mobility

In-vitro fertilization and educational gradients in fertility: Evidence from Denmark

Sander Wagner¹ & Anna Barbuscia²

¹ENSAE-CREST, France

²London School of Economics, United Kingdom

In-vitro fertilization (IVF) is quickly becoming an increasingly common form of reproduction. In Denmark about 8% of children were conceived via IVF in 2010. By allowing higher success rates of fertility at high ages IVF has the potential to particularly increase fertility among higher educated mothers who often delay fertility. Also access to and success rates of IVF procedures vary by educational status of mothers. Using registry data on all IVF births in Denmark between 1994 and 2005 we aim to document the socioeconomic gradient of the use of this new technology as well as its effect on the overall educational gradient of fertility

Keywords: in-vitro fertilization, educational gradient, education, fertility, demography

The influence of peers and friends on individual educational achievement in higher education

Simon Christoph

University of Bamberg, Germany

This study analyses the utility of peer social capital for students' achievement in higher education. In general, social capital can be accessed and utilized through interpersonal relations and can have a beneficial or adverse influence on individuals. Nevertheless, existing studies regarding peer influences in higher education have been an exception so far and only – if at all – consider influences of fellow students. Since the increasing influences of friends over time on various aspects of life is a multidisciplinary well researched fact, this article pleads for an extended understanding of peer social capital because it seems necessary to also consider the influence of friends on individuals in higher education. Therefore, the article argues that not only fellow students but also friends can influence educational success and disparities. Following a relational approach of social capital theory, it will be explained theoretically how friends and fellow students can influence individual educational achievement and potential mediating mechanisms will be exemplified in detail. Empirically, longitudinal NEPS-data (National Educational Panel Study) gathered from university students in a representative sample of higher education institutions in Germany will be used. Preliminary findings of multiple linear regression analyses indicate that both fellow students and friends have a significant effect on individual educational achievement and therefore suggest that both peer (fellow students) and friendship influences should be regarded more often in terms of higher education. (Longitudinal analyses will complete the preliminary cross-sectional findings until October).

Keywords: university, higher education, educational achievement, peers, friends, social capital

**The causal effect of grading practices on social reproduction:
Quasi-experimental evidence from a Swedish education reform**

Anders Hjorth-Trolle¹, Anders Hed²

¹Rockwool Foundation Research Unit, Denmark

²Linköping University, Sweden

In this paper, we analyze the causal effect of grading practices on socioeconomic differences in GPA. While earlier studies have documented the significant role of non-academic student traits such as self-discipline or cultural capital in producing SES differences in GPA, this study is the first to analyze the effect of grading practices. We exploit a Swedish educational reform, which changed the compulsory school's grading system from a relative scale to an absolute scale between 1997 and 1998. Under reasonable and largely testable assumptions, the changes between these two years in the association between various socioeconomic background variables and student GPA has a causal interpretation as an effect of the change in grading practice. Results show that changing the grading practice can significantly alter SES disparities in GPA, in this case widening the gap between students of low- and high-educated parents, while also narrowing it between native and immigrant children.

Keywords: causal inference, inequality, grades, education, social reproduction, policy reform

Repeating a grade: scholastic failure and social background in Italy

Guido Salza

University of Milan, Italy

Whenever a student does not reach the minimum educational target for a given grade, he may incur in grade repetition (GR), that is, the practice to deny a student the progression in his educational career for an additional year. Those who endorse this provision think that GR could give a student the necessary additional time to re-align competencies and knowledge before moving forward in the educational path. Where, like in Italy, no clear administrative rule to determine grade failure exists (e.g. no standardised tests), GR's occurrence is a complex and interactional decisional process involving students, their families and schools.

We formulate the following hypotheses: *ceteris paribus*, we expect social background to have a prominent role. Given ability, the more the resources parents can mobilise to support a child having poor scholastic results, the lower the probability of GR (H1). Parental resources affect the set of feasible strategies to avoid a retention. Stimulating scholastic effort may be costly in terms of time and economic resources for the families (e.g. to pay for private teachers, to follow children in their homework). More privileged families could also get better information on alternative schools (e.g. less demanding, private).

Keywords: education, social class, inequality of opportunities, administrative data

**Social origins and the decision to leave university in times of economic crisis:
the role of the field of study**

Loris Vergolini¹ & Eleonora Vlach²

¹FBK-IRVAPP (Research Institute for the Evaluation of Public Policies), Italy

²Goethe-University, Frankfurt, Germany

In this paper, we analyse the role played by the economic recession on drop-out rate in Italy. We analyse if and how the influence of the economic crisis has been mediated by the field of study in which students are enrolled. Moreover, we look also at the influence of social origins (i.e. parental education and social class) to understand if students from less advantaged socio-economic backgrounds are more stricken by the economic downturn than the ones from wealthy families.

We investigate the interacting influence between economic crisis, social inequalities and field of study on drop-out rate using data from the Istat “Survey on the educational and occupational path of high school graduates” regarding cohorts of university graduates in 2007 and 2011.

Results obtained from propensity score matching show a negative effect of the economic crisis on university participation in all the fields of study considered. This means that the decrease of the disposable income have made tertiary education more costly independently from the field of study. At the same time we do not find an uncontroversial effect of the social origins within the various fields of study.

Keywords: field of study, higher education, drop-out, economic crisis, Italy

**The intersection of gender, ethnicity and religion in Israeli higher education:
Is there double disadvantage?**

Yariv Feniger¹, Oded Mcdossi² & Hanna Ayalon²

¹Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel, ²Tel Aviv University, Israel

The literature on the intersections of gender and race/ethnicity/religion in stratification in higher education is very limited. The aim of this study is to advance such an intersectional perspective by exploring the intersections of gender and ethno-religious affiliation in the Israeli higher education system. A main question is whether women from underprivileged social groups experience double disadvantage in this field. Utilizing a large dataset combining data from several administrative sources, the study analyzes vertical and horizontal inequality. The findings reveal that regarding access to higher education it is Arab men, not Arab women, who are the most disadvantaged. The horizontal dimension of inequality was measured by expected returns in the labor market after graduation. It was found that Arab women are overrepresented in academic programs that lead to low-paid jobs and underrepresented in the most lucrative programs. The multivariate analysis suggests that among Jewish women, Mizrachim, the underprivileged group, had higher odds than the more privileged Ashkenazim of enrolling in the most lucrative programs. Among Jewish men, on the other hand, Ashkenazim and Mizrachim had equal chances of enrolling in the most lucrative programs. Thus, the intersectional perspective helps uncover the complexities of social inequality in higher education.

Keywords: ethnicity, gender, higher education, religion, Israel

**Parental gender and expectations of university graduation:
An exploration with PISA 2015**

Luis Ortiz

Department of Political & Social Sciences, University Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain

Empirical evidence of the effect of parental gender on children's educational attainment is not conclusive. On the one hand, the gender-socialization hypothesis states that girls look at their mothers and boys and their fathers when developing their own educational and occupational aspirations (Downey and Powell, 1993; more recently, Kleinjans, 2010). On the other hand, increasing educational homogamy and a subsequent reduction of gender specialization in child rearing may have reduced the role of parental gender in shaping educational and occupational preferences (Bonke and Esping-Andersen, 2011). Current demographic trends make worth revisiting this debate: the reversal of the gender gap in education is currently making marital hypogamy (wives with more education than their partners) more and more frequent (Esteve et al., 2017, De Hauw et al, 2017). Using individual-level data from the PISA 2015 and country level data on divorce rate and gender egalitarianism drawn from OECD Stats, the European Value Survey and World Value Survey, this paper studies the role of parental gender in the development of expectations of university graduation among girls and boys of 30 countries. Besides adolescent's gender, a key independent variable at the individual level is relative parental education, with three categories: homogamy, hypergamy and hypogamy. A logistic regression with country fixed-effects is first applied to each one of the three levels of education for which it makes senses to explore the relative level of parental education: parents with at most upper secondary, upper vocational and tertiary education. A meaningful effect of parental gender is only found for this latter group: female advantage in expectation of university education increases for daughters of hypogamous couples (with a university graduated mother, but a father who is not) and decreases for daughters of hypergamous ones (where the father is a university graduate but the mother is not). Subsequent logistic regressions with mother's and father's occupation do not confirm that father's or mother's role, transmitted through their respective occupation, is behind this parental gender effect. Among the country-level factors considered, gender egalitarianism helps to explain female advantage among girls of hypogamous couples, but divorce does not. Girls' advantage in expectation of university education is generally higher in more egalitarian countries, and this advantage gets even higher among hypogamous couples.

Keywords: divorce rate, hypergamy, homogamy, hypogamy, parental gender, educational expectations, gender, gender egalitarianism

**Better close to home than gender-typical?
Geographical and socioeconomic constraints on gendered field of study choices**

Irene Prix¹, Outi Sirniö² & Juhani Saari³

¹University of Turku, Finland

²University of Turku & Stockholm University

³Statistics Finland

Men's and women's worldwide tendency to specialize in educational fields dominated by their own gender is well-documented. However, attempts to understand this phenomenon have so far paid only scant attention to the local institutional and socioeconomic conditions of individuals' educational choices.

In this study, we analyse how geographical constraints and local labour market structures affect the likelihood to consider gender-atypical fields of study, and whether social background contributes to this association. Focusing on Finland, we analyse the application registers of all 16-year-olds applying to vocational upper secondary education in 2008-2013, which are linked to a number of other administrative registers. We follow the multinomial preference model approach and model applicants' first and second choice of field of study separately in a series of conditional logit regressions.

Drawing on relative risk theory, we argue that such local conditions may influence applicants' considerations regarding field of study, to the extent that they may trump any competing motives, such as a socialization-based aversion to fields dominated by the opposite gender. However, we also expect that this relationship varies by social background, as risk considerations will be more salient for those who face greater constraints with respect to socioeconomic resources and geographical mobility. In addition, it is likely that first choices may follow a different pattern compared to lower-ranked choices. Our analyses will be performed separately for men and women and will include a number of robustness analyses.

Keywords: fields of study, social background, gender segregation, geographical distance, vocational education

**Between vocational and general education at upper-secondary level:
How do educational tracks impact initial wages and wage growth during early careers?**

Maily Korber

Life Course and Inequality Research Centre LINES and LIVES,
Swiss National Centre of Competence in Research, University of Lausanne, Switzerland

Vocational education training (VET) is known to ease the entry into the labour market by providing specific skills that are immediately useful for a working position. On the contrary, general education does not prepare students for a specific occupation, but to face a wider range of working situations while emphasizing academic skills such as maths, languages or writing. As a consequence, holders of general education may have more difficulties to enter the labour market.

However, it is plausible that holders of general education are rewarded after several years of experience and move to better-paid jobs, while holders of VET may stagnate in similar positions than at the entry on the labour market. The question of the initial wage and the wage growth for these two groups is addressed in this paper to answer this question.

This article presents the early careers of youth in the context of Switzerland using the Transition from Education to Employment (TREE) data. We follow a cohort of youth from the end of their apprenticeship or baccalaureate to the end of their twenties. Thanks to a matching method taking origin and abilities at school into account, we present a causal design to compare the two groups.

Our results show a higher hourly wage at the entry on the labour market for holders of vocational education than those with general education. However, the wage growth is higher for these later. As a consequence, they reach higher wages already after 5 (men) to 6 (women) years.

This article strengthens the existing literature about VET with a strong empirical design (single cohort and matching) and highlights the importance of taking origin and school abilities into account.

Keywords: life course, education, earnings, vocational training, Switzerland

**Labour market setting, gender-role ideology and new family forms:
The case of life-long singlehood in Europe**

Daniela Bellani & Bruno Arpino

University Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain

The aim of this article is to overcome the incomplete explanation of previous research findings on the societal determinants of an increasingly common family form, the lifelong singlehood. As previous research has demonstrated, many of the countries (within developed economies) with high life long singlehood rates are those, such as Italy or Spain, that are conventionally regarded as family oriented.

Social scientists' explanation of this counter-intuitive finding emphasizes the role played by the cross-country heterogeneity in the diffusion of gender egalitarian orientations (Bellani et al, 2017). Our contribution tries to enrich the literature about the societal determinants of life-long singlehood going beyond the classification of societies in a continuum from traditional to gender egalitarian. We theoretically propose a more complex analysis of the determinants of the emergence of life long single families, stressing the importance of the combination of structural factors and cultural norms taken simultaneously. To do that, our study draws on two interconnected driving elements, the labour market setting and the diffusion of new gender-role values.

We combine European Social Survey (ESS) data for 2002-2016 with European Value Study (EVS) data for 2008 and country-cohort indicators on labour market structure and gender attitudes, and estimate multilevel models.

Keywords: long singlehood, life, role ideology, gender, labour market

**How did patterns of age differences among spouses change?
A study of Italian marriages, 1920-2015**

Giuliana Giuliani

European University Institute, Florence, Italy

Recent literature in developed countries has shown that patterns of age differences between spouses are changing (Atkinson & Glass, 1985; Esteve et al., 2016; Kolk, 2015; Mu, 2014; Qu, 1997; Van Poppel et al., 2001). The aim of this paper is to investigate patterns of age differences between spouses in Italy in the past 95 years (1920-2015). I collected historical data on marriages available from the Italian National Institute of Statistics (ISTAT). Such patterns were further analysed in relation to several societal changes potentially affecting marriage dynamics, in particular related to age at marriage, education, second-order marriages (i.e. where at least one spouse was previously married) and female employment. Preliminary results show that, despite hypergamy being the most common age-combination for spouses at any times, hypogamy and homogamy increased since the eighties at the expenses of hypergamy. Nevertheless, hypogamy only increased to a pre-1940 level. Concerning explanatory factors: (1) Increasing age at marriage cannot fully explain changes in patterns of age differences; (2) Hypogamy and hypergamy are more common among remarriages and homogamy among first marriages; (3) Homogamy increased while both male and female education increased; (4) in regions with higher female employment age homogamy is more common, compared with regions with lower female employment, but hypogamy is not. Overall results suggest that cultural factors may delay the diffusion of hypogamy. This is important because age is associated with material and immaterial resources, therefore which partner is older can have consequences for gender relations and gender equality within the couple.

Keywords: homogamy, hypergamy, marriages, differences, age, hypogamy

Legalizing same-sex marriage matters for all same-sex couples' subjective well-being

Diederik Boertien¹ & Daniele Vignoli²

¹Center for Demographic Studies, Barcelona, Spain

²University of Florence, Italy

In this paper, we address the question to what extent the subjective well-being of same-sex couples changed following the legalization of same-sex marriage in England and Wales in March 2014. We employ data from the Annual Population Survey, which provides information on 476,411 individuals, including 4,112 individuals living in a same-sex couple, to examine changes in several aspects of well-being during the period before and after legalization. The analysis covers the period from April 2011 to September 2016 and reveals substantial increases in well-being among same-sex couples following legalization. In particular, reported levels of happiness and worth increased and levels of anxiety decreased in the 12 months following legalization, compared to the 12 months before legalization. Additional analysis comparing civil partnerships to marriages hint at a possible 'marital well-being premium' among same-sex couples. However, it appears likely that the legalization of marriage has increased the well-being of same-sex couples regardless of union status through lowering structural stigma.

Keywords: marriage, sex couples, same, being, subjective well, structural stigma

Same-sex marriages in France: which couples choose to marry?

Gaëlle Meslay

University Paris-Sorbonne GEMASS and INED, France

Although marriage has been open to same-sex couples in many European countries since the 2000s, few data are available in France to estimate the proportions of these marriages or explain how this choice is made, given that the institution has long been criticized as “heteronormative”. Civil registration details¹ for these marriages provide some evidence about the couples who decide to marry and distinguish between male and female couples, who turn out to have relatively different profiles, probably reflecting variations in attitudes toward the institution. Nevertheless, these data also provide a great opportunity to compare married couples and unmarried couples², in the same time among same-sex and different-sex couples. In particular, we can point that married couples are older, more binational and less Parisian than unmarried couples are³. All these variations within the two groups could in part reflect a use of the institution linked to legal reasons, even if it do not fully explain it. In any case, special attention must be paid to the French legal, political and demographic context to explain the couples’ choices. Indeed, compared to other countries, same-sex marriage rate is not so low in France, and a part of the explanation probably lies in the fact that marriage grants important rights beside legal cohabitation or civil partnership (adoption, reversionary pension...) which is not necessary the case in other countries.

Keywords: homosexuality, marriages, couple, family, gender

1 For each year, the data cover all the couples who married.

2 Unmarried couples are approached by the Family and Housing Survey (2011, INSEE / INED), a French survey adjoined to the census, even if it raises methodological problems for same-sex couples.

3 This is not the case for heterosexual couples.

**Family formation trajectories and elderly networks:
inequalities by demographic processes?**

Tiziana Nazio

Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung (WZB), Germany

Early life choices in the process of family formation are deemed to reflect in the later available potential for care support. This paper adopts a life course approach to investigate the association between early family formation trajectories and differences in intergenerational relations in later life. Although individuals' resources are associated to intergenerational relations also through demographic processes, country differences in the demography of family-linked life stages, and how these reflect on intergenerational relations, have remained largely unexplored. But the timing of family formation and dissolution, as well as childbirths, are key transitions with bearing on entitlements and obligations to inter-household (reciprocal) solidarity and support. Sequence analysis on data from SHARE surveys (waves 3 retrospectively collected histories and wave 6 for social network characteristics) compare family trajectories (partnerships and fertility over 31 years, at ages 16-46) for individuals from the birth cohorts 1927-58 in 5 selected countries: Italy, Germany (distinguishing East from West), France, Denmark and Czech Republic. Family trajectories (timing of union formation and dissolution, childlessness and children parity) are clustered by means of sequence analysis. Nine patterns of family trajectories are described and their association with elderly's social network characteristics are tested. The variability in patterns of family formation trajectories, and their association to individuals' social background, is used to predict elderly's network characteristics by means of multinomial logit models. I expect that differences in family trajectories are associated to individuals' characteristics and are reflected in elderly's support networks across the clusters. I also expect that a different distribution of family trajectory patterns across countries contributes to explain differences in intergenerational support.

Keywords: sequence analysis, inequalities, family formation trajectories, intergenerational relations

Family resources and child bearing under different family policy schemes

Sehar Ezdi, Jani Erola, Elina Kilpi-Jakonen, Heta Pöyliö

Department of Social Research, University of Turku, Finland

Global changes in family formation alongside escalated economic uncertainty, high youth unemployment and educational expansion have led to greater interfamilial diversity in the provision of childhood resources. Periodic changes tend to exacerbate these inequalities whereas family policy imperatives may temper their effect.

We argue that parents acknowledge these changing circumstances and alter their reproductive behaviour accordingly and expect that couples with less own or parental socioeconomic resources postpone fertility.

Especially second births are postponed or forgone if potential parents feel they need to accumulate more socioeconomic resources in order to guarantee adequate opportunities for their children. The compensation provided by different family policy schemes may be particularly relevant in overcoming the low socioeconomic resources of the parents or their social origin.

We study the influence of parental resources and compensatory mechanisms on fertility by analyzing the probability and timing of second births from four panel datasets: Finnish register data, UK BHPS (and Understanding society), German SOEP and US PSID. This cross-national comparison includes countries representing different family policy schemes and benefits from panels running long enough to be able to observe periodic and institutional changes from 1995 to 2015. Institutional variation is observed through multiple macro indicators: types of parental leave schemes, pre-primary education, and monetary child benefits to families. The changing labor market context is accounted for via male and female unemployment rates. We expect more egalitarian or generous family policies to serve as an incentive in boosting fertility, and more so for families with low levels of resources.

Keywords: United States, Germany, United Kingdom, second births, family policy institutions, Finland

Socioeconomic variation in loss and compensation processes after parental death in Sweden

Kieron Barclay¹ & Martin Hällsten²

¹Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research, Stockholm University Demography Unit & Department of Social Policy, London School of Economics

²Department of Sociology, Stockholm University

In this study we use Swedish population register data to examine whether parental death differentially affects educational and occupational attainment according to the socioeconomic status of the parent who dies, and the socioeconomic status of the surviving parent and extended kin. That is, we examine whether parental death has an equalizing or exacerbating effect on offspring socioeconomic attainment, and also whether the socioeconomic status of the rest of the family plays a meaningful role in compensating for parental death. Using data on cohorts born 1973 to 1982 we examine five different outcomes, which are grade point average (GPA) at age 16 in high school, the transition from lower to upper-secondary education, the transition to tertiary education, overall educational attainment and occupational status by age 30. Overall we find mixed results, with inconsistent evidence suggesting that losing a parent with very high socioeconomic resources is worse, and some evidence for a protective effect if the socioeconomic resources of the surviving parent and extended family members are at the top of the distribution. Therefore we observe some evidence for an equalizing effect of parental death, but also that this may be counterbalanced by the resources of surviving family members.

Keywords: compensation, parental death, SES

Intergenerational correlations in women's work-family life course trajectories in Germany

Sergi Vidal¹, Philipp Lersch², Marita Jacob² & Karsten Hank²

¹Centre for Demographic Studies, Barcelona, Spain

²University of Cologne, Germany

We study intergenerational continuities within families in women's work and family life courses, and the specific life course patterns that persist from one generation to the next. We use a within-dyad approach to sequence analysis and examine combined work-family trajectories between the ages 18 to 35 of two generations of women within the same and across German families drawn from the Socio-Economic Panel. Our results show little evidence for overall life course persistence within families. In line with the thesis of cohort change, we find that work-family trajectories are more similar within than between generations. Further results show significant intergenerational persistence in work-family life courses within families with increasing maternal education. The specific patterns that persist combine extended education and uninterrupted labour market participation, with the protraction of family formation. Despite unparalleled changes in work-family patterns in East Germany after reunification, we do not find evidence for lower life course persistence in East German than in West German families. Our findings contribute to improve and nuance our understanding of the reproduction of female life courses across generations.

Keywords: Germany, panel data, sequence analysis, intergeneration transmission, work-family life courses

**Single mothers' poverty risks across the life course:
how effective is a social investment strategy?**

Wim Van Lancker¹ & Hannah Zageł²

¹Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium

²HU Berlin & WZB Berlin, Germany

This paper investigates to what extent family policy is effective in catering for single motherhood as a social risk across the life course. Previous research has tended to look at single mothers as a composite social risk in contrast to mothers in couples. It has hence focused on the role of policy in explaining country differences in relative disadvantages. In this paper we argue that single motherhood risks should rather be seen as heterogeneous, because they differ across the life course, and should be examined accordingly. This perspective is gaining relevance as the number of people who experience single motherhood is increasing across Europe. We use EU-SILC data (2010 and 2014) on single mothers in 24 countries (N=11.494) and OECD data on social spending for cash benefits and childcare services in our multilevel logistic regression analyses. Three main findings emerge: First, we show that spending on child cash benefits seems to be particularly affecting the poverty risk of single mothers with young children. Second, countries spending more on childcare services tend to reduce poverty for single mothers irrespective of their life course stage. Third, we find differences in these associations between countries: the negative association between spending on childcare services and the poverty risk of single mothers is strong in the Netherlands, Denmark, Finland, Iceland and the UK; and it is weaker in France, Sweden and Luxemburg. Child cash benefits tend to have a stronger, negative effect on poverty in Ireland, the Netherlands and Austria, while the opposite holds for Luxemburg, Germany, Estonia and Czech Republic.

Keywords: social investment, family policy, poverty, single mothers, life course

Vulnerable employment following the 2008 financial crisis in Switzerland and the UK: A latent class approach

Dan Orsholits, Matthias Studer

IDESO, University of Geneva, Switzerland
National Centre of Competence in Research LIVES (NCCR LIVES), Switzerland

The question of vulnerable employment is becoming a more crucial one. The rise of non-standard forms of employment - fixed-term contracts, (involuntary) part-time work, etc. - has led to an increasingly large proportion of individuals being potentially subject to more “vulnerable” or “precarious” forms of employment. However, what is defined as vulnerable employment is not always clear. Generally, vulnerable employment can be thought of as a form of employment where workers are not provided with all the available labour protections and rights, and who are at risk of being exploited by their employer. Individuals in non-standard employment are more likely to be at risk especially as they often have more limited access to social benefits, or have fewer links with organizations that can serve to defend their rights such as trade unions.

The operationalization of vulnerable employment is not particularly simple as it concerns multiple dimensions that map onto a single concept. Vulnerable employment can be thought of as being a latent construct that we only indirectly observe through indicators. Using panel data from Switzerland (Swiss Household Panel) and the UK (British Household Panel & Understand Society), this paper will use objective indicators of individuals’ employment situation to establish a typology of vulnerable employment using latent transition analysis (LTA). Subsequently, the effects of different individual characteristics on the likelihood of transitioning between different latent classes will be investigated in relation to the 2008 financial crisis.

Keywords: employment, 2008 financial crisis, latent transition analysis, Switzerland, UK

Beyond styles: Social class, dimensions of parenting and child development

Tomás Cano

DemoSoc Research Unit, University Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain

Social reproduction theory highlights how upper- and lower- class parents develop different styles of parenting that ultimately lead to children's unequal skills development.

A less explored pathway in the intergenerational transmission of skills is represented by the dimensions of parenting (i.e., reasoning, consistency, warmth and anger). This study provides the first systematic account of how parents' social class shapes the dimensions of parenting and how these dimensions affect children's cognitive and non-cognitive skills development. To accomplish this, I use a unique, longitudinal data from an Australian sample of children aged 4-8 years (Longitudinal Study of Australian Children; n=5,518 children/8,806 observations) and both random and dynamic panel regression models. I find the biggest difference by social class in the dimension of consistency, which upper-class parents disproportionately display. Upper class parents also appear to significantly display more reasoning, while lower-class parents are slightly warmer with their children. I do not find any difference in anger by social class. On the other hand, the four dimensions have strong and significant effects on non-cognitive skills' development, being consistency the only one affecting both non-cognitive and cognitive skills. Results suggest consistent parenting as a relevant mechanism at play in the social reproduction of advantage. They also have implications for policies, suggesting that child achievement gaps can be reduced by intervening in more specific aspects of parenting rather than broader styles.

Keywords: Social stratification, emotional work, panel data, skills development, Australia

Religion, social contact and global terrorism: Investigating attitudes to Muslim immigrants in Ireland

Raffaele Grotti, Frances McGinnity, Éamonn Fahey & Helen Russell

Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI), Dublin, Ireland

Amid considerable public concern about the difficulties of incorporating Muslims in European societies, this paper considers attitudes to Muslims in Ireland, a new country of immigration with a small and relatively advantaged Muslim population. Drawing on theories of social identity, ethnic competition and social contact, it develops hypotheses about the extent and determinants of attitudes to Muslims in Ireland. The paper investigates whether anti-Muslim prejudice is higher than anti-immigrant prejudice in Ireland, and whether the same factors are associated with anti-Muslim sentiment as with more general anti-immigrant sentiment, using a special module of the European Social Survey in 2014. We find, as expected, that Irish people have more favourable attitudes towards immigrants of the same race than to Muslim immigrants. In addition, while some factors are associated with more or less positive attitudes towards both groups, such as education, some others only affect attitudes towards Muslims such as the respondent's religion, where religious practice is associated with more negative attitudes. We also find that social contact has an impact on attitudes towards both groups of immigrants: frequent and good quality contact is associated with more positive attitudes. Finally, we find a considerable negative impact of the Charlie Hebdo terrorist attack in Paris during the fieldwork, but only on Irish attitudes to Muslim immigrants. This suggests that to some extent attitudes to Muslim immigrants may be more influenced by international rather than national events and public debate.

Keywords: immigrants, Muslims, attitudes, Ireland

Cross-national differences in the economic integration of immigrants with different admission statuses ? examining the progressive dilemma thesis for nine European countries

Agnieszka Kanas & Stephanie Steinmetz

University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands

Admission status plays an important role for immigrants' labor market outcomes. Immigrants who moved for study or work reasons face significantly fewer challenges at the labor market than family reunification and refugee immigrants. Although the economic disadvantage of family reunification and refugee immigrants decreases over time, it takes them more than 20 years to achieve parity with economic immigrants. In this context, critical questions from a policy perspective are i) whether the economic disadvantage of refugee and family reunification versus economic immigrants varies across European countries, and ii) whether this disadvantage is weakened or strengthened by country-specific integration policies. Using two recent European Union Labour Force Surveys ad hoc modules on immigrants and their descendants, we first estimate a two-step multilevel model. Our results show that the economic disadvantage of refugee and family reunification immigrants versus economic immigrants vary substantially across European countries, even after taking into account compositional differences among these immigrant groups. There is some evidence that policies supporting immigrants' access to the labor market are negatively related to gaps in employment and positively related to gaps in working time while we find no effect of these policies on occupational status. Second, using the same data, we estimate propensity score matching analyses to estimate the effectiveness of language training courses. Contrary to our expectations, participation in a language courses does not lead to improved labor market outcomes of immigrants suggesting a less favorable self-selection or targeting of immigrants into language courses rather than augmented productivity of language course participants.

Keywords: welfare state, labor market outcomes, economic immigrants, family reunion, refugees, integration, inclusive policies

The dynamics of remittance behavior among Senegalese immigrants in Spain

Ognjen Obucina¹ & Ignacio Carrasco²

¹Institut national d'études démographiques (INED), France

²Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Chile

The goal of this study is to analyze how the economic integration at destination and ties to the country of origin affect the dynamics of remittance behavior among Senegalese immigrant men and women in Spain. We adopt a dynamic approach and analyze the determinants of both the initiation and termination of remittance sending. The data used in this paper stem from two closely related surveys: The Migrations between Africa and Europe (MAFE), and the Migrations between Senegal and Spain (MESE). Our MAFE-MESE dataset contains annual retrospective information on a wide range of life course domains. The study includes around 600 Senegalese immigrant men and women aged 25 to 65 at the time of the survey, and who were at least 18 when they emigrated from Senegal. The Kaplan-Meier analysis shows that most Senegalese immigrants in Spain remit at some point, with a majority starting to remit already in the first year after arrival in Spain. Once initiated, remittance sending seems to be a fairly persistent activity – only around one quarter of immigrants will have stopped to remit within ten years after starting to do so. Employed migrants are, all else equal, indeed much more likely to remit and much less likely to stop remitting, as compared to non-employed migrants. The migration strategy, whether with respect to decision-making process or financing the trip, is not associated with the dynamics of remitting behavior. Women are less likely to start remitting, but are also less likely to stop remitting.

Keywords: Spain, immigrants, remittances, Senegal

Social networks and labour market outcomes among Senegalese migrants in Europe and Africa

Flore Gubert¹, Cecilia Navarra² & Sorana Toma³

¹DIAL-IRD, Paris, France

²The Nordic Africa Institute, Uppsala, Sweden

³ENSAE-CREST, Paris, France

This paper examines the role of social ties in the economic integration of Senegalese migrants in Europe and Africa. Previous studies generally found a positive effect of ties to natives – “bridging” social capital- and null or negative effects of co-ethnic ties – “bonding” social capital - on immigrants’ labour market outcomes. Most work examined the influence of social ties on immigrants’ incorporation in Western societies. Very few studies have addressed these questions in the context of South-South migrations. Using quantitative data on Senegalese migrants collected in two European (France, Italy) and one African country (Mauritania), we document important contextual heterogeneity in the role of social capital. We further find that selection into network use is responsible for a large part of the negative effects of co-ethnic ties. Our results thus nuance the pessimist findings with respect to bonding social capital and urge future scholarship to better take into account migrant selectivity

Keywords: labour market outcomes, Africa, social capital, migrant networks, immigrant incorporation

Urban green space as a determinant of health inequalities

Katharina Kilburger

Institute for Sociology, Georg-August-University, Göttingen, Germany

We aim to contribute to the social inequality debate by examining to what extent environmental goods – that is, green space such as parks and city forests – are distributed unequally between households in urban contexts and, further, to what extent they contribute to a good health status of people. Our study is based on a survey conducted in Hannover in autumn 2016 (n=1500). By geo-referencing the participants' addresses, the size and location of green space in the respondents' walking areas have been linked to the survey data. The survey included questions on the perceived proximity and usage patterns of green space. First, we ask whether there is a gradient in access and usage of green space according to social class. Secondly, we examine if there is a relation between the respondents' subjective health status and the availability and usage of green space. As experimental data from various studies have shown, exposure to green space induces several health-promoting processes in the human brain. We further ask if social groups with an adverse health status benefit more from green space usage than other groups. Furthermore, we try to spell out mechanisms or possible mediators such as doing sports, socializing or recreation that can be practiced in green space. We find that there is a social gradient in the frequency of green space usage and also positive health effects of sports- and recreational green space usage on participants' subjective health. We don't find any class-specific health-effects.

Keywords: health resources, health inequalities, green space, urban sociology, Environmental justice, distribution of environmental goods

Social background as a predictor of disability retirement in young adulthood

Laura Salonen, Sanna Kailaheimo & Heta Pöyllö

Department of Social Research, University of Turku, Finland

A vast literature exists on the relationship between social background and health, but fewer have studied the effect of social background on child's disability retirement (=DR). The number of young adults exiting the labour market early due to disease or illness is increasing, thus, it is crucial and urgent to understand the way in which childhood socioeconomic resources affect the probability of DR in young adults. In this study we examine the effect of negative childhood experiences, such as parental death and disability retirement, and parental resources, i.e. income and education, on child's DR in young adulthood. We use Finnish register data derived from the Statistics Finland to analyse the probability of disability retirement at the age of 16 to 25 among 1985–1989 birth cohorts. Our results show that parental DR increase the probability of DR in young adulthood while parental death has no effect. After adjusting for the child's education, parental income has only a small effect, decreasing the probability of child's DR in young adulthood, whereas parental education is positively associated with the probability of DR, but only among children with low educational attainment. Young adults with elementary level education and tertiary level parental education have the highest probability of DR. We conclude that negative childhood experiences and parental resources have direct and indirect effects on child's DR, and especially the effect of parental education is mediated by child's own education. There is a need for more research on the effect of social background in health.

Introduction

Keywords: young adult, health inequality, disability retirement, social background

**Social ills in rich countries:
Shedding new light on breeding conditions and socio-psychological pathways**

Jan Delhey & Leonie C. Steckermeier

Otto von Guericke University Magdebourg, Germany

The Spirit Level Theory claims that in rich societies inequality is the key breeding condition for a range of health and social problems (henceforth: social ills), mainly because inequality causes status anxiety. This paper seeks to provide an encompassing test of the Spirit Level Theory by exploring, for 40 countries, both breeding conditions of social ills as well as socio-psychological pathways. Our aggregate-level research is based on a revised and updated Index of Social Ills which we compile for more countries and more years (2000–2015) than in any previous study and combine with survey information about subjective quality-of-life. We get two major results: First, within all years, income inequality is indeed strongly and consistently related to social ills, but so is economic prosperity. Second, mediation analyses suggest status anxiety and social capital/social cohesion as mechanisms converting economic conditions into social ills, whereas perceived material deprivation does not matter.

Keywords: status anxiety, social ills, social capital, income inequality, Economic development, unemployment

**Unemployment and health-related practices:
a cross-sectional exploration in Constances cohort (France)**

Marie Plessz¹, Isabelle Parizot² & Pierre Meneton³

¹INRA, CMH (Centre Maurice Halbwachs), Paris, France.

²CNRS, CMH (Centre Maurice Halbwachs), Paris, France

³INSERM, LIMICS (Laboratoire d'Informatique Médicale et d'Ingénierie des Connaissances en e-Santé), Paris, France

This paper explores how inequalities on the labour market relate to inequalities in health, by focusing on unemployment. People facing unemployment have a poorer health and higher mortality risks. Public health considers as “risk factors” a number of daily practices such as smoking, drinking alcohol, a diet rich in fat, sugar and salt, or physical inactivity. The sociological angle highlights that people engage in such practices for very different reasons. They may serve as coping strategies when facing hardships, but may also express social identity, especially age, gender and social class position, or take place in the course of other, more purposeful activities (housework requires physical activity).

The goal of this paper is to examine whether every health-related practice studied (smoking, alcohol drinking, physical inactivity and low-nutritional quality diet) is negatively associated with unemployment, for both men and women.

We carried out cross-sectional analyses on data from Constances, a large prospective cohort of French adults (currently >100,000 participants), after controlling for educational level, age, sex, occupational group, partnership status and household income.

We found that the unemployed had higher odds-ratios of smoking and drinking more alcohol than health recommendations advise to. Physical activity was significantly lower for men only. As regards diet, its overall nutritional quality did not differ significantly but its contents varied, e.g. the unemployed consumed less fish and sweetened beverages.

Different processes are obviously at play according to the habit considered and to gender (and probably other social characteristics). Repeated data (data collection in progress) will allow exploring how these habits change upon job loss.

Keywords: social practices, labour market, health inequalities, gender, unemployment

**Internet use and health.
Exploring the role of social interactions, social activities, and social cohesion**

Nicoletta Balbo^{1,2}, Valentina Rotondi² & Luca Stella²

¹Department of Policy Analysis and Public Management, Bocconi University, Milan, Italy

²Dondena Centre for Research on Social Dynamics and Public Policy, Bocconi University, Milan, Italy

This paper studies the effect of high-speed Internet on an individuals health, focusing on the role of social capital as a potential pathway through which Internet access affects health. We find that individuals with DSL access are more likely to be in poor health compared to their counterparts without DSL Internet, to declare mental health problems, and to report higher levels of BMI. Our findings suggest that social capital is indeed a key factor underlying the relationship between Internet use and health.

Keywords: social capital, Internet use, health

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