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Newsletter of the  
Committee on  
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(RC06/CFR)

*International Socio-  
logical Association*



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## President's Column



Dear RC06 Colleagues,

Once again, let me say what an honour and pleasure it is to serve as President of our active Research Committee. I am especially grateful to members of our Board who have graciously stepped up to serve our RC in various ways. Particular thanks as always, to Barbara Barbosa Neves, our Secretary-Treasurer without whose efforts our RC would not run smoothly. I also thank Bahira Trask who served as one of the impressarios along with former Vice-President Mark Hutter and colleagues at the University of the Aegean, of our conference in Rhodes, Greece. As you know, Barbara and Bahira serve as coordinators for our RC sessions in the Sociology Forum to take place in Porto Alegre, Brazil in July 2020, for which we are very grateful. Anja Steinbach has very generously agreed to take charge of our twice annual newsletters. Thank you, Anja. And once again we thank RC06 volunteers Aušra Maslauskaitė, Diana Dias de Carvalho and Irma Budginaite for their help with our social media. It is a joy to see regular tweets of our events and accomplishments – a great way to promote our RC.

As you know, we were saddened by the passing of our valued colleague and Board member Michael Rush earlier this year. After an appropriate period, the Board voted to fill the vacancy on the Board with the person in the last RC06 election who was almost elected. That person is Marlize Rabe of the University of South Africa. I am delighted to report that she accepted to serve on the Board. Welcome, Marlize!

In October, RC06 co-sponsored with the Vietnam Sociology Association, a conference in Hanoi, Vietnam, The Family in Modern and Global Societies: Persistence and Change. It was splendidly organized by lead organizer and President of the Vietnam Sociology Association, Professor Nguyen Huu Minh and his conference team, with 130 presenters from many countries. As President of RC06, I was invited to give remarks at

the opening ceremonies, which were attended by several dignitaries in the Government of Vietnam. Barbara Barbosa Neves was invited to give closing ceremony comments on behalf of RC06. Conference participants were offered wonderful hospitality with delicious lunches, dinners and tea breaks. In addition to the success of the conference, this conference marked a milestone for the ISA – the first collaborative conference ISA has had in Vietnam. I am very pleased to note, with my other hat as member of the ISA Executive, that as a result of this conference, the Vietnam Sociology Association is joining the ISA Council of National Organizations. We express deep appreciation to our RC06 colleague Professor Minh, for his fine efforts and warm hospitality.

Good news for RC06 is that we continue to welcome new members. We, of course, are eager for their participation in our activities.

**We would like to encourage anyone with an idea for hosting a conference to please contact any member of the Board. We welcome initiatives for smaller conferences held between the Sociology Forum and the World Congress.**

With respect to RC Business, consistent with our current Statutes, we will share with all members the proposed revised Statutes agreed to by our Board. These will be voted on at our AGM in Porto Allegre. The proposed changes will be discussed at that meeting.

With best wishes to all as 2020 arrives,

Susan McDaniel, President RC06

## From the Secretary



*As 2019 draws to a close, it is time to take stock. We had two well-attended RC06 conferences: the first in Rhodes, Greece; the second in Ha Noi, Vietnam. We also saw the 'guest blogger' feature of our website fully revamped, and have been enjoying a range of thought-provoking posts written by our members. We are now preparing for the ISA Forum in Brazil (July, 2020) and for another exciting year.*

Firstly, a word of gratitude to the local organising committees of the RC06 conferences – Bahira Trask, Mark Hutter, and team (Rhodes), and Minh Nguyen and Vietnam Sociological Association (VSA) team (Ha Noi). Secondly, I would like to thank Aušra Maslauskaitė for her assistance with the website. Thirdly, thank you to Diana Dias de Carvalho and Irma Budginaite for helping with the Twitter account throughout this year. Finally, I am grateful to Anja Steinbach for editing this newsletter. These collaborations ensure that RC06 continues to be a leading and lively community within the ISA and family sociology.

Preparations for the ISA Forum are well underway (Porto Alegre, 14-18 July 2020). Bahira and I, as RC06 Program Coordinators, are indebted to the session organizers for their service. Although the number of session and abstract submissions was lower than in prior years, we were impressed by the overall quality of the submissions. We are certain that we will have a stimulating program. The ISA has sent out notifications on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December; please contact us if you haven't received any message via the Confex system.

This Gazette includes conference reports, publications of our community, calls, and announcements. We also welcome our new and returning members.

Looking forward to seeing you in Brazil,

Barbara

**Report**  
**2019 RC06 Conference**  
***Families amidst global and local processes: Economic, political and cultural change***  
**July 5-7, 2019**  
**RHODES, GREECE**

RC06 sponsored an international symposium, “Families amidst global and local processes: Economic, political and cultural change” in Rhodes, Greece from July 5 - 7, 2019. This conference was co-organized by Dr. Bahira Trask, (University of Delaware), Dr. Mark Hutter (Rowan University), Dr. DeMond Miller (Rowan University) and Dr. Sotiris Chtouris (University of the Aegean) and co-hosted by the University of the Aegean, the University of Delaware, Rowan University and the RCO6. 42 participants from all around the world gathered in this beautiful, historically significant location that has been at the cross-roads of cultural transformations over millennia. As Dr. Chryssi Vitsilaki, the Chancellor of the University of the Aegean, wrote in her welcoming letter.

“The Aegean Archipelago has for centuries been one of the most important cultural and economic crossroads of multiple civilizations, which, through peace and war, met, clashed, blended and produced new socio-economic forms, art and knowledge.

During the last decade our shores have once again received endless waves of desperate yet determined people seeking refuge and a path for a new home and a better life. Driven out of their homes by global power reshuffling, hundreds of thousands of mostly young men and child-carrying women risked their lives and those of their loved ones through insufferable hardships in the name of Family: to reunite with family members, to secure a better future for the family, to work in order to send money to the family left behind.

These refugees and aspiring migrants, repeating yet another global cycle of human suffering, endurance and aspiration in the midst of global socioeconomic and political change, bring to the fore the need to further research and (re)analyze the pivotal institution of the Family in the framework of this context.”

The theme of the conference centered around Dr. Vitsilaki's remarks and expanded on that theme by emphasizing that around the world families are changing dramatically. In part as a result of globalization and migration, societies are becoming increasingly diverse and this is impacting every aspect of family life. Moreover, families are responding in a variety of ways to technological change, environmental and political crisis, and economic transformations. For this symposium we sought papers on topics that reflected these concerns. The papers received include examination of such topics as gender and marital relationships, intergenerational relationships including parenthood and the elderly, the family in times of economic change, technological change and the family, and the effects of migration on families. As part of the program, we had the pleasure of hearing a welcome speech by the Rector, Dr. Chryssi Vitsilaki. This was followed by 2.5 days of presentations that also included two keynote presentations, one by Dr. Eugenia Arvanitis from the University of Patras who spoke on "Refugee Family Relationships of Domesticity and Cohabitation in Greece" and another talk by Dr. Sotris Chtours from the University of the Aegan who spoke on "Family as a Multifunctional System in Times of Economic Crisis: The Greek Case After 2010."

A series of publications from this highly significant symposium are currently in the works. We wish to thank the ISA and the RCO6 for their continued support and for allowing us to bring together and disseminate information about global family change, Bahira, Mark and DeMond.





**Report**  
**2019 RC06 Conference**  
***The Family in Modern and Global Societies: Persistence and Change***  
***October 18-19, 2019***  
***HA NOI, VIETNAM***

On October 18 and 19, 2019, at the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences, Hanoi, Vietnam, the RC06-VSA Conference “The Family in Modern and Global Societies: Persistence and Change” took place. This Conference was co-organized by the Vietnam Sociological Association (VSA) and Research Committee No. 6 (RC06), ISA. There were more than 180 delegates coming from 25 countries and territories. Prof. Nguyen Huu Minh, President of VSA and Prof. Susan A. McDaniel, Prentice Research Chair in Global Population & Economy University of Lethbridge & Distinguished University Professor, University of Alberta, Canada, President of RC06, Member of Executive Committee of ISA, were co-chairs of the Conference. From international delegates, Prof. Barbara Barbosa Neves, Secretary and Treasurer of RC06; Prof. Charles Hirschman, Professor Emeritus, Department of Sociology, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, USA, Elected President of the Population Association of American, 2005, Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; Prof. Emiko Ochiai, Professor of the Graduate School of Letters, Kyoto University, Japan, Director, Kyoto University Asian Studies Unit (KUASU), Member of Science Council of Japan; and about 80 other international scholars attended the conference. From Vietnam delegates, Dr. Pham Van Tan, Vice-President, General Secretary of The Vietnam Union of Science and Technology Associations (VUSTA); Dr. Phan Tung Mau, Vice-President of VUSTA; Dr. Tran Tuyet Anh, General Director of Department of Family Affairs, Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism; and about 100 delegates from Ministries, Central Committees, Universities, and Research Institutes participated as well.

This is the biggest international conference the VSA has ever organized, with 2 plenary sessions and 27 panels, 130 presentations. In the Keynote Speech, entitled “The Asian Family: Past, Present and Future” presented in the Plenary Session, Prof. Charles Hirschman, Professor Emeritus, Department of Sociology, University of Washington,

Seattle, WA, USA, said: *Diversity, more than uniformity, characterized Asian family structures in the past. There were important differences in family size, residential patterns after marriage, gender relations, and the frequency of marital disruption. At present, some Asian societies are experiencing ultra-low levels of fertility and signs of moderately high levels of non-marriage, while marriage and family patterns in other Asian societies appear to be blending traditional and modern elements. In spite of appeals to authority and return to tradition, Asian families are likely to adapt to modernity with a mix of innovation and pragmatism.*

	
<p>Prof. Nguyen Huu Minh, President of the VSA, gave opening speech.</p>	<p>Prof. Susan A. McDaniel, President of the RC06, Member of Executive Committee of ISA, gave welcome speech.</p>

At 27 sessions, many theoretical, practical issues and research methods related to understanding the characteristics and world-wide family change in the process of modernization and globalization were discussed, commented, and shared. The content of the sessions was divided into many different topics such as: Methodology and family research; Cultural aspects of marriage and family transformation; Gender relations and marriage; Satisfaction with marriage; Ethnic minority family; Caring for the elderly in the context of population aging; Gender dimension in caring for children; Internet use and child care; Violence against children; Gender relations and work; Divorce issue; etc. Before completing two Conference-days, all delegates participated in the concluding session, which included a Keynote speech, “Sharing Asian Intellectual Heritage:



Construction of the Foundations for Asian Family Sociology”, presented by Prof. Emiko Ochiai, Professor, Graduate School of Letters, Kyoto University, Japan. In her presentation, Prof. Ochiai described the process of campaigning and establishing the *Kyoto International Consortium for Asian Studies* (KICAS) in order to develop the intellectual foundations for comparative and joint researches in the Asian region.



The RC06-VSA Conference has been a great success, attracting the attention of a great number of experts, scientists, and policy makers. It also contributed to introducing the image of the country and people of Vietnam to the world. The findings presented suggested many policy issues, influencing factors, and forecasting family trends in the next few decades. The conference was a good opportunity for academic exchange and sharing of experiences, enriching sociological knowledge and improving family knowledge; promoting academic activities and international cooperation in sociological research and training; improving the professional capacity of members of the Vietnam Sociological Association (VSA), thereby contributing more actively to our research activities, consultancy, and social analysis.

**VSA Team**

**Call for Papers**  
**The 10th European Society for Family Relations (ESFR)**  
**Conference**  
*Sustainable Relationships?*  
*Families, Personal Lives and Global Change*  
 26–29 August 2020  
 Oxford Brookes University, United Kingdom

‘Sustainable relationships’ can be understood from a range of perspectives and in multiple ways, from micro family-level everyday practices to macro and global level contexts and shifts. But whatever the level of focus, relationships are lived against an increasingly precarious backdrop resulting from environmental changes, which have implications for how and where lives are lived. However, connections between family lives and environmental actions are not often explicitly drawn in family-focused research. Individuals and families are not carbon-neutral, yet few of the many social science researchers writing about familial relationships and personal lives address elements of climate change and sustainability. The 10th ESFR conference will be an opportunity to examine these issues, alongside other challenges currently being explored by researchers working on families and relationships from a range of perspectives.

Social science researchers are well placed to engage their work to examine more sustainable practices as they investigate family lives and relationships. It is timely then to consider the ways in which families and personal relationships are multiply engaged in producing or inhibiting the possibilities of a more sustainable and equitable planet and more equitable relationships. European societies continue to be confronted with many challenges such as inequalities, the integration of new migrants and refugee families, welfare ‘restructuring’, extended care needs and responsibilities in ageing populations, while a commitment to ‘family’ and ‘intimate relationships’ remain major areas of life investment for individuals – and debate.

At this 10th ESFR conference, researchers from different backgrounds and at all career stages are invited to discuss their latest research projects with an interdisciplinary and international audience. We welcome sociological, psychological, educational, anthropo-

logical, demographic, economic, gerontological, political, legal and social work perspectives on families, personal lives and global change. Presentations will encompass a broad range of topics related to family life including, but not limited to:

### **Family forms**

- Families and choices
- Reproductive choices – e.g. Childfree, Surrogacy, Reproductive ‘tourism’
- Family diversity
- Family performances and display
- Parent parenting/ parenthood
- Grandparents/grandparenting/grandparenthood
- Intergenerational relations
- Family separation
- Friendships
- Family traditions and heritage
- Coupledom /Personal lives Intimacy

### **Ecological and societal change**

- Climate change and implications for transnational family lives
- Reducing familial carbon footprints
- Welfare states and climate change/sustainability
- Sustainability practices in households
- Socioeconomic inequalities
- Care, welfare and sustainable practices
- Family practices which produce or inhibit a more sustainable/ equitable planet

### **Doing family across borders**

- Mobile families
- Transnational families
- Migration and refugee family movements and ‘integrations’
- New technologies and family relations

### **Family practices across the life course**

- Families and consumption
- Families and feeding
- Emerging adulthood
- Identities and transformations
- Ageing
- Intimacies and couple relations
- Caring responsibilities
- Fatherhood and motherhood
- Children development and education
- Paid work and family life
- Family policy
- Impact of social media and technologies in family life
- Disruptive family processes

### **Methodological and ethical issues/innovations in family research**

#### **Gender and sexuality**

- Sexual and reproductive health
- Sexual and gender diversity
- Femininities
- Masculinities
- Theorising gender

### **Abstracts are invited for the following forms of presentation:**

#### **Open Symposia**

Symposia sessions involve a series of papers (3-4) on a pre-set theme arranged by the symposium organiser. Submissions for this type of symposium require a short title of the symposium (12 words maximum) and an abstract of 400 words (maximum) describing the major theme that connects the presentations. A list of paper presentations, including

authors contact information, paper titles and paper abstracts (250 words maximum) is also required. The proposal should indicate if the symposium will include a presider and a discussant. It is expected that each symposium includes speakers from more than one country.

Each presenting author must be registered at the conference.

Deadline for submission of symposium proposal: February 21st, 2020.

### Oral Presentations

We invite oral presentations of papers on the topics noted under 'conference themes' above. At the submission please select up to two topics that are more related to your work. Submissions should include a short title of the paper (12 words maximum) and a 250 word (maximum) abstract that provides all relevant information (e.g. research question, sample and methods, types of analysis and main or expected findings/results).

Each paper session will be timetabled for 1.5 hours. Generally sessions will include 4 - 5 papers.

Deadline for oral presentations: March 2nd, 2020.

### Poster Presentations

Similar to paper presentations, poster submissions should include a short title of the paper (12 words maximum) and a 250 word (maximum) abstract that provides information about the research question, sample and methods, the type of analysis and main or expected findings/results.

Deadline for poster presentations: March 15th, 2020.

Accepted posters can be printed by the authors or arrangements can be made to have these printed ahead of the conference at Oxford Brookes University and collected on arrival (details to follow). Posters to be produced in size A1 (vertical).



Posters will be displayed during the conference in the Clerici building. During the scheduled poster session, authors must be present to engage with colleagues viewing the posters.

All posters must be in English.

In order to promote broad participation of the family researchers' community, individuals may be the presenting author on no more than two submissions. The presenting author must have registration completed and payed.

By participating in this event, I grant permission to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at Oxford Brookes University to capture the audio and/or my image in photographs, video, or any other media format.

**Official website including link for abstract submission:**

<https://sites.google.com/brookes.ac.uk/esfr10thconference/abstract-submission-guidelines>

**List of RC06 Sessions**  
**The IV ISA Forum of Sociology**  
*Challenges of the 21st Century:*  
*Democracy, Environment, Inequalities, Intersectionality*  
*July 14-18, 2020*  
**PORTO ALEGRE, BRAZIL**

**Changes in Contemporary Family Life**

**Bahira TRASK**, University of Delaware, USA, [bstrask@udel.edu](mailto:bstrask@udel.edu)

**Aging and Social Well-Being Concerns Among Migrant and Transnational Families**

**Allen KIM**, International Christian University, Japan, [allen@icu.ac.jp](mailto:allen@icu.ac.jp)

**Johanna ZULUETA**, Soka University, Japan, [zulueta@soka.ac.jp](mailto:zulueta@soka.ac.jp)

**Challenges for Family and Child Wellbeing in the New Economy**

**Jianghong LI**, Berlin Social Science Center, Germany, [jianghong.li@wzb.eu](mailto:jianghong.li@wzb.eu)

**Wen-Jui HAN**, New York University, USA, [wjh3@nyu.edu](mailto:wjh3@nyu.edu)

**Crossing Boundaries: Mixed Families in a Global Era**

**Sylvie BIJAOU**, The Israel Academic College in Ramat Gan, Israel, [sylvieb@colman.ac.il](mailto:sylvieb@colman.ac.il)

**Families & Inequalities**

**Bahira TRASK**, University of Delaware, USA, [bstrask@udel.edu](mailto:bstrask@udel.edu)

**Family Policies in the Global South: Race, Gender and Social Inequalities Among African and Latin-American Families / Políticas Sobre Familia En El Sur Global: Raza, Género y Desigualdades Sociales En Las Familias Africanas y Latinoamericanas**

**Marlize RABE**, University of South Africa, South Africa, [rabeme@unisa.ac.za](mailto:rabeme@unisa.ac.za)

**Lukasz CZARNECKI**, National Autonomous University of Mexico, Mexico, [lukasz@comunidad.unam.mx](mailto:lukasz@comunidad.unam.mx)

## **From the Changing Idea of “the Family” to a Shifting Notion of Home? Spatiotemporal, Material and Affective Aspects of Contemporary Family Life**

**Jana MIKATS**, University Graz, Austria, [Jana.Mikats@uni-graz.at](mailto:Jana.Mikats@uni-graz.at),

**Bérengère NOBELS**, University of Louvain, Belgium, [berengere.nobels@uclouvain.be](mailto:berengere.nobels@uclouvain.be)

**Laura MERLA**, Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium, [laura.merla@uclouvain.be](mailto:laura.merla@uclouvain.be)

## **Home and Violence in Immigrant Families. Comparing Imaginaries, Subjective Experiences and Social Facts across Receiving Societies**

**Paolo BOCCAGNI**, University of Trento, Italy, [paolo.boccagni@unitn.it](mailto:paolo.boccagni@unitn.it)

**Cecilia MENJIVAR**, University of California Los Angeles, USA, [menjivar@soc.ucla.edu](mailto:menjivar@soc.ucla.edu)

## **Innovative and Creative Methods to Study Family Life**

**Barbara BARBOSA NEVES**, The University of Melbourne, Australia, [barbara@bbneves.com](mailto:barbara@bbneves.com),

**Laura MERLA**, Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium, [laura.merla@uclouvain.be](mailto:laura.merla@uclouvain.be)

**Jo LINDSAY**, Monash University, Australia, [Jo.Lindsay@monash.edu](mailto:Jo.Lindsay@monash.edu)

## **Living in Joint Physical Custody Care Arrangements after Parental Break-up**

**Anja STEINBACH**, University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany, [anja.steinbach@uni-due.de](mailto:anja.steinbach@uni-due.de)

## **Transition to Adulthood: Family Influences on Young Adults’ Work and Family.**

**Chin-Chun YI**, Academia Sinica, Taiwan, [chinyi@gate.sinica.edu.tw](mailto:chinyi@gate.sinica.edu.tw)

**Bernhard NAUCK**, Chemnitz University of Technology, Germany, [bernhard.nauck@soziologie.tu-chemnitz.de](mailto:bernhard.nauck@soziologie.tu-chemnitz.de)

## **Weddings, Intimacies and Families**

**Julia CARTER**, University of the West of England, United Kingdom, [julia.carter@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:julia.carter@uwe.ac.uk)

## **Work-Family Balance in the XXI Century: Challenges, Opportunities and New Perspectives from Innovative Practices and Policies**

**Isabella CRESPI**, University of Macerata, Dept. Education, Cultural heritage and Tourism, Italy, [isabella.crespi@unimc.it](mailto:isabella.crespi@unimc.it)

**“Strengths” and “Limitations” of New/Classical Concepts, Methods and Methodologies to Study Inequality and Intersectionality in Family Life across Borders and Cultures**

**Ria SMIT**, University of Johannesburg, South Africa, [ria.smit.dubruyn@gmail.com](mailto:ria.smit.dubruyn@gmail.com)

**Irena JUOZELIUNIENE**, Vilnius University, Lithuania, [irena.juozeliuniene@gmail.com](mailto:irena.juozeliuniene@gmail.com)

**The final programme including all presentations will be available in January.**

# PUBLICATIONS

## Articles

Baker, S., Waycott, J., Robertson, E., Carrasco, R., Neves, B. B., Hampson, R., & Vetere, F. (2019). Evaluating the use of interactive virtual reality technology with older adults living in residential aged care. *Information Processing & Management*, 102105.

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0306457318310811>

**Abstract:** As technologies gain traction within the aged care community, better understanding their impact becomes vital. This paper reports on a study that explored the deployment of virtual reality (VR) as a tool to engage older adults in Residential Aged Care Facilities (RACF). The paper has two aims: 1) to identify the benefits and challenges associated with using VR with residents in aged care settings, and 2) to gather the views of older adult residents in RACF about the potential uses of VR in aged care. Five RACF residents and five RACF staff members took part in an intensive two-week evaluation of a VR system. Qualitative data was collected from multiple interviews and via researcher notes and video recordings made during the VR sessions. Results highlight the usability issues that impacted on the aged care residents' ability to use interactive VR technology and the potential negative impact head mounted displays can have on those living with dementia; the role that VR can play in engaging residents who might otherwise self-isolate, and how this can extend to increased engagement with family and friends.

Brady, M. (2019). Conceptualizing Activation Policies Targeted at Single Mothers: A Case Study of Australia and the United Kingdom. *Social Politics: International Studies in Gender, State & Society*.

<https://academic.oup.com/sp/advance-article-abstract/doi/10.1093/sp/jxz019/5512313>



Coghlan, S., Vetere, F., Waycott, J., & Barbosa Neves, B. (2019). Could Social Robots Make Us Kinder or Crueller to Humans and Animals? *International Journal of Social Robotics*, 1-11.

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s12369-019-00583-2>

**Abstract:** The Montréal Declaration for Responsible Development of Artificial Intelligence states that emerging technologies ought not “encourage cruel behaviour towards robots that take on the appearance of human beings or animals and act in a similar fashion.” The idea of a causal link between cruelty and kindness to artificial and living beings, human or animal, is controversial and underexplored, despite its increasing relevance to robotics. Kate Darling recently marshalled Immanuel Kant’s argument—that cruelty to animals promotes cruelty to people—to argue for an analogous link concerning social robots. Others, such as Johnson and Verdicchio, have counter-argued that animal analogies are often flawed, partly because they ignore social robots’ true nature, including their lack of sentience. This, they say, weakens Darling’s argument that social robots will have virtue-promoting or vice-promoting effects regarding our treatment of living beings. Certain ideas in this debate, including those of anthropomorphism, projection, animal analogies, and Kant’s causal claim, require clarification and critical attention. Concentrating on robot animals, this paper examines strengths and weaknesses on both sides of this argument. It finds there is some reason for thinking that social robots may causally affect virtue, especially in terms of the moral development of children and responses to nonhuman animals. This conclusion has implications for future robot design and interaction.

Franz, R. L., Findlater, L., Barbosa Neves, B., & Wobbrock, J. O. (2019). Gender and Help Seeking by Older Adults When Learning New Technologies. In *Proceedings of the 21st International ACM SIGACCESS Conference on Computers and Accessibility* (pp. 136-142). ACM.

<https://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=3353807>

**Abstract:** A gender stereotype that has some basis in research is that men are more reluctant to ask for directions than women. We wanted to investigate whe-

ther this stereotype applies to technology-related contexts, affecting older adults' abilities to learn new technologies. To explore how help seeking and gender might relate for older adults, we conducted a controlled experiment with 36 individuals (18 men and 18 women), and observed how often they asked for help when learning new applications. We also conducted post-experiment interviews with participants. We found that although most participants stereotyped older men as being reluctant to ask for help in the interview, the difference between men and women was minimal in the experiment. Instead, other factors had a greater effect: older participants took longer to complete tasks and participants with lower technology self-efficacy asked significantly more questions.

Gu, D, Feng, Q. and Yeung, WJ. (2019) Reciprocal Dynamics of Solo-Living and Health among Older Adults in Contemporary China, *Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences* 74(8):1441-1452 doi: 10.1093/geronb/gby140.

Gu, X. & Yeung, W. J. (2019). Hopes and Hurdles: Rural Migrant Children's Education in Urban China. *Chinese Sociological Review* X:1-39.

Hu, S. and Yeung, W.J. (2019). Gender, Education, and Childrearing Decision-making in East Asia, *Chinese Sociological Review* 51(1): 29-56.

Ko, PC and W.J. Yeung (2019). "Productive Aging in Asia", Editorial Introduction for a Special Issue in *Social Science Medicine* 229:1-5.

Ko, PC and WJ Yeung, (2019), "Childhood Conditions and Productive Aging in China", *Social Science & Medicine* 229: 60-69.

Lai, R. Y. S., & Choi, S. Y. P. (2019). Premarital Sexuality, Abortion, and Intergenerational Dynamic in China. *Modern China*. doi: 10.1177/0097700419880524

**Abstract:** This article uses premarital abortion(s) as a window to examine diverse parental roles in adult unmarried daughters' intimate lives in post-socialist China. It also addresses issues of premarital sex, premarital pregnancy, and the emergence of a dating culture. The article identifies four patterns of parent–adult

daughter interactions during the decision-making process of premarital abortion: no recognizable parental role, referencing perceived parental views, consulting parents, and direct parental pressure to terminate pregnancy. The findings suggest that within the context of a mature dating culture in urban China and the prevalence of premarital sex, adult daughters have achieved considerable control over decisions about sex and intimacy. Nevertheless, many women have continued to consider parental views on their marriage and reproduction as crucial. Some women have even prioritized the preferences of their parents over those of their intimate partners because they consider intergenerational ties more enduring and reliable than ties between intimate partners.

Lee, Y. and Yeung, W.J. (2019). "Gender Matters: Productive Social Engagement and the Subsequent Cognitive Changes among Older Adults", *Social Science & Medicine* 229: 87-95.

Lu, Y., WJ Yeung, J. Liu, D. Treiman, (2019) Migration and Children's Psychosocial Development in China: When and Why Migration Matters, *Social Science Research* 77: 130-147

Lu, Y., WJ Yeung, J. Liu, D. Treiman, (Forthcoming) "Health of Left-behind Children in China: Evidence from Mediation Analysis", *Chinese Journal of Sociology*.

Mu, Z. and W. J. Yeung (2019). "Migration and Marriage Timing and Partner Selection in China" in *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*.

Schober, P. S., & Zoch, G. (2019). Change in the gender division of domestic work after mothers or fathers took leave: Exploring alternative explanations. *European Societies*, 21(1), 158-180.

**Abstract:** This study investigates how the durations of childcare leaves taken by mothers and fathers in Germany relate to the gender division of housework and childcare after labour market return. It examines to what extent changes in economic resources because of leave take-up may account for adaptations in the division of domestic work of dual-earner couples. Using data from the German So-

cio-Economic Panel (1992–2012) on about 800 couples with a first or second birth, we applied OLS regression models with lagged dependent variables. The results suggested that dual-earner couples where mothers took longer leaves experienced a greater shift towards a gender-traditional division of domestic labour after childbirth. Fathers' leave take-up was associated with a more equal division of family work. Lower relative earnings, e.g. as a result of changes in job-related skills after the leave, did not account for the shift in the gender division of family work.

Stahl, J. F., & Schober, P. S. (2019). Early education and care quality: does it matter for maternal working hours? *Social Science Research*.

**Abstract:** This study investigates whether mothers whose children enter early childhood education and care (ECEC) centers of higher quality are more likely to work longer hours. The empirical analysis links the Socio-Economic Panel (SOEP) Study with the K2iD-SOEP extension study, which collected ECEC quality information from childcare centers across Germany. Based on a sample of 556 mothers of 628 children with a mean age of 2.6 years at center entry, the authors applied change score models with entropy balancing to account for differences in a rich set of observable characteristics. The findings show that higher levels of quality with respect to child-teacher-ratio and partly also activities promoting child learning and offered services for parents are associated with greater increases in working hours for mothers since the year before using the ECEC center. No significant relationships emerged for group size and equipment.

Steinbach, A., & Silverstein, M. (2019). Step-grandparent–step-grandchild relationships: Is there a “grand step-gap” in emotional closeness and contact? *Journal of Family Issues*. doi:10.1177/0192513X19886638 (online first, open access)

**Abstract:** High divorce and remarriage rates have expanded nontraditional family forms, as some family members leave and others join during the process of repartnering. A less explored consequence of the growth in step-families is the proliferation of step-grandparenthood. This paper focuses on emotional close-

ness and frequency of contact between step-grandparents and their step-grandchildren in childhood and adulthood. Based on 4,992 biological grandparents and step-grandparents participating in the 2014 wave of the German Ageing Survey, we compared 7,710 biological grandparent–grandchild relations to 465 step-grandparent–step-grandchild relations. Step-relations were differentiated by whether repartnering occurred in the grandparent or parent generation. Hierarchical linear regression results provided support for the hypothesis that step-grandparents feel less emotionally close to their step-grandchildren than biological grandparents feel to their biological grandchildren. In contrast, the observed lower frequency of contact in step-grandparent–step-grandchild relations was mostly explained by their weaker emotional ties.

Steinbach, A., & Silverstein, M. (2020). The relationship between religion and intergenerational solidarity in Eastern and Western Germany. *Journal of Family Issues*, 41(1), 109-130. doi:10.1177/0192513X19868750

**Abstract:** This article investigated the relationship between religiosity and intergenerational solidarity in Germany, with a focus on differences between eastern and western regions that have maintained unique religious profiles that trace back to before unification. Based on data from Wave 6 (2013-2014) of the German Family Panel (pairfam), 8,637 reports from 4,622 adult children about their relationships with mothers and fathers were analyzed. Using an index comprising four dimensions of the intergenerational solidarity model (distance, contact, closeness, and support), hierarchical linear regression demonstrated general support for the hypothesis that having a religious denomination is positively associated with the strength of intergenerational relations in Germany. However, this positive association is stronger in the more religious western part of Germany than in the highly secularized eastern part. These results emphasize the importance of taking social context and political history into account when studying core institutions of religion and families.



Steinbach, A., Kopp, J., & Lazarevic, P. (2019). Divergent perceptions of intergenerational relationships: What implications, if any? *Journal of Family Studies*, 25(4), 368-384. doi:10.1080/13229400.2016.1269659

**Abstract:** People involved in a shared social relationship may perceive their relationship differently. The intergenerational stake hypothesis posits differences in reports of parents and adult children on emotional closeness and conflict; empirical studies have also found different reports on the exchange of support. These findings are tested by looking at assessments of different dimensions of the parent–child relation. Data were drawn from the 2009 to 2010 wave of the German Family Panel (pairfam) and include more than 4500 parent–child dyads. Some differences were found (parents reported higher emotional closeness and lower conflict), but does this mean that all empirical studies of intergenerational relationships are potentially biased if they use data from only one generation? Using pairfam data, we show that no great statistical bias is introduced when data from one, not both generations are used. Thus, data from one side of the parent–child dyad are sufficient for most research into intergenerational relations.

Twamley, K., & Schober, P. S. (2019). Shared parental leave: exploring variations in attitudes, eligibility, knowledge and take-up intentions of expectant mothers in London. *Journal of Social Policy*, 48(2), 387-407.

**Abstract:** In April 2015, the UK introduced Shared Parental Leave (SPL), allowing mothers to transfer their maternity leave to their partners from two weeks after the birth or adoption of a child. There has been very limited research conducted on this leave policy to date and knowledge on take-up is poor. We present findings from an in-depth survey conducted with expectant mothers in two NHS trusts in England on their knowledge, views and plans around leave after the birth of their child and examine variations across educational and ethnic groups. A total of 575 expectant mothers took part in the survey. Around 7.4 per cent of expectant mothers who were (self-)employed or in education intended to take SPL. Finances and worries over fathers' careers were cited as the primary barriers to take up of SPL. Individual entitlement for fathers and knowing others

who took SPL increased individuals' reported intention to take SPL. Applying logistic regression models, we found that knowledge of and access to SPL is correlated with education, ethnicity and home ownership. Future research and policy design should attend to such issues to ensure equitable access across families.

Yeung W. J. and Li, H. (2019) "Educational Resilience among Asian Children in Challenging Family Environment". *Social Indicator Research* :1-11.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11205-019-02143-7>

Yeung, W.J. and Mu Z. (2019). Marriage and Migration in Asia. Introduction in a Special Issue in the *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*.

Yeung, Jean W., Qiushi Feng, Zhenglian Wang, and Yi Zeng. 2019. "Adjustment on Retirement Age and Changes of Human Capital in China, 2015-2050." *Population Research* 43(1):102-112. (in Chinese)

## Special Issues

Mu Z. and Yeung, W.J (2019). Migration and Marriage in Asia, editorial introduction to a special issue, *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*

Ko, P. and W. J. Yeung (2019). Productive Aging in Asia. *Social Science Medicine*, v. 229.

Li, H. and W.J Yeung (2019). Educational Resilience in Adversity among Asian Children. *Social Indicator Research*, 145(2).

Yeung, W.J. and Thang, L. (2018). Long-term Care in ASEAN Plus Three, *Journal of Aging and Health* 33(10).

Hrženjak, M. & Scambor, E. (2019). Masculinities and Care: Men's Experiences in Formal and Informal Care Work. *Teorija in praksa*, 56(4).

This thematic issue with 11 articles written in English language contributes to the expanding research of masculinity and care by presenting evidence of men's active participation in a range of types, locations and geographies of care. It brings further analysis of the complexity of men's inclusion in care work in terms of both the social regulation of gender as well as the structural factors like generation, location, labour markets, welfare systems, migration, organisational cultures and dominant norms of family and care.

Written by Elisabetta Ruspini, the opening article presents a global overview of how millennial men are negotiating tradition and change in both gender roles and their care commitments. Studies of millennials reveal that new egalitarian patterns are emerging, yet they may be difficult to maintain in social and institutional contexts that reward the traditional family model and traditional gender roles. Marina Hughson considers the overlap of critical studies of men and masculinities and the theory of semi-peripherality and analyses the processes of the complex transformation of men and masculinities in the Balkans in their care practices and discourses. She establishes the concept of "male hegemony built on opportune hybridity" to demonstrate the ambiguous emancipatory effects of care on men in neoliberal conditions. The concept of caring masculinity and its emancipatory limits is also critically reflected on by Branko Bembič while looking at quantitative data showing gender-desegregation trends in institutional eldercare as well as two case studies of homes for the elderly. To deepen the discussion of how structure and gender identity interplay in men's care practices, Majda Hrženjak presents a nuanced analysis of the structural and identity factors that push men away from professional hands-on care work in childcare, eldercare and care for the disabled. European countries, but also Canada, are experiencing rising numbers of migrant male care workers in long-term care settings. Palle Storm and Ruth Lowndes employ rapid site switching ethnography and individual interviews to analyse migrant men's entrance into, motivations for, and experiences of paid care work in Canadian and Swedish nursing homes. Based on secondary analysis of recent quantitative data from a survey in Germany that covered over 3,000 pupils, Daniel Holtermann analyses which factors lead boys to choose further

education in the education, health and well-being sector even though the notion of traditional masculinity and the professional habitus in these occupations do not support males. In the area of informal care in the family, Elli Scambor and Marc Gärtner critically examine the conditions needed for ‘freedom of choice’ in the division of paid/unpaid work within couples and particularly focus on wider societal factors that support or repel men in participating in informal care. Iztok Šori argues in his article that, on both the individual and institutional level, the archetype of maternal love is a powerful mechanism that defines the boundaries of fatherhood and masculinity in fathers who are primary caregivers. Živa Humer points out that, despite the gender-neutral parental legislation in Slovenia, institutions like the centres for social work and courts often follow an essentialist notion of proper care for children and that men can encounter discrimination in custody processes. The concluding article by Mojca Frelih highlights the troubling negotiations of masculinity and lived experiences of men who are primary care providers for their partners or parents with dementia.

*Journal will be published in late December 2019. All articles will be available in open access on the journal's webpage <https://www.fdv.unilj.si/en/journals/science-journals/teorija-in-praksa>*

Ribbens McCarthy, J., Gillies, V., & Hooper, C.-A. (2019). “Family Troubles” and “Troubling Families”: Opening Up Fertile Ground. *Journal of Family Issues*, 40(16), 2207–2224. doi:10.1177/0192513X19870047

**Abstract:** The twin themes of “family troubles” and “troubling families” are closely linked, but they are also each distinct in themselves, and nuanced in particular ways. Rooted particularly (but not solely) in our U.K.-based academic experiences, we offer an account of family studies as siloed between a binary of “the mainstream”, focused on what may be implicitly understood as “ordinary” family lives, and “the problematic”, focused on aspects of family lives that may be of interest to social policy experts, professionals, and practitioners and geared toward interventions of some sort. What has been missing has been sociological attention to the pervasiveness of change and challenges as core for all family lives over

time, with such changes sometimes experienced as troubling by family members themselves, and/or seen to be troubling by others such as professionals who saw them as “dysfunctional”, or policy makers who saw them as “social problems”. Practice and policy-oriented research has thus focused on interventions to “make things better”, or to achieve “reforms”, for families that are considered to be “problematic”. Consequently, what may be described as the “normal troubles” of family lives have been largely neglected. In this article, we explore what is brought into view by focusing on “family troubles” and “troubling families”; we argue that these themes offer fertile ground for opening up new dialogue between these contrasting bodies of work, questioning and crossing boundaries, illuminating taken-for-granted assumptions, and encouraging fresh perspectives.

Evans, R., Bowlby, S., Gottzén, L. & Ribbens McCarthy, J. (2019). Unpacking ‘family troubles’, care and relationality across time and space. *Children’s Geographies*, 17(5), 501-513. doi: 0.1080/14733285.2019.1655139

**Abstract:** Despite significant work on family geographies in recent years, geographers have paid less attention to changes and challenges that may be considered ‘family troubles’ in diverse contexts. Through this editorial and the special section, we unpack time-space dynamics of ‘family troubles’ in diverse contexts, with a particular focus on care and relationality. Our discussion foregrounds ambiguities and tensions surrounding geographical proximity and propinquity, material-emotional responses, and diverse meanings of ‘family’, ‘home’ and belonging in the context of troubling changes in family lives, intergenerational relations and practices of care. We seek to establish an agenda for future geographical work and interdisciplinary dialogue on ‘family troubles’, vulnerabilities and social suffering in contexts of (troubling) changes and diversity. Such analyses are crucial in our efforts to envision a more relational understanding of our ‘being-in-the-world’, underpinned by care ethics and support for differentially positioned family members throughout the lifecourse and across generations.



## Media Articles

Barbara Barbosa Neves (Nov, 2019) "I spent five years speaking with people in nursing homes. This is what I learnt about loneliness", ABC News Website, <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-11-19/loneliness-technology-and-older-people-in-nursing-homes/11613224>

Simon Coghlan, Barbara Barbosa Neves, Jenny Waycott (7 Nov, 2019) "Abusing a robot won't hurt it, but it could make you a crueller person", The Conversation, <https://theconversation.com/abusing-a-robot-wont-hurt-it-but-it-could-make-you-a-crueller-person-126187>

## Books

### *Gender Mainstreaming and Gender Equality in Europe*

Vera Lomazzi & Isabella Crespi

2019



With gender equality so prominent in public debate, this timely book reviews the impacts of gender mainstreaming on political, social and cultural issues around Europe. It explores the origins and evolution of mainstreaming, the theory's contribution to gender equality legislation so far and its potential to drive change in the future. Drawing on extensive data, the book compares and contrasts progress in various European countries, taking into account the multidimensionality of gender equality. Finally, the book considers the limits of gender mainstreaming amid economic, migration and political challenges. This important book is a welcome contribution to discussions about gender equality in European societies looking at the interplay of policies, culture and public opinion.

Link:

<https://policy.bristoluniversitypress.co.uk/gender-mainstreaming-and-gender-equality-in-europe>

## ***New Parents in Europe Couples' work-care practices in-between gender norms, ideals and family policies***

**Daniela Grunow & Marie Evertsson**  
2019



How do couples in diverse national contexts resist or embrace the various competing institutional and normative frames of parenthood? This volume provides novel insights into how dual-earner couples' plan for, realize and justify their divisions of work and care during the transition to parenthood in eight European countries. Specific attention is paid to couples who act gender non-normative from the perspective of their national, cultural context. As such, this book is the first comparative, longitudinal, qualitative study to explicitly locate couples' beliefs and negotiations in the wider context of national institutional structures. These institutional structures include national family policies, care provision and gendered ideologies about motherhood and fatherhood. The book provides compelling evidence that the ways and degrees to which new parents can realize their work-care plans and ideals systematically relate to the support structures and resources available to them from the state, their employers, and their families.

### Special Features:

- Unique longitudinal in-depth analysis of transitions to parenthood in contemporary welfare states
- Couples sharing their experiences in their own words
- Cutting edge methodology (qualitative comparative, longitudinal data analysis); innovative combination of macro and micro data
- New theoretical insights into the link between structure and agency
- Analysis of social policies and their impact on new parents in Europe: Sweden, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, the Czech Republic and Poland

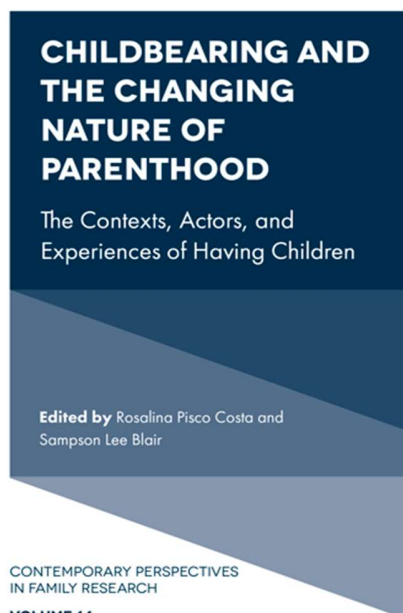
Link for more details:

<https://www.e-elgar.com/shop/new-parents-in-europe>

**CPFR Volume 14**

***Childbearing and the Changing Nature of Parenthood: The Contexts, Actors, and Experiences of Having Children***

**Rosalina Pisco Costa & Sampson Lee Blair**  
2019



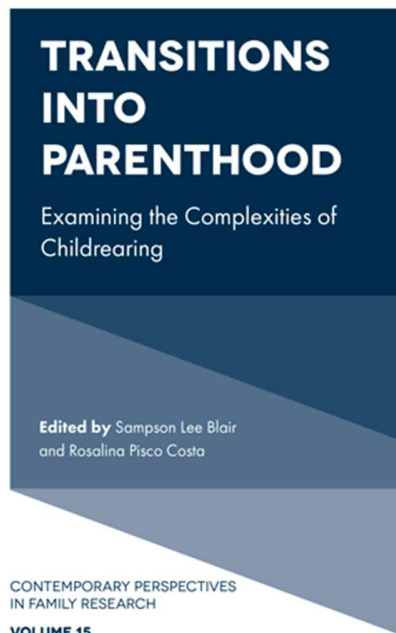
**Chapters:**

- Chapter 1: Putting Gender on Ice: Preserving Motherhood in Media Coverage of Elective Egg and Sperm Freezing
- Chapter 2: Becoming Mum: Exploring the Emergence and Formulation of a Mother's Identity During the Transition into Motherhood
- Chapter 3: Contextual Influences on Contraception Use Among Poor Women in Pakistan
- Chapter 4: Doing Becoming a Mother: The Gendering of Parenthood in Birth-Preparation Classes in Germany
- Chapter 5: Midwives in Ontario Hospitals: The Mainstreaming of "Alternative" Childbearing
- Chapter 6: The Medicalization of Pregnancy and Childbirth in Contemporary Turkey: The Effect of Risk Discourses for Turkish Women's Experiences
- Chapter 7: Going it Alone: A Multigenerational Investigation of Women's Perceptions of Single Mothers by Choice Versus by Circumstance
- Chapter 8: Building A Family within a Non-Heterosexual Couple: Struggles, Fears, Representations and Practices
- Chapter 9: A Qualitative Inquiry: Reflections on Pregnancy, Birth, and Transition to Parenthood Experiences of African-American Couples with a Toddler Son

**CPFR Volume 15**

***Transitions into Parenthood: Examining the Complexities of Childrearing***

**Sampson Lee Blair & Rosalina Pisco Costa**  
2019

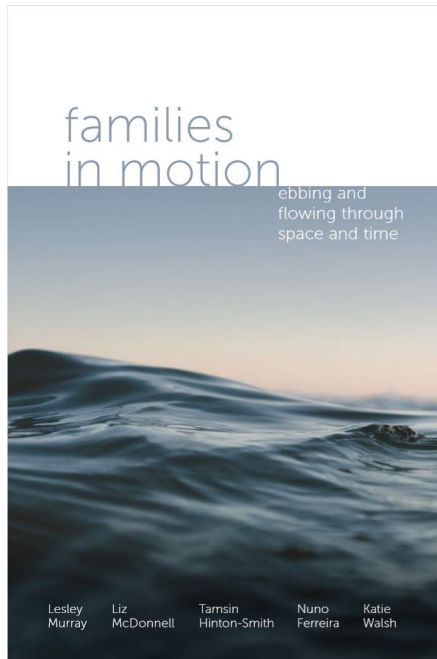


**Chapters:**

- Chapter 1: Young Adult Parents' Work-Family Conflict: The Roles of Parenting Stress and Parental Conflict
- Chapter 2: Experiences of Family and Social Support During the Transition to Motherhood Among Mothers of Biracial and Monoracial Infants
- Chapter 3: Narratives from Community-Based Organization Staff and Black and Coloured Mothers in South Africa: A Qualitative Study on the Impact of Participation in Parenting Programs on Maternal Behaviors
- Chapter 4: For US or The Children? Exploring the Association Between Coparenting Trajectories and Parental Commitment
- Chapter 5: Mediating Effects of Maternal Gatekeeping on Nonresident Black Fathers' Paternal Stressors
- Chapter 6: A Conceptual and Methodological Exploration of the Cognitive Processes Associated with Mindful Parenting: Reflections on Translating Theory to Practice
- Chapter 7: In Which Language(s) Do You Parent? How Language(s) Used By Migrant Parents Influence the Realization of Parenting Functions
- Chapter 8: Co-Sleeping as a Developmental Context and Its Role in the Transition to Parenthood
- Chapter 9: Mother-Child Relationships and Depressive Symptoms in the Transition to Adulthood: An Examination of Racial and Ethnic Differences
- Chapter 10: Parenting in Three-Generation Taiwanese Families: The Dynamics of Collaboration and Conflicts

## *Families in motion: Ebbing and Flowing Through Space and Time*

Lesley Murray, Liz McDonnell, Tamsin Hinton-Smith, Nuno Ferreira & Katie Walsh  
2019



This interdisciplinary edited collection challenges the idea of the static family that can be ‘broken’, and instead think of family as always ‘on the move’, both conceptually and in practice. This book brings together insights from the diverse work of interdisciplinary academics working alone and collaboratively on different aspects of family lives and relationships. The central argument of the book is that the concept of family is always in motion: changing, adapting and re-routed. In addition, families are made through mobility and immobility in relation to people, communications, objects and ideas, including non-human living things and through the emotional ties and responses that determine their form and practices. Contributions consider changes in family practices and the ways in which they are produced through motion.

Link:

<https://www.emerald.com/insight/publication/doi/10.1108/9781787694156>

## Book Chapters

Merla, L. & Nobels, B. (2019). Children negotiating their place through space in multi-local, joint physical custody arrangements. In L. Murray, L. McDonnell, T. Hinton-Smith, N. Ferreira, K. Walsh (Eds.), *Families in motion: Ebbing and flowing through space and time* (pp. 79-95). Bingley: Emerald Publishing.

**Abstract:** This chapter focusses on multi-local families and more specifically on the ways in which children of separated parents, living in joint physical custody arrangements, define and construct their ‘home’ in a context of circular mobility. It is based on two case studies drawn from ongoing fieldwork conducted in Belgium with children aged 10–16 in the context of the ERC Starting Grant project ‘MobileKids’. The main aim is to understand how family relations structure children’s ‘life spaces’ and ‘lived space’ (di Meo, 2012). The authors explore in particular the meanings and feelings that family relations confer to the space of the ‘house’ in children’s

experiences, including both the physicality of the place of residence, and the relations and emotions that children attach to it (Forsberg, Autonen-Vaaranemi, & Kauko, 2016, p. 435). The authors also highlight the various strategies that children develop to mediate/influence their family relations through 'space', including strategies of spatial appropriation and territorialisation. The authors conclude by summarising the main findings and considering future developments.

Link to a blog entry presenting the main arguments of the chapter:

<https://mobilekids.eu/negotiating-ones-place-in-the-family-through-space/>

# Announcements

## I. Awards & Honours

- **Barbara Barbosa Neves** was named by the ABC and University of Sydney among the Top 5 Scholars in Humanities and Social Sciences in Australia for a media residency ('The next generation of research talent').
- **Barbara Barbosa Neves** won the Monash Dean's Award for Research Excellence as well as the Vice-Chancellor's Award for Research Excellence for early career scholars in humanities and social sciences (2019).

## II. Grants & Projects

- **Anzhelika Voroshilova** has been awarded the Russian Science Foundation grant:  
 "Analysis and simulation of demographical processes based on dynamical system approach with consideration of sociocultural determinants" (project no. 19-78-00058)  
 The project is aimed at improving the methods of modeling and forecasting demographic processes from the point of view of the theory of dynamical systems, taking into account socio-cultural and informational determinants. The issues of identification of population models that require modernization and refinement in the conditions of the information society through the development of conceptual, mathematical and methodological apparatus are considered.
- **Gayle Kaufman** has received a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant to fund 3 years of research on "Marriage Attitudes in the 21st Century" (in collaboration with D'Lane Compton at the University of New Orleans). This research will include a national survey as well as interviews with LGBTQ adults in 8 US cities to increase understandings of how marriage equality shapes attitudes and decision-making related to marriage.
- **Lopamudra Sengupta's** forthcoming monograph on 'Human Rights of The Third Gender in India: Beyond the Binary', which will be published by Routledge in 2020, has received the prestigious publication grant from Shastri Indo Canadian Institute (SICI) 2019.
- In 2018 and 2019, the Council for grants of the President of Russia funded a project "Fertility and Parenting in the Russian Federation: models, invigoration strategies, forecasts". The project has been realised as part of the state support to the leading scientific schools (NSh-3429.2018.6). The head of the project is **An-**



**na Bagirova**, a professor, who worked with the scientific school of the Ural Federal University in Ekaterinburg. Within the project there were studied fertility and parenting trends in Russia, their regional variations and elaborated the strategies for fertility increase and parenting development. The results obtained are as follows:

- 1) A contribution to broadening the concept of parenting, motivation for its fulfilment, quality category of parental functions fulfilment, role of the parenting concept in stimulating fertility and parenting itself;
- 2) The frameworks for fertility and parenting studies were given methodological ground;
- 3) Obtaining new data of fertility and parenting trends in Russian regions, which are the determinants of fertility, as well as groups of homogeneous regions, where it is relevant to apply the similar strategies for fertility increase and parenting development;
- 4) The principles of elaborating strategies for fertility increase and parenting development within the groups of Russian regions were given methodological ground.

There were used sociological, demographic and statistical methods in the research project. The data was collected from the official national statistical reports, public surveys and social media. In 2018 and 2019, there have been maintained 3 PhD theses, related to the subject of the project, and more than 60 papers were published in journals and conference proceedings.

- Parental gender socialization across diverse families: Interdependencies with sex hormones, family processes and socio-political context

Principal Investigator: **Pia Schober**, University of Tübingen

Funding body: German Research Foundation (DFG)

Duration: 1 October 2019 - 30 September 2023

**Abstract:** The pace of change towards gender egalitarian beliefs and practices have varied across domains in modern post-industrial societies, which has been conceptualised as an incomplete gender revolution. Possible explanations relate to persistent gender essentialist beliefs and increasing self-expressive values or norms of choices on the one hand and to neuro-scientific research on biological sex differences on the other. This project seeks to illuminate the process of inter-generational change in gender relations by investigating how children form their gender beliefs, interests and occupational aspirations. It combines theories of gender socialisation and biological sex differences with a life course perspective. First, the project explores how the influence of parental socialization varies by children's exposure to prenatal sex hormones. Second, the study sheds new light on contextual variations, especially how the influence of parental socialization differs across family structures, peer networks, and gender cultures. Studying aspirations of children in structurally and ethnically diverse families will provide new insights, as some of these families face greater economic constraints and work-

care conflict, which may reduce the influence of gender essentialism and self-expressive values.

To investigate the interplay of sex hormones with parental gender socialisation across childhood, the first part of the project draws on the Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children. This study collected hormonal measures from blood samples alongside longitudinal survey measures of children and their parents in Bristol from before birth until young adulthood. To explore how the influence of gender socialisation by parents varies between two-parent, single-parent and stepparent families with varying contact arrangement and parent-child-relationships, the second part of the project draws on data from the UK Millennium Cohort Study following a large representative sample of children from birth to age 17. The third part of the project investigates how parents and peers shape gender ideologies, practices and occupational aspirations among immigrant and native youth in Germany, England, the Netherlands, and Sweden. Based on the Children of Immigrants Longitudinal Study in Four European Countries, it analyses how parental influences vary depending on gender beliefs and aspirations of classmates and social networks across gender cultures. All three individual-level panel data sets are enriched by country-level information on occupational segregation and gender cultures. In combination, the three parts of the project will provide novel evidence of the interdependence of parental gender socialisation with biological predispositions and with the social environment.

**Keywords:** gender; socialization; intergenerational transmission; gender ideologies; occupational aspirations; sex hormones; family structure; migration; ethnic inequalities

- Family policy information, gender ideologies and normative judgements of the gender division of labour

Principal Investigator: **Pia Schober**, University of Tübingen & German Institute for Economic Research (DIW Berlin)

Funding body: German Research Foundation (DFG)

Duration: 1 April 2020 – 31 March 2023

**Abstract:** This project investigates how information about parental leave and childcare policies and about consequences of take-up affect normative judgements about parents' employment, take-up of leave, and formal childcare among different socio-economic groups. Since the mid-2000s, Germany introduced several parental leave and childcare reforms aimed inter alia at speeding up maternal labour market return, increasing paternal childcare involvement and reducing social inequalities in take-up of formal childcare. Maternal employment and take-up of leave by fathers and of formal childcare have risen; yet, they remain socially stratified. This might be due to socially stratified diffusion of varying work-care cultures. The project extends recent studies, which found that family policies may impact individual actions and beliefs not only by altering economic incentives but also by shaping work-care ideals and norms also in the short-term and for social groups not directly affected by the policies. Possible channels of such normative

change is new information provided by media reports, public policy campaigns or social networks. This project explores whether increasing policy visibility through short evidence-based information about existing policy entitlements and consequences of take-up may alter normative judgements about the gender division of labour and childcare. In particular, the project will examine how the effects of information vary across social groups.

Our theoretical framework integrates the concepts of gender consciousness and normative policy feedback effects with the social-psychological elaboration likelihood model and social norm theory. For the empirical examination, we have developed two different survey experiments. These have been accepted by two large German Panel Surveys, the GESIS Panel and the German Family Panel (Pairfam), and will be implemented between August 2019 and April 2020. The project's contribution will be threefold: First, it will shed light on one likely mechanism as to how policies may influence social norms and beliefs. Second, by considering differential effects across social groups that vary in policy proximity, we will be able to gain a better understanding of how policy-related information diffuses across different population groups. Third, by combining information experiments with vignette designs, the project will identify couple and context characteristics for which social norms may be more flexible and susceptible to new information as opposed to situations for which normative judgements are rather inflexible.

**Key words:** Family policy, parental leave, childcare, employment, social norms, gender ideologies, gender beliefs, information, parenthood

- **Family Troubles and Troubling Families.**

Jane McCarthy and colleagues, Val Gillies, Carol-Ann Hooper and Ruth Evans, from the UK, have edited two new special journal issues as part of this ten year project encouraging dialogue between mainstream family sociology and more problem and policy oriented family research. Some of the work published was first presented at the ISA Forum in Vienna in 2016, and these themes are also being taken forward by Lithuanian colleagues Irena Juozeliūnienė and Irma Budginaitė-Mačkinė, and also by Sylvie Bijaoui, in two papers at the ISA Forum in Brazil next year

<https://isaconf.confex.com/isaconf/forum2020/webprogrampreliminary/Session14187.html>.

To mark the ten year anniversary of this project, Jane has also recorded two videos introducing this work.

A trailer video on family troubles is here: <https://youtu.be/n9-NsELiMwQ>

A longer main video is here: <https://youtu.be/Ef8AVoyJKNo>

## New & Returning Members

We welcome the following new or returning members (2019):

Moya Bydawell  
South Africa

Debra Berke  
United States

Ausra Maslauskaite  
Lithuania

Marc Szydlík  
Switzerland

Ali Nouri  
Iran

Heiwa Date  
Japan

Jo Lindsay  
Australia

Hala Awada  
Lebanon

Kadri Taht  
Estonia

## Board of RC06 (2018-2022)

President	Susan McDaniel
Vice-President	Bahira Sherif Trask
Secretary and Treasurer	Bárbara Barbosa Neves

Members at large	Anja Steinbach (this newsletter's editor)
	Jean Yeung
	Marlize Rabe

