

# CFR GAZETTE



Newsletter of the  
Committee on  
Family Research  
(RC06/CFR)

*International Socio-  
logical Association*



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ISA Research Committee on Family Research on Facebook

# RC06 President's Column



Dear RC06 Colleagues/Friends,

As 2021 draws to a close, I hope that we all can look back on it with some pride that we did our best under difficult circumstances. One good thing coming out of the pandemic is recognition of the vital importance of social connection, whether virtual or in-person. We also learned new ways to care for each other – by reaching out to those in need or taking care to protect the vulnerable. But we all know now, if we did not know previously, how very unequal our societies are and how that inequality affects health and life itself. Sociology has much to contribute to understanding and ameliorating deep inequalities. Members of our RC in their research and other roles are contributing to making lives better.

ISA, like all associations world-wide, has had to make adjustments to its usual conference schedules. As you likely know from various postings and my last Presidential note in our May Newsletter, the World Congress of Sociology, initially slated for July 2022 in Melbourne, Australia, has been postponed until June 2023. This decision was taken based on wide consultation with ISA RC Presidents, ISA members and consideration of the pandemic situation world-wide and particularly in Australia.

As a result, it was also agreed that the mandate of the EC and RC Boards should be extended by a year, given that elections are required to be held at the time of the World Congresses. RC06 Board members unanimously and generously agreed to stay on for an extra year, given the exceptional circumstances of the pandemic and the vote to postpone the World Congress. We shall therefore aim for elections in 2023.

I remain immensely grateful to my wonderful colleagues on the RC Board for their generous willingness to step up for the good of our RC. In particular, I thank Barbara Barbosa Neves, our always efficient, energetic long-serving RC Secretary who keeps us on top of deadlines and is always ready to help with a font of ISA knowledge. Particular thanks also to interim Board member Lukasz Czarnecki who has generously taken responsibility for our bi-annual newsletter. And we thank Aušra Maslauskaitė, interim Board member, for her excellent work with both social media and our website. I always

smile when I see a tweet from our RC. I warmly thank all Board members for their always helpful and wise counsel and input.

**Invitation to host an online conference/webinar/workshop/whatever:**

Given that meeting in person for awhile is not happening, the Board and I would like to solicit proposals for something online where research could be shared. This would be a way to make our research known and to get feedback from colleagues. Could be small and topic-focused or perhaps a webinar series. An online event should be relatively easy to organize with no or minimal costs. How about it, colleagues? Feel free to contact any member of the Board.

Wishing you well and wellness,

Susan McDaniel

President, RC06

November 2021

# Editor's Column



Dear RC06 Members,

Congratulations to all of you for being so present on family issues during this time. I feel our strong “togetherness” on family matters. I am happy that in our Newsletter you will find information on your articles, chapters and books you engage. Moreover, there is a call for papers from the *Contemporary Perspectives in Family Research* and a call for associate editors from the *Journal of Family Studies*. In the announcement section you will find a call for collaboration from Gayle Kaufman and D’Lane Compton on queer marriage.

As our President pointed out, we invite you to send proposals for online meeting. I am sure it will be great to share our projects, research outcomes and whatever you wish to share.

I would like to welcome new and returning members. Your collaboration is crucial during this pandemic. Thanks to you, our RC06 Community is vibrant and strong.

Time is passing so quickly; it invites us to think of persons who passed away during the pandemic, the difficult circumstances, and maybe combination of difficult factors. Let me share with you the story of Dr. Hilaria Maas Coli, my beloved Maya teacher from the University of Yucatan in Mérida, who passed away this 2021. Making the decision not to start family and never married, it was difficult for *Maestra*, who originated from Huhi, Yucatan peninsula. Inspired by her I learned not only Maya language that helps me know more about Maya families’ transformation, but also a sense of the family itself; wherever we are, whoever we are, alone or not, we are part of a global family, being good people and cultivate memory, just as she prepared *Hanal pixáan*<sup>1</sup>, full of exquisite food, fruits, candles and flowers to really communicate with those who are not among us, but are still family members.

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<sup>1</sup>Maya altar prepared for the Day of Dead.

I do not think it is too early to wish you a Happy New Year 2022. Hope you will have a very good time with your family, friends or whoever kind, especially for those who are staying alone from RC06 we send you a big hug.

*Dyos bo'otik*<sup>2</sup> for being with us.



Dr. Hilaria Maas Coli, sitting in the center, after Maya class, UADY, Mérida, 2018.

Best wishes,  
Lukasz Czarnecki

December 1, 2021

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<sup>2</sup> In Maya thank you.

# CALL FOR PAPERS

## Contemporary Perspectives in Family Research

### Conjugal Trajectories:

#### Relationship Beginnings, Change, and Dissolutions

Contemporary Perspectives in Family Research, an annual series which focuses upon cutting-edge topics in family research around the globe, is seeking manuscript submissions for a special volume. The volume will focus on the theme of **Conjugal Trajectories: Relationship Beginnings, Change, and Dissolutions**.

Around the globe, many societies are experiencing substantial change in family forms and structures. The combination of decreasing marriage rates, increasing cohabitation and singlehood rates, and declining fertility rates all signal the ever-evolving nature of conjugality. For both families and individuals, conjugal trajectories are a core element of life, as societal norms still exert considerable pressure and prompt people toward some variety of conjugal relationship. However, the combination of both macro and micro factors have brought about more variety in conjugal relationships than ever previously seen in human history. In order to better comprehend the nature of conjugal relationships, this multidisciplinary volume of CPFR will focus upon conjugal trajectories. In doing so, we are seeking manuscripts which cover a wide array of topics, including: dating and relationship formation, conjugality and gender identities, tradition and modernity in cohabitation and marriage, marriage-divorce-marriage trajectories, peer versus familial pressures upon conjugality, intimacy and modernity in conjugality, cultural perceptions of couplehood, growing rejection of marriage, migration and transnational conjugality, the interplay of parental and marital roles, generational variations in conjugality, the changing meaning of divorce status, conceptions of marital status, aging and conjugality, conjugal violence, and how education and employment impact conjugal trajectories, among others.

This volume of CPFR will be coedited by Ana Josefina Cuevas Hernández of the University of Colima and Sampson Lee Blair of The State University of New York (Buffalo). Manuscripts should be submitted directly to the editors ([ajcuevas@ucol.mx](mailto:ajcuevas@ucol.mx) and [slblair@buffalo.edu](mailto:slblair@buffalo.edu)), preferably in MS WORD format. Manuscripts should not exceed approximately 40 double-spaced pages (not including tables, figures, and references). Submission of a manuscript implies commitment to publish in CPFR. Manuscripts should adhere to the APA format. Manuscripts should represent previously unpublished work. An abstract of 150-250 words should be included at the beginning of each manuscript. All manuscripts will undergo peer review. The deadline for initial submissions is April 15, 2022. Any questions may be directed to the editors at [ajcuevas@ucol.mx](mailto:ajcuevas@ucol.mx) and [slblair@buffalo.edu](mailto:slblair@buffalo.edu).

## Resilience and Familism:

### The Dynamic Nature of Families in the Philippines

Contemporary Perspectives in Family Research, an annual series which focuses upon cutting-edge topics in family research around the globe, is seeking manuscript submissions for a special volume. The volume will focus on the theme of **Resilience and Familism: The Dynamic Nature of Families in the Philippines**.

The Philippines is a unique country, and its distinct history and culture provide an intriguing context for families. Comprised of over 7,000 islands, the Philippines has been visited by numerous groups in its prehistoric times, while over the past five centuries, Spanish colonization influenced the course of Filipino culture, particularly in regards to religion. Even after the formal establishment of the Republic of the Philippines in 1946, American cultural influence persisted. Its long history, coupled with its peculiar population distribution across thousands of islands, has resulted in a culture which is decidedly familistic. Filipino families maintain perhaps the strongest family bonds of any culture, and have shown a unique ability to persevere, even when faced with the most dire of circumstances.

In order to better comprehend the dynamic nature of families in the Philippines, this multidisciplinary volume of CPFR will focus upon Filipino families. In doing so, we are seeking manuscripts which cover a wide array of topics, including: how overseas employment affects spousal and parent-child relationships, changing age at marriage, poverty and family dynamics, parenting within intergenerational families, child employment, internal migration and family ties, the role of religion within the family, remittances and familial support systems, dating and mate selection, changing gender roles, rural versus urban family norms, filial piety, the interweave of family and community, and the role of god-parents, among others.

This volume of CPFR will be coedited by Clarence M. Batan of University of Santo Tomas (Manila), Sampson Lee Blair of The State University of New York (Buffalo), and Veronica L. Gregorio (National University of Singapore). Manuscripts should be submitted directly to the editors ([cmbatan@ust.edu.ph](mailto:cmbatan@ust.edu.ph), [slblair@buffalo.edu](mailto:slblair@buffalo.edu), and [v.gregorio@u.nus.edu](mailto:v.gregorio@u.nus.edu)), preferably in MS WORD format. Manuscripts should not exceed approximately 40 double-spaced pages (not including tables,



figures, and references). Submission of a manuscript implies commitment to publish in CPFR. Manuscripts should adhere to the APA format. Manuscripts should represent previously unpublished work. An abstract of 150-250 words should be included at the beginning of each manuscript. All manuscripts will undergo peer review. There are no fees, and all authors will receive hard copies and electronic access to the volume. The deadline for initial submissions is April 15, 2022. Any questions may be directed to the editors at [cmbatan@ust.edu.ph](mailto:cmbatan@ust.edu.ph) , [sblair@buffalo.edu](mailto:sblair@buffalo.edu) , and [v.gregorio@u.nus.edu](mailto:v.gregorio@u.nus.edu) .

## Call for Associate Editors

The Journal of Family Studies is currently looking for new Associate Editors (AEs) to join our editorial team. We are looking for:

- Associate Editors – the role of AE is to process manuscripts submitted to JFS, which includes considering the manuscript for publication, finding reviewers, assessing reviews and making final decisions about the manuscripts. Manuscripts are assigned by the Editor-in-Chief (EIC) according to the AEs' expertise. We aim to limit the number of manuscripts to no more than 3 with each AE at any given time
- Social Media Associate Editor – the role of this associate editor is to run the JFS Twitter account, which includes tweeting about new articles and other items relevant to the journal.
- Book Review Editor – the role of this editor is to liaise with presses for relevant books, invite authors to write book reviews, and edit book reviews.

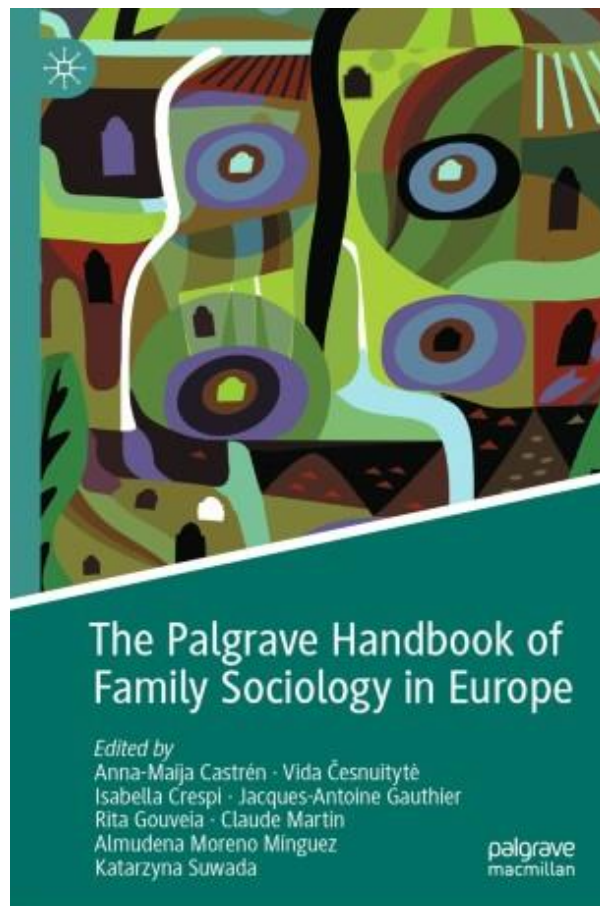
The Journal of Family Studies is a peer-reviewed international journal that aims to develop the understanding of families, households, and relationships in society. The journal takes an inclusive view of families across a range of structures and with consideration of gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, nationality, class, age, and health or disability. See more here: <https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rjfs20/current>

To apply, email a brief statement of interest about one of the above editorial positions and a cv to Gayle Kaufman at [gakaufman@davidson.edu](mailto:gakaufman@ davidson.edu) and Dorota Szelewa at [dorota.szelewa@ucd.ie](mailto:dorota.szelewa@ ucd.ie) by 10 January 2022.

# PUBLICATIONS

## Books

Castrén, A. M., Česnuityė, V., Crespi, I., Gauthier, J. A., Gouveia, R., Martin, C., Moreno Mínguez & Suwada, K. (eds.) (2021). *The Palgrave Handbook of Family Sociology in Europe*, Palgrave Macmillan, London.



### Abstract:

Family life is continuously changing. Unforeseen crises relating to the economy, politics, environment and health on both a global and a local level are affecting individuals' lives everywhere. The ways in which people live as families are influenced also by a wide range of cultural values and technological innovations that offer new means for creating and maintaining familial ties.

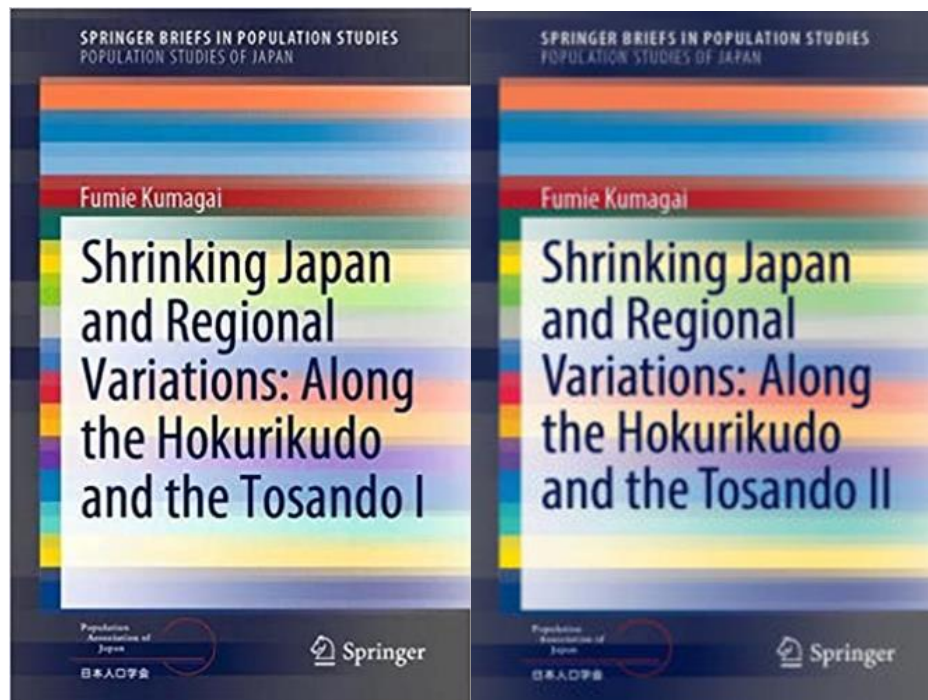
The Palgrave Handbook of Family Sociology in Europe offers valuable insights into the empirical realities of European societies and informs various audiences – researchers, students, politicians and family practitioners – of the recent findings of European scholarship. Original texts by more than 60 scholars from 18 European countries cover a large number of topics related to the theoretical and

methodological trends in European family sociology, demographic developments and values, legislation, the welfare state and family policy regimes, parental arrangements, parenting practices and child well-being, migration, as well as perspectives that highlight families as relationships that are formed and maintained over the life course.

The editors of the handbook, who represent different academic generations, are long-term members of the Executive and Advisory Boards of the European Sociological Association's Research Network 'Sociology of Families and Intimate Lives' (RN13) from Finland, France, Italy, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Spain and Switzerland. The editorial group's fields of expertise cover a range of topics and approaches in family sociology, and the editors have published widely in both English and in their native languages.

Kumagai, F. (2021). *Shrinking Japan and Regional Variations: Along the Hokurikudo and the Tosando I*. Singapore: Springer.

Kumagai, F. (2021). *Shrinking Japan and Regional Variations: Along the Hokurikudo and the Tosando II*. Singapore: Springer.



### Abstract:

This book provides an insightful sociological study of the shrinking Japanese population through a regional variation perspective as it varies significantly by municipality, even within the same prefecture. Using demographic data on municipal levels, the book identifies the power unique to each municipality, which can mobilize a shrinking but sustainable Japan. The study identifies the principal explanatory factors based on the small area data of e-Stat through GPS statistical software tools such as G-census and EvaCva within a historical perspective. The theoretical framework of this study, i.e., the reason for regional variations in Japan, is the *Goki-Shichido* (Five Home Provinces and Seven Circuits of Ancient Japan). This historical knowledge helps in understanding the significance of the regional cultural heritage that remains in each municipality today.

The book pays special attention to municipal variations within the same prefecture, utilizing a completely unique approach, unlike those that have been pursued by other researchers. The Volume I

studies two present-day prefectures for detailed analyses based on the *Goki-Shichido* framework for impacts of regional variations of population decline in Japan.

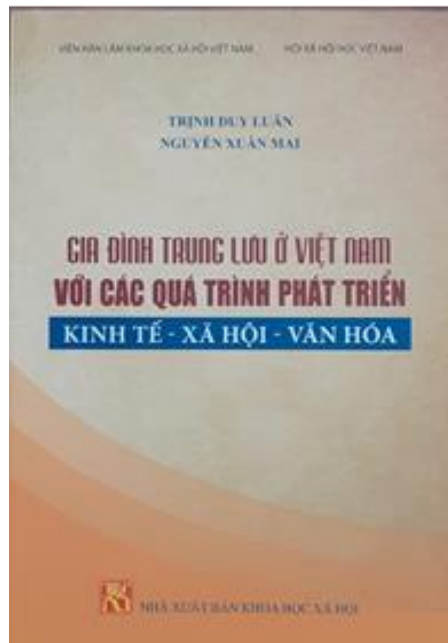
They are Niigata Prefecture, made up of the formerly named Echigo and Sado provinces, and Ishikawa Prefecture, formed by the ancient Kaga and Noto provinces of the Hokurikudo as examples of the impact of municipal power on regional variations of shrinking Japan. The Volume II focuses on Fukui Prefecture, based on the earlier Wakasa and Echizen provinces of the Hokurikudo; Nagano Prefecture, still called Shinano Province today and commonly divided into four areas and ten regions; and Gifu Prefecture, composed of the ancient Mino and Hida provinces of the Tosando as examples of the impact of municipal power on regional variations of shrinking Japan. By presenting unique analyses of regional variations on small municipal levels, with demographic variables, social indicators, and historical identities, this book offers suggestions for effective regional policies to revitalize a shrinking Japan to a sustainable one.

#### Springer Links:

Volume I: <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-981-16-6152-5#about>

Volume II: <https://link.springer.com/book/9789811666087>

Trinh Duy Luan and Nguyen Xuan Mai (2021). *Middle Families and Socio - Economic - Cultural Development in Vietnam*. Hanoi: Social Sciences Publishing House. 384 pp. ISBN: 978- 604-308-500-6

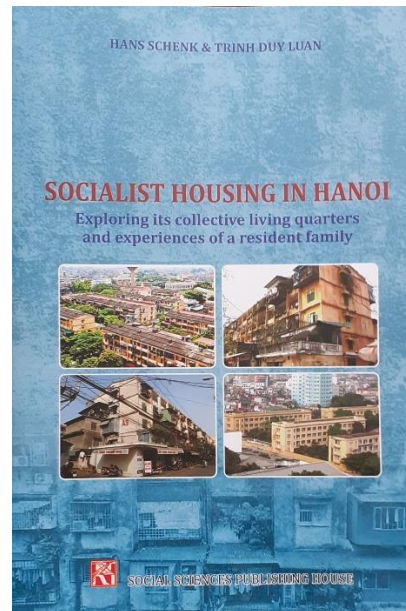


**Abstract:**

The monograph is result of a research project with the same title, which belongs to Scientific Research Program “A Comprehensive Study and Assessment of the Family in a Period of Industrialization, Modernization, and International Integration” sponsored by Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences (VASS) in 2017-2019. The Research Project was directed by Vietnam Sociological Association (VSA). The book sketches a social portrait of middle families, mainly in biggest cities of Vietnam. These groups of middle families are being shaped/formed and developed under impacts of emerging market economy in Vietnam as present. As a small group, middle family also is a unit of middle class appearing as an important and potential part in social stratification structure which has active relations with different fields of industrialization, modernization, and integration to the world.



Hans Schenk and Trinh Duy Luan (2021). *Socialist Housing in Hanoi. Exploring its collective living quarters and experiences of a resident family*. Hanoi: Social Sciences Publishing House, 2021. 197 pp. ISBN 978-604-308-667-6



### Abstract:

The socialist Democratic Republic of Vietnam started in Hanoi in 1957 to build shelter for the workers and cadres in service of the institutions of the state, almost free of charge. In a period of 30 years nearly 125,000 predominantly single-room apartments were built, usually in three to five storied apartment blocks. However, the state was during the 1980s not able anymore to bear the burden of publicly financed housing and sold its stock gradually.

This book deals with this rise and fall of public housing in Hanoi. It covers the initial enthusiasm of residents in the 1960s and the - later on - growing discontent with the small apartments and the lack of most private facilities. Hence, residents sought individual solutions to enlarge their apartments, from the early 1980s onwards. The generous open spaces between the housing blocks were filled-up with makeshift buildings, and 'hanging cages' attached to the walls, appeared. Moreover, better-off residents became more and more able to find private housing solutions, while relatively poor citizens were forced to stay.

Rise and fall of public housing in Hanoi have been told twice in this book - in two essays. The first one (by the Dutch scholar Hans Schenk) covers in a rare but well documented attempt the broad picture of this housing history. The second essay (by the Hanoi based sociologist Trinh Duy Luan) is in a unique manner focused on the history of the shelter of one single family, in a series of gradually larger apartments according to ranks and family-sizes. The two essays form together an indispensable document for the understanding of the history of public housing in Hanoi and the monumental role played by housing in the socialist development of the city.

## Book Chapters

Fosten, Gerald K. (2021). "Juvenile Justice Perspective". In Abdul Karim Bangura, *Black Lives Matter vs. All Lives Matter: A Multidisciplinary Primer*, pp. 299-320, Lexington Books.0

Book link: <https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781793640666/Black-Lives-Matter-vs-All-Lives-Matter-A-Multidisciplinary-Primer>

**Abstract:** In the wake of the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis, the debate between proponents of Black Lives Matter and All Lives Matter has been reignited. For proponents of Black Lives Matter, the slogan All Lives Matter is not a call for inclusiveness but a criticism of the Black Lives Matter movement. On the other hand, advocates of All Lives Matter insist their slogan is about diversity and colorblindness. The contributors included in *Black Lives Matter vs. All Lives Matter: A Multidisciplinary Primer* approach the subject from fields as wide ranging as sociology, mathematics, linguistics, business, politics, and psychology, to name a few. This collection adds complexity and international perspectives to the debate, allowing these seemingly simple quarrels over phrasing to be unpacked from many angles. A refreshing variety of looks at one of the defining social movements of the last decade and the reaction to it, this collection will be valuable to those seeking to understand these movements in ways beyond how they are typically framed.

Ko P. C. (2021). "Aging in Place? Influence of Neighborhood and Home Environments on Cognitive Functioning Among Older Chinese Adults". In M. D. Silverstein (Ed) *Aging Families in Chinese Society*, 110-127. New York: Routledge.

**Abstract:** "Aging in place"—older adults staying in a familiar environment to age—is an emerging concept in China. This study aims to investigate the impacts of the layered environment—home and neighborhood—on cognitive functioning of older Chinese adults by utilizing the theoretical framework of the person–environment fit (P–E fit). The 2011 China Health and Retirement Longitudinal Study (CHARLS) is employed (n = 12,293; 50+). Home environment includes built environment (deficiency index on basic infrastructure, e.g., no flushable toilet) and social environment (living arrangement). Neighborhood environment includes the built environment (deficiency index on infrastructure, e.g., no waste management) and being an urban/rural neighborhood. Three-level multilevel models show that older adults living in a more deficient home and neighborhood built environment have decreasing cognitive functioning, controlling for sociodemographic characteristics and health. Moreover, those living with grandchildren have worse cognitive functioning than those who live with spouse only, while there is no difference between multigenerational families and living with spouse only. Both home and neighborhood environment have additive effects on cognitive functioning. To conclude, the findings suggest that the layered environment is essential to cognitive functioning of older adults and implies that aging in place in China requires improvement of home and neighborhood built environments.

Konietzka, Dirk, Feldhaus, Michael, Kreyenfeld, Michaela and Heike Trappe (2021), Family and Intimate Relationships, in: B. Hollstein, R. Greshoff, U. Schimank, A. Weiß (Eds.), *Soziologie - Sociology*

*in the German-Speaking World* (Special Issue *Soziologische Revue* 2020). München: De Gruyter Oldenbourg, pp. 99-116 (<https://www.degruyter.com/document/doi/10.1515/9783110627275-008/html>).

**Abstract:** This article provides an overview on research on intimate relationships and the family in Germany since the turn of the millennium. It is argued that “German family sociology” has undergone major changes in various ways. In theoretical terms, micro-theoretical approaches have largely replaced former macro-sociological debates on de-institutionalization and pluralization of the family. In empirical research, the application of a life course perspective and the use of longitudinal data have become more and more established. In substantial terms, researchers have pursued integrative research perspectives that link family dynamics to other life domains. Not least, publication strategies shifted in favor of English language and international journals. In sum, these developments have fundamentally changed the German research landscape on intimate relationships and the family.

Maitreyee Bardhan Roy. (2021). “Empowering Women through Higher Education: Kanyashree Scheme in West Bengal”. In Rajesh Kumar Sinha, *Local Government and Women Empowerment in India*, New Delhi: Abhijeet Publication.

McDaniel, Susan A. (2021). “Choices and Non-Choices: Waltzing with the Micro/Macro in Sociology,” Chapter 4, pp. 99-122 in *Canadian Sociologists in the First Person*, co-edited by Stephen Harold Riggins and Neil McLaughlin, profiling prominent Canadian sociologists. Montreal: McGill Queen’s University Press.

Zartler, Ulrike (2021). “Children and Parents after Separation”. In N. F. Schneider & M. Kreyenfeld (Eds.), *Research Handbook on the Sociology of the Family*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar, pp. 300-313. <https://doi.org/10.4337/9781788975544.00029>

## Articles

Bagirova, A., Kuznetsova, E., Blednova, N. (2021). [State Support for Families with Children during the COVID-19 Pandemic in Russia: Institutional Grammar Tool Analysis](#). *Public Policy and Administration*. Vol. 20. No. 3. Pp. 431-442.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5755/j01.ppa.20.3.29198>

**Abstract:** The COVID-19 pandemic is characterised by active law-making processes aimed at health care and support of different categories of population in many countries in the world. Starting from 2019, due to negative demographic trends, Russia has experienced the active transformation of the state support system for families having children. This trend has strengthened during the pandemic. Our research aims to analyse the internal characteristics of the family policy, namely the state support for families having children, during the year preceding pandemic and within the pandemic period. We consider the dynamics of the family policy architecture by means of Institutional Grammar Tool (IGT) analysis and demonstrate the opportunities for using the results of such analyses in the highly dynamic situation of the COVID-19 pandemic. We analysed 11 federal legal acts adopted in Russia after January 1, 2020 that addressed parents and offered support for families with children. These acts contain 78 institutional statements that we coded in accordance with the IGT rules, defining the attributes, objects, deontics and conditions in each sentence. Our results are as follows: 1) Russian family policy before and during COVID-19 pandemic can be divided into three stages, including the short-term second stage from the beginning of 2020 to the beginning of the pandemic. The most obvious changes in the three stages are seen in terms of the Objects and Conditions of the institutional statements. At the second and third stages we see a major expansion of support receivers (the Objects) as well as changes in the Conditions for the benefits gain. Conditions vary greatly and differ in terms of regularity of measure and the type of the payment granted; 2) Legal acts adopted do not always indicate clear Attributes, i.e., the subjects (federal and regional authorities) responsible for the implementation of the particular rule sometimes can hinder the implementation of the regulation; 3) Classification of the parameters of the main support measures in the framework and categories of the IGT analyses lead us to the probable concept of the information policy that would be clear to the beneficiaries of support measures.

Barnwell, A., Neves, B. B., & Ravn, S. (2021). Captured and captioned: Representing family life on Instagram. *New Media & Society*, 14614448211012791.

**Abstract:** This article examines how practices of family photography are being transformed in the digital sphere, specifically on Instagram. While research on 'digital intimacies' focusses on romantic or peer interactions, the digital practices of families – especially intergenerational interactions – remain understudied. We use Janet Finch's notion of 'family display' to consider how Instagram affords new modes of performing and sharing family life. This concept has exciting potential for media-rich online spaces, but so far, only a few studies examine how social media platforms extend the display

of family practices. To explore family photography on Instagram, we analyse a sample of 200 Instagram posts. We argue that features specific to photo-sharing in digital spaces, such as hashtags, emojis and captions, open up new aspects of and audiences for family display. Our analysis paves the way for future research about how relationships are displayed across a range of digital platforms.

Link: <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/14614448211012791>

Barbosa Neves, Barbara, Jenny Waycott, and Alexia Maddox. (2021). "When Technologies are Not Enough: The Challenges of Digital Interventions to Address Loneliness in Later Life." *Sociological Research Online*: 13607804211029298.

**Abstract:** This article discusses sociotechnical challenges of technology-based interventions to address loneliness in later life. We bring together participatory and multidisciplinary research conducted in Canada and Australia to explore the limits of digital technologies to help tackle loneliness among frail older people (aged 65+). Drawing on three case studies, we focus on instances when technology-based interventions, such as communication apps, were limiting or failed, seeming to enhance rather than lessen loneliness. We also unpack instances where the technologies being considered did not match participants' social needs and expectations, preventing adoption, use, and the intended outcomes. To better grasp the negative unintended consequences of these technological interventions, we combine a relational sociological approach to loneliness with the *Strong Structuration Theory* developed by sociologist Rob Stones. This combined lens highlights the connection between sociotechnical factors and their agentic and structural contexts, facilitating a rich understanding of why and when technologies fail and limit.

Link: <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/13607804211029298>

Braack, Mirko K., Milewski, Nadja and Heike Trappe (2021), Crossing Social Boundaries in an Immigration Context: Exogamy and Gendered Employment Patterns in Unions in Germany. *Gender Issues*.

Online first: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs12147-021-09281-8>

**Abstract:** We study gendered employment patterns in unions by focusing on the role of exogamy for non-migrants in Germany. Classical assimilation theory has studied such mixed migrant-non-migrant unions mainly with a focus on the members of ethnic minorities. However, this perspective neglects the question of the social consequences of exogamy for the members of the majority group. We aim to fill this knowledge gap by investigating the association of being in a mixed union and the employment patterns of the couple. Our theoretical considerations and working hypotheses are derived from modernization theories, welfare state and labor market theories, gender studies, and social boundary-crossing frameworks. Drawing on the scientific use file of the German Microcensus of 2013, our sample consists of 44,499 non-migrant men (about 7% of whom are in a mixed union with a migrant) and 43,722 non-migrant women (about 5% of whom are in a mixed union). We estimate multinomial logistic regression models. We conclude that the persistent disadvantage for immigrants on the labor

market in Germany shapes the gendered employment patterns of their unions, which, in turn, affect the members of the majority population. For non-migrant men, exogamy is associated with a re-traditionalization of employment patterns, whereby a man is more likely to be the main earner if he is in an exogamous union than if he is in an endogamous union. For non-migrant women, by contrast, we find evidence of a role reversal in exogamous unions, whereby the woman is more likely to be the main earner.

Cano, Tomás (2021), Social Class, Parenting, and Child Development: A Multidimensional Approach. *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rssm.2021.100648>

**Abstract:** Children from upper-class families have better cognitive outcomes and fewer behavioural problems than those from working-class families. Previous studies highlighted that the class gap in child development is partially driven by differences in parenting styles, but they rarely looked at multiple, more specific dimensions of parenting, i.e., inductive reasoning, parenting consistency, warmth and anger. This study provides a systematic account of how parental social class shapes these four dimensions of parenting, and how these dimensions affect children's cognitive outcomes and behavioural problems. Using high-quality, longitudinal data, and both hybrid models and the generalized methods of moments, this study reports two main findings. First, upper-class parents significantly differ from lower-class parents in two parenting dimensions, displaying more *inductive reasoning* and *parenting consistency*, but no relevant class differences are found in the two emotion-type dimensions of parenting (i.e., *warmth* and *anger*). Second, all four parenting dimensions have a strong impact on children's behavioural problems, while they do not affect cognitive outcomes. An exception is *consistency*, the only dimension that affects both types of child outcomes. The study underscores the relevance of analysing parenting and child development from a multidimensional approach to better understand how upper-class parents transmit advantage to children.

Gabaldón-Estevan, D. (2021). A deshora en la escuela. *Revista de Sociología de la Educación-RASE*, 14(3), pp. 256-271. <http://dx.doi.org/10.7203/RASE.14.3.21626>

**Abstract:** The growing body of evidence in the chronobiology and chronomedicine literatures questions whether the organization of school learning times takes account of biological time and, in particular, in relation to time for rest and eating, and the academic activity- alertness-fatigue cycles. In the fields of both health studies and education concern is growing concern over the consequences for health and academic performance of permanent mismatch between the social clock and students' internal clocks. In this article, we conduct a comparative study of European school schedules in relation to local solar time in each state from a sociological perspective. This is the first study to adopt this lens and it reveals some interesting data related to school day start times and lunch break times in Europe. It recommends reforms to education hours in order to achieve education systems that respect the health and well-being of students and, thus, allow greater and more efficient use of educational resource.

Henz, U. (2021). The ageing of parent carers: classed and gendered care-giving patterns at higher ages. *Ageing & Society* (FirstView online publication)

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0144686X21000799>

**Abstract:** Increasing longevity has led to a rising number of adult children who are at higher ages when they provide care for their parents. Drawing on the lifecourse approach and exchange theory, the paper addresses similarities and differences in parent care between late middle-aged and older adult children. The study uses the UK Household Longitudinal Study, restricting the analysis sample to individuals aged 50 and older with a living parent or parent-in-law. It presents multivariate models to examine differences between late middle-aged (aged 50–64) and older (aged 65+) children in being a parent carer, providing intensive care, the duration of parent care and providing selected types of help to parents. The involvement in parent care increases among women up to the end of their seventh decade of life and for men up to their eighth decade of life. At higher ages, the proportion of parent carers decreases more strongly for women than men. Older carers have shorter care-giving episodes than younger carers, but there is no significant difference in the type of care provided. Even past retirement age, parent care remains classed and gendered, with women from lower social classes having the highest likelihood of providing intensive parent care in old age. Having dependent children or living in a non-marital union depress the likelihood of caring for a parent even past retirement age.

Kogler Raphaela, Zartler Ulrike, Zuccato-Doutlik Marlies (2021): Participatory Childhood Research With Concept Cartoons. *Forum: Qualitative Social Research*, 22(2). <https://doi.org/10.17169/fqs-22.2.3485>

**Abstract:** Participatory research with children is frequently characterized by adaptations of methods intended to embrace children's perspectives as co-researchers. Within the framework of a participatory qualitative study on the issue of divorce, a method deriving from the didactics of teaching was advanced. For the first time in social science research with children, the method was made useable for research with children: Concept cartoons, in which text-based and visual elements are interconnected, assist in encouraging children to engage in discussions and in involving them in various phases of the research. In this article, we present this approach to the participatory development and application of concept cartoons. The joint process of designing and using concept cartoons with 60 eight- to ten-year-old children elucidated the important incentives for discussion, as well as the potential this methodological approach has as a participatory research tool. The use of concept cartoons in this study made it possible to reconstruct children's associations and experiences and to gain insight into their concepts of parental divorce. Based on the participatory prospects in childhood research, we introduce the method and its potential, while highlighting participatory development and the pathways to application in social science research with children.

Köppen, Katja, Trappe, Heike and Christian Schmitt (2021). Who Can Take Advantage of Medically Assisted Reproduction in Germany? *Reproductive Biomedicine and Society Online* 13, pp. 51-61 (<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rbms.2021.05.002>).

**Abstract:** Compared with other European societies, access to medically assisted reproduction (MAR) in Germany is rather restrictive. Surprisingly little is known about the actual utilization of MAR in Germany and its social selectivity, primarily due to a lack of appropriate data. This article studies the use of MAR by drawing on 11 waves of the German Family Panel (pairfam), an annual survey that collects data on partnership and family dynamics in Germany. In estimating pooled logistic regression models that take into account whether or not MAR has been used, the following treatments were included: (i) in-vitro fertilization or micro-fertilization; (ii) intrauterine insemination; and (iii) any type of surgery performed to treat infertility. The highest odds of seeking medical help for infertility were found among married, childless couples who had a higher income, a strong desire to have children, a poor self-assessed health status, and who reported having problems conceiving a child prior to the year of the interview. Among these married couples, those with an above-average income were particularly likely to use MAR. These findings indicate that social selectivity in the uptake of MAR is based on economic resources and on the importance of marriage as the cultural ideal for a 'normal family'.

Laß, I. and Wooden, M. (2021). Weekend work and work-family conflict: Evidence from Australian panel data. *Journal of Marriage and Family*. Early view.

**Objective:** This article investigates whether weekend work is associated with higher levels of work-family conflict (WFC) among parents, and whether resources like schedule control or presence of a partner mitigate this effect.

**Background:** The 24/7 economy requires many workers to work on weekends. Nevertheless, research on the impact of weekend work on families, and on WFC in particular, is underdeveloped, with previous studies relying on cross-sectional data and small samples.

**Method:** Associations between regular weekend work and a measure of WFC are examined using data from 14 waves of The Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) Survey. The sample is restricted to workers aged 18-64 years with parenting responsibilities for children aged 17 or less (7747 individuals, 40,192 observations). Both pooled ordinary least squares and fixed-effects regression models are estimated.

**Results:** Among both genders, weekend workers have significantly higher levels of WFC than those who only work weekdays. WFC is particularly high for those who work weekends and simultaneously have little control over their schedule. Furthermore, weekend work affects WFC similarly for couple and single parents and, within dual-earner families, independently of the partner's working schedule. **Conclusion:** Weekend work generally has a detrimental effect on workers' ability to combine employment with parenting commitments. However, work-domain resources like schedule control can buffer the impact of weekend work.



McDaniel, Susan A, and Amber Gazso. 2021. "COVID-19 in the Wake of the Great Recession in Canada and The U.S.: Reflections on Social Reproduction and Life Courses," Commentary, *Canadian Review of Sociology*, November. <https://doi.org/10.1111/cars.12360>

**Opening paragraph:** The Coronavirus has exposed for both society and policy the inequities in the social worlds we have constructed. While COVID-19 runs rampant in our grossly unequal societies, the world-wide anti-racism movement, catalyzed with the killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis in May 2020, the acceleration of the Black Lives Matter movement and growth in hate crimes against Asians, Jews and Muslims, have brought the hard lessons of ongoing racial inequities sharply home. Social hierarchies and beliefs have been disturbed as the collective realization dawns that it is not highly paid hedge fund managers, real estate developers, or corporate CEOs who keep societies going, but health care workers, teachers and day care workers, paramedics, factory and grocery store workers, truck and transit drivers, fast-food service crews, and garbage collectors. Most crucial to our societies continuing are the lowest paid of all in essential services, e.g. cleaners in hospitals, long-term care workers, and meat packing plant workers. What was previously mainly unquestioned is now sharply under interrogation.

McDaniel, Susan A. (2021). "Currents of Sociology Redux," *Current Sociology* (70<sup>th</sup> anniversary issue), forthcoming.

Neves, B. B., & Mead, G. (2021). Digital technology and older people: Towards a sociological approach to technology adoption in later life. *Sociology*, 55(5), 888-905.

**Abstract:** Despite increasing social pressure to use new digital technologies, older people's adoption of them remains below other age groups. This article contributes a sociological dimension to exploring what facilitates learning and using digital technology in later life. We focus on the understudied group of older people who are frail, living in care homes and most likely to be digitally excluded or restricted. Drawing on data from a longitudinal mixed methods study of a co-designed communication app for older people, we explore how attempts to bridge the 'digital divide' unfold in time. Using the concept of affordances, we show how adoption of a new communication technology is shaped by its design, learning contexts and surrounding social actors. With this work we contribute to novel sociological understandings of technology adoption that are critical for digital inequality research.

Link: <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0038038520975587>

Parisot Viktoria, Zuccato-Doutlik Marlies, Zartler Ulrike (2021): Court Files as Data in Sociological Family Research / Gerichtsakten als Daten soziologischer Familienforschung. *Forum: Qualitative Social Research / Forum Qualitative Sozialforschung*, 22(3). <https://doi.org/10.17169/fqs-22.3.3649>

**Abstract:** In methodical terms, court files have barely been developed as data material for qualitative social research. In the present paper, we explore the methodology and methods associated with court

files as data employed in sociological family research. Based on a survey of 70 divorce and guardianship files from the years 1976 to 2019, we discuss three methodological key areas in research with family court files: 1. We examine epistemological aspects from the perspective of a praxeological sociology of the family; 2. we analyze gatekeeping processes and other aspects of research practice with regard to field access and data collection; and 3. we review the unit of analysis of court files. Proceeding from this discussion, we propose a new methodical approach for the qualitative analysis of records in sociological family research: the multiple case study from a praxeological discourse-analytical perspective, by means of which court files can be explored as an intersection between law and the family. In analytical terms, we ask by, with and for whom family court files are produced. The proposed methodical approach makes it possible to consider family court files as both produced by and themselves producing a process of undoing family. We finally advocate a pragmatically oriented methodological approach. The diversity of qualitative methodology can thus become a seminal basis for the further development of court files as a data source.

Qi, Xiaoying. (2021) 'Aging in Contemporary China: The *Ziran* Approach'. *Journal of Gender Studies* 30(5): 584–595.

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/09589236.2021.1929092>

**Abstract:** Based on in-depth semi-structured interviews with older women and men in two cities in mainland China, this article reports respondents' experiences of ageing. Interviewees' attitudes to health and their changing bodies suggest an orientation unlike the 'medicalization' approach. They report personal strategies that navigate conditions of ongoing social and economic change by both drawing on and modifying traditional norms, including those related to filial obligation in their relations with adult children as well as to terminal disease and death. Practices of 'getting old' in contemporary China reshape gender norms and expectations. The examination of ageing reported here identifies the notion of *ziran* as an approach to ageing quite distinct from discourses frequently reported in the literature.

Schmidt, Eva-Maria (2021). Flexible working for all? How collective constructions by Austrian employers and employees perpetuate gendered inequalities. *Journal of Family Research*. doi: <https://doi.org/10.20377/jfr-668>

**Objective:** This paper pursues the question as to how extended flexible working possibilities in the labor market are legitimized among employers and employees and whether they have potential to mitigate inequalities.

**Background:** Persistent and increasing gendered inequalities in Austria are reflected in the unequal division of unpaid family work in parental couples and in men's stable fulltime employment while women increasingly work part-time. In recent years, employers have expanded flexible working possibilities for all employees, regardless of their gender, also in leading positions and especially for those with family responsibilities.

**Method:** We conducted six focus groups and 16 semi-structured interviews with employers (n=30) and employees (n=25) from 29 contrasting companies across Austria. An in-depth reconstructive

analysis facilitated our exploration of collective notions and concepts associated with flexible work and career opportunities.

**Results:** The respondents constructed part-time and flexible work as a new norm strongly connected to women with (potential) children. At the same time, employers and employees legitimized that these women must be protected from penalties resulting from the ideal worker norm still in force and must be variously supported by employers. However, men – the partners of women they could support by making use of these options and taking over childcare – are not constructed as a target group.

**Conclusion:** In a cultural context such as Austria, family-friendly flexible working opportunities perpetuate rather than level gendered inequalities, as men's need for those opportunities do not emerge in the constructions. The lack thereof is neither explicitly addressed nor challenged.

Steinbach, A. and Augustijn, L. (2021). Children's well-being in sole and joint physical custody families. *Journal of Family Psychology*.

<https://doi.org/10.1037/fam0000875> (online first)

**Abstract:** Joint physical custody (JPC), a parental care arrangement in which children live with each parent about equally after separation or divorce, is an increasingly common phenomenon in many countries. This is a major shift away from the standard of sole physical custody (SPC), in which children live primarily with one parent (usually their mother) after family dissolution. Although attention to JPC by social scientists is growing, and the effects of this arrangement on children's well-being are the subject of highly ideological debates, there is currently little empirical evidence with statistical power on JPC. Using data from Family Models in Germany (FAMOD), a survey of postseparation families conducted in 2019, we estimated four linear regression models for children aged 2–14 in SPC and JPC families, with analytic samples of up to 1,161 cases. We investigated the association between physical custody arrangements after separation or divorce and four dimensions of children's well-being: psychological, physical, social, and cognitive/ educational. The bivariate results provided support for the hypothesis that children living in JPC families fare significantly better than children living in SPC families on all four dimensions of well-being. However, after controlling for a set of child, parent, and separation characteristics, as well as for the quality of family relationships, the differences between children from SPC and JPC families disappeared. Additional analyses revealed that the parent–child relationships fully mediated this association. In sum, the quality of family relationships accounted for the positive association between JPC and children's well-being in this study.

Zartler Ulrike, Dafert Vera, Dirnberger Petra (2021). What will the coronavirus do to our kids? Parents in Austria dealing with the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on their children. In: *Journal of Family Research*. Special Issue: Family Lives during the COVID-19 Pandemic in European Societies.

<https://doi.org/10.20377/jfr-713>

**Objective:** This study investigates parents' experiences in dealing with the potential negative effects of the pandemic on their offspring, and seeks to explicate (1) how parents have assessed their chil-

dren's situations during the pandemic; (2) what challenges parents have experienced in accompanying their offspring through the crisis; and (3) what strategies parents have developed for helping their children cope with the effects of the pandemic. Background: The COVID-19 pandemic and the accompanying protection measures have placed heavy demands on parents and their children. Both groups have been shown to experience stress, as families have been forced to adjust their daily routines under rapidly changing circumstances. Method: Data are based on an Austrian qualitative longitudinal study, relying on interviews and diary entries of 98 parents of kindergarten- and school-aged children who have been contacted repeatedly since the first week of the first country-wide lockdown (nine waves of data collection between March and December 2020). Data analysis employs a combination of thematic analysis and the grounded theory coding scheme. Results: Results show that parents see the pandemic as having many detrimental effects, and very few positive effects, on their children's emotional, physical and social well-being as well as their educational performance. Parents have experienced a wide variety of challenges (explaining the pandemic and the measures; handling emotions; managing new roles; accompanying children through repeated adaptation processes). To deal with these challenges, respondents developed four distinct strategies (structure, cohesion, information, and independence). Conclusion: We conclude that parents are making substantial contributions to society, and are shouldering large burdens in accompanying their children through the crisis. However, their capacity to meet all of their children's needs is limited. Thus, to prevent the pandemic from having devastating long-term consequences, it is essential to provide sufficient support for children, parents, and families.

Zhao, Y. & Huang, Y. (2021). The mobility of elders and family-based care – a case study of Chinese migrant (grand)parents (Chapter 2), in Ryndyk, O., Suter, B. & Odden G. (ed.) *Migration to and from Welfare States* (pp. 15-32). *IMISCOE Research Series*, Heidelberg: Springer [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-67615-5\\_2](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-67615-5_2)

**Abstract:** This chapter focuses on elderly Chinese migrants, who have migrated within the country in order to take care of their grandchildren. It explores these grandparents' mobility in relation to the intergenerational contract on care, a cultural praxis that constitutes the core of the family-based care regime in China. Based on qualitative data from 16 in-depth interviews with migrant grandparents living in Shenzhen, we analyse their decisions to move and their future plans regarding the dilemma of whether to stay or to return home. The analysis is embedded in recent discussions of Chinese descending familism or neo-familism. Additionally, the chapter proposes to add a welfare perspective in order to better understand the continuing internal migrations in China and highlights the connections between the migration of the elderly and China's family-based care regime into which the care arrangements within the family are incorporated. Inspired by the concept of the 'welfare resource environment', we propose a conceptualisation of a translocal care space comprising transversal generational, sibling and in-law relations in order to understand the mobility of older migrants in relation to the care needs and arrangements within the family. Consequently, the mobility of the elderly can be understood as being determined by how these older migrants position themselves within the translocal care space.

Zartler Ulrike, Schmidt Eva-Maria, Schadler Cornelia, Rieder Irene, Richter Rudolf (2021): "A Blessing and a Curse". Couples Dealing with Ambivalence Concerning Grandparental Involvement During the Transition to Parenthood—A Longitudinal Study. *Journal of Family Issues*, 42(5), 958–983. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0192513x20950786>

**Abstract:** This contribution provides an investigation of first-time parents' experiences and strategies in dealing with ambivalence—i.e., the simultaneous presence of contradictory emotions—regarding grandparental involvement during the transition to parenthood. The study is based on qualitative longitudinal case studies comprising in-depth individual interviews with 11 Austrian couples of first-time mothers and fathers prebirth, and six months and two years after childbirth (n = 66 interviews). Parents reported ambivalent feelings toward grandparental involvement during all stages of the transition process. We identified three parental strategies for dealing with ambivalence: inclusion, delimitation, and exclusion. Intracouple dynamics are shown to be the key aspect in the variation of these strategies over time. These dynamics are captured in three longitudinal patterns: parallel, divergent, and convergent paths. Overall, the study points to the complexity and fluidity of intergenerational relationships and demonstrates the challenges of negotiating ambivalence within couples and families during the transition to first-time parenthood.

Zhao, Y., Gjernes T., & Hedlund, M. (2021). Exploring participation and interaction in a bottom-up health promotion program for migrant women in Norway. *Qualitative Health Research* 31(4), 691-702 <https://doi.org/10.1177/1049732320980397>

**Abstract:** In this article, we examine the participation and interactions of migrant women and experts who attended health parties. Based on data from participation observations and semi-structured interviews from participants of health parties, we examine how health parties may be considered an innovative bottom-up community program that could influence how migrant women focus, learn, and discuss health issues as well as interact with health care. Through a qualitative analysis, the article demonstrates two ways of organizing health parties and different approaches to the health expert role, and how this impacts the social setting and interactions of a health party. In the Norwegian setting, migrant women are considered by health authorities to be the most difficult group to reach due to cultural and language barriers. Health parties may represent an alternative for bridging these barriers and may create a useful context for active participation and learning about health for migrant women.

## **Reviewing**

McDaniel, Susan A. Invited reviewer, New Frontiers in Research Fund, a Tri-Council initiative, Canada, 2021-2022

McDaniel, Susan A. Reviewer, Czech Science Council, numerous grant applications, 2021-2022

McDaniel, Susan A. Referee for the following journals: Plos -1; Social Science and Medicine; International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy; Current Sociology; International Sociology; Canadian Studies in Population

## Media Interviews/Op-eds

Barbara Barbosa Neves, The Conversation (Op-ed), "[I tell everyone I love being on my own, but I hate it: what older Australians want you to know about loneliness](#)", September 2021.

Barbara Barbosa Neves, ABC Op-ed, "[Technology can help with loneliness in later life, but it can also make it worse — here's why](#)", September 2021.

Barbara Barbosa Neves, SBS, SBS on Demand, SBS VICELAND (TV Documentary), "[What Does Australia Really Think About Old People?](#)", August 2021.

Barbara Barbosa Neves, Monash Lens Op-ed, "[How storytelling is helping us better understand ageing and loneliness](#)", June 2021.

# Announcements

## Call for Collaborators for Queer Marriage Project

Gayle Kaufman and D'Lane Compton are doing research on queer marriage in the US (see website: <https://queermarriage.gaylekaufman.com/> ). We are looking for international collaborators. This would involve conducting interviews in your own country, sharing data, and collaborating on analysis and papers. If you are interested in collaborating with us, please fill out this short [Google form](#). You can also email Gayle at [gakaufman@davidson.edu](mailto:gakaufman@ davidson.edu)

## Post-Doctoral Fellowship

Congratulations to Dr Sahmicit Kumswa, who received Post-Doctoral Fellowship from the University of the Western Cape (South Africa), Faculty of Arts Andrew W Mellon Foundation Post-Doctoral Fellowship, under the programme: "Turning the Tide: Consolidating an Academic Pipeline for Staff to Advance Career Pathways at South African Universities", from 1st September 2021.

## Eminent Social Scientist

Congratulation to Prof. Maitreyee Bardhan Roy who has been awarded with the title Eminent Social Scientist by Indian Council For Social Sciences Research as a Collegian Member.

## Projects on Russian families

### Project 1

In 2021, the Council for grants of the President of Russia funded a project "Russian pro-natalist policy: resources, effects, optimization opportunities". The project has been implemented as part of the state support to the leading scientific schools (project number NSh-2722.2020.6). The head of the project is Anna Bagirova, a professor, who worked with the scientific school of the Ural Federal University in Ekaterinburg. The two-year-long project aimed to study existing and potential resources of the Russian pro-natalist policy, to assess and forecast the effects of its realisation, and to suggest ways for the policy's optimisation.

In 2021, the authors achieved the following results:



- 1) developed and implemented the methodology for studying a city as a place for producing a human capital of high quality;
- 2) developed and implemented the methodology for studying young citizens' opportunities to balance reproductive, parental, and professional life strategies;
- 3) formulated scientifically based options for optimising the pro-natalist policy in Russia, its regions, and municipalities.

The research project used the sociological, demographic, and statistical methods. The data was collected from the official national statistical reports, public surveys, and social media. In 2021, 1 PhD thesis related to the subject of the project was maintained, and more than 40 papers were published in journals and conference proceedings.

## Project 2

In 2021, the Russian Fund of Basic Research funded a project "Activation of grandparents' (grandmothers' and grandfathers') parental labour in relation to their grandchildren as a strategy to increase the birth rate in Russia" (project number 20-011-00280). The head of the project is Anna Bagirova, a professor, who worked with the scientific school of the Ural Federal University in Ekaterinburg.

The three-year-long project aims to develop a mechanism for activating grandparents' (grandmothers' and grandfathers') parental labour in relation to their grandchildren. After its implementation, the mechanism is expected to increase the birth rate in Russia. The project suggests examining demographic, social and economic indicators of grandmothers' and grandfathers' aid in raising and developing their grandchildren, which may influence the intrafamily decision-making on having children. The project develops theoretical frameworks for economics and sociology of labour (e.g., the concept of parental labour, theory of human capital and intergenerational transfers), contributes to resolving the welfare, social and demographic policy issues, improving pension system, raising workers' competitiveness, quality of life, and living standard.

In 2021, the authors fulfilled the following:

- 1) forecasted the number of grandparents in Russia and its regions;
- 2) determined the clusters of regions according to the dynamic of grandparents' number;
- 3) forecasted the dynamic of grandparenting duration in Russia and its regions;
- 4) surveyed grandparents exercising parental labour for their grandchildren in the Ural region of Russia (n=500);
- 5) surveyed parents of the children for whom grandparents exercise parental labour in the Ural region of Russia (n=500);
- 6) carried out in-depth non-standardised interviews and focus groups with grandparents and parents.

The data for forecasts was collected from the official national statistical reports, surveys, in-depth interviews, and focus groups. In 2021, 23 papers were published in journals and conference proceedings.

## **Project on COVID-19 in Mexico sponsored by Consejo Latinoamericano de Ciencias Sociales (CLACSO)**

Delfino Vargas and Lukasz Czarnecki are responsible of this project addressed to study social and mental health consequences on patients who survived to COVID-19 in México. This project has been sponsored by CLACSO for the years 2020 and 2021 and is part of a large project to study COVID-19 effects from a social science perspective. This project located in México proposes to analyze a sample of 140 patients who are in the process of recovery from the disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus. Many of them are forced to confine themselves in their houses for not presenting serious symptoms from the disease, and some of other received medical attention under extenuating circumstances. This situation is even more critical for the population of low socioeconomic level. This study aims to address the recovery and the consequences from this disease using a social perspective. In this regard it is a pioneering study that visualizes the consequences of the pandemic from a syndemic approach since the researchers integrates the social approach for having a better understanding of the post-COVID viral syndrome and its multidimensional effects.

The establishment of COVID-19 has been explained from an individual approach in which people are attributed the selection of a lifestyle that can put their health at risk. Using this approach, biological diseases are related to social and contextual factors that seek to establish associations between the establishment of COVID-19 with social factors. As an example, Social Epidemiology that studies the role of social determinants of health to explain the establishment of certain diseases. Under this new approach, emphasis is placed on contextual aspects to explain the influence of public health strategies aimed at reducing social inequalities and thus improving the health of the population.

This study is part of a post-COVID-19 analysis of recovered patients, who nevertheless suffer sequelae. The data collected through this study will be essential to guide public health recommendations on the epidemiological characteristics of this disease after exposure to the virus in Mexico.

# New & Returning Members

We welcome the following new or returning members (2021):

Reiko Yamato  
Japan

Yan Zhao  
Norway

Alison Lamont  
United Kingdom

Rachel Murphy  
United Kingdom

Rinako Someya  
Japan

Martina Yopo Díaz  
Chile

Rose Butler  
Australia

Noemi Ehrenfeld Lenkiewicz  
Mexico

Pei-Chun Ko  
Singapore

Randi Wardahl  
Norway

Irena Juozeliuniene  
Lithuania

Hiroyuki Kubota  
Japan

Takeshi Hamano  
Japan

Hiroto Matsuki  
Japan

Yan Xia  
United States

# Board of RC06 (2018-2023)

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

Members at large:	Marlize Rabe
	Anja Steinbach
	Jean Yeung

Provisional Board members at large:

Lukasz Czarnecki  
(this newsletter's editor)  
Aušra Maslauskaitė



The screenshot shows the website for ISA RC06 Family Research. The header features the ISA logo, the RC06 Family Research logo, and a navigation menu with links for News, About Us, Membership, Newsletters, Seminars, and Guest bloggers. The main content area has a title "RC06 at the ISA Forum of Sociology" dated Mar 15, 2021. The text below the title states: "More than 50 presentations were given at 15 sessions organized by the RC06 at the IV ISA Forum of Sociology. Recordings of the sessions are available for registered participants at the conference website. Thus, if you were not able to take part in the session due to the time difference, overlaps in the program or other constraints, please use the opportunity and enjoy the presentations." Below this text is a promotional image for the "IV ISA Forum of Sociology Virtual" held in Porto Alegre, Brazil, from February 25-28, 2021, with the theme "Challenges of the 21st Century: Building a Sustainable, Inclusive, and Resilient Society". To the right of the main content is a "Recent Posts" section with two entries: "RC06 at the ISA Forum of Sociology" and "Second Gazette of 2020 is out!". Below that is an "Archives" section with a dropdown menu labeled "Archives" and "Select Month".