

# CFR GAZETTE

VOLUME 42,  
ISSUE 2, 2016



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

*International  
Sociological  
Association*

## Contents

---

President's Column.....	2
Honorary President's Column.....	7
From the Secretary.....	8
RC06 Conferences (2017).....	10
RC06 Joint-Conference in Singapore (2018).....	14
Publications.....	16
Rudy's 'Ramblings on Trip to Vienna to attend the ISA Forum'.....	20
Other Announcements.....	25
New Members.....	30
RC06 Board.....	31

[www.rc06-isa.org](http://www.rc06-isa.org)

@SocioFamilyISA on Twitter

ISA Research Committee on Family Research on Facebook



## President's Column



### **A Reflection on the Continuity and Change in East Asian Families**

For academics in Taiwan, research funding from the Ministry of Science and Technology (formerly National Science Council) is perhaps the most prestigious and the most essential for social scientists. The deadline for proposal submission, whether one-year project or three-years' project, is generally at the end of the year (between December 24th to 30th). This means, most office will work late during Christmas as well as before New Year's Eve. Is this an East Asian work ethic?

I'm unsure, but it has certainly become a familiar phenomenon at the campus. So, in the midst of proposal writing, let me first send my best wishes to all our RC06 members for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year of the Rooster! (The Rooster is tenth in the Chinese zodiac. Each year is related to an animal sign according to a 12-year cycle. People born in the year of the rooster are characterized by confident, honest, courageous, hardworking, etc.)

In the last December issue, I mentioned that "For family sociologists, the continuity and change of family norms as well as family behaviors are indeed most fascinating." This statement remains valid. As some of you may know, I've been working with a research team on a panel study of Taiwanese youth since the year 2000. We interviewed 5000 teenagers with an average age of 14 since then (almost on an yearly basis) and will continue to age 31 (2017)-- the latter will correspond to the average age of first marriage in Taiwan. Since the lowest-low fertility has become a genuine social problem in this region, to understand how marriage and childbirth are viewed and actualized is certainly a significant subject to study. Hence, when teenagers became young adults and started to establish families, the spousal survey was initiated in 2013, 2015 and will again be conducted in 2018. From both longitudinal quantitative data and selected qualitative accounts, two messages became clear. Below, I will illustrate how resources and normative effects operate in the process of marriage and childbirth.

The inseparable practice of marriage and childbirth (or the marriage-childbirth package) is rooted in the Confucius cultural tradition where bearing children after the marriage, especially sons, has always been endorsed. To give childbirth within the wedlock is regarded a must which coincides with the strong normative expectation. Hence, if pre-marital pregnancy occurs among a young couple, both families will immediately discuss a “remedial” wedding to be taken place as soon as possible so that the child will not become an unmarried birth. In other words, to make sure the newborn will be properly arrived in the paternal family within a legal marriage has the priority. In our in-depth interviews with early married couples, it was not uncommon that these young parents reveal that wedding was arranged by elders without their inputs. It appears when both families reach the consensus, whether couples remain in love becomes a secondary concern—surprisingly similar as Francis Hsu’s description in *“Under the Ancestors’ Shadow”* (1948). Needless to say, if a male heir is born, not only paternal grandparents are excited, maternal grandparents are also relieved because the dominant cultural obligation of union has been fulfilled by their daughter in this marriage.

On the other hand, if a daughter-in-law does not bring an heir to the family after married for some years, she is surrounded by strong social pressure and nowadays, may in the end be suggested to consider using the surrogate mother as a solution. In fact, when I google “surrogacy” in Chinese, the advertisement states bluntly: “For those who cannot bear children, surrogacy is the hope to carry on one’s ancestral line.” Such a loud and clear voice implies the traditional view of marriage and childbirth is still strongly maintained in various Chinese societies. One starts to be curious if the younger generation who enjoys higher education as well as more freedom of personal choice may have different expectations.

Among those who married by age 25, they tend to be from less advantageous background with parents lower educated, lower family income at age 15 and more likely to engage in delinquent behaviors during early adolescence. As to reasons for them to marry early (compared with their peers), two significant reasons are repeatedly mentioned: the motivation to leave the native family as well as the solution for pre-marital pregnancy. For the latter, Table 1 provides a clear picture of using marriage as a common solution for pre-marital pregnancy among young couples. In 2011, as high as half who married young was pregnant before marriage. As couples age (3 years older, but lower than the average marriage age), pre-marital pregnancy and birth comprised 1/3 of all marriages, still a substantial proportion. More interesting is their living

arrangement after getting married. While co-residence with parents is the dominant type, patrilineal line is higher than the matrilineal counterpart. Although patriarchal culture is evident in East Asia, compared with the general population, early married couples not only tend to co-reside with parents much more likely (67%/54% vs. ~25%), they are also much more likely to live with maternal parents (31%/24% vs. 3% or 2%). The overwhelmingly high proportion of maternal parents co-residing with young couples is mainly due to the child-care needs (Yi, et al, 2006). In other words, under the circumstances of inadequate resources, lineage preference is maintained in formal marriage so as to provide the newborn a socially endorsed legal status. However, regarding actual childcare labor, maternal help is accepted and perhaps, even welcomed by both young couples and paternal parents.

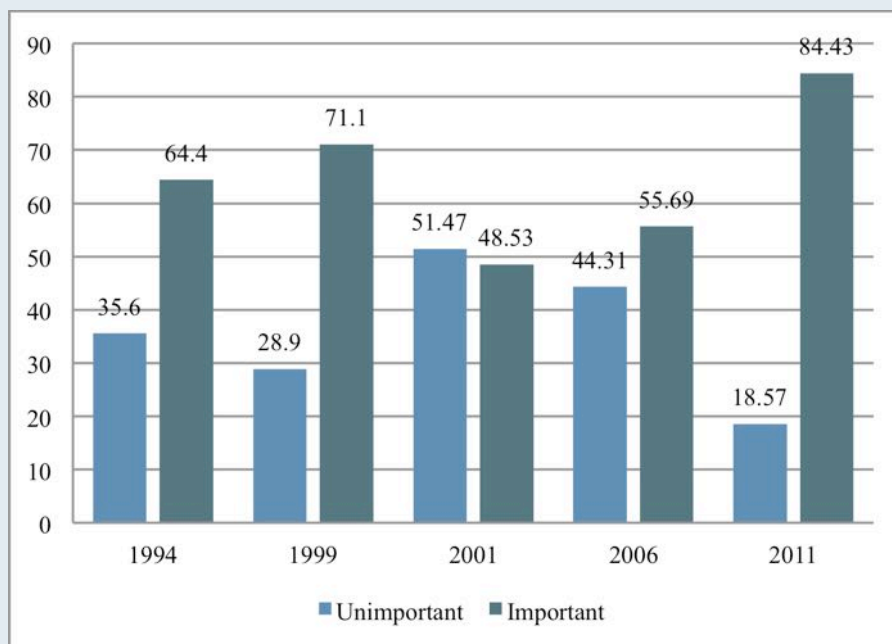
**Table 1. Taiwan Youth Project (Phase II) Adults:  
Characteristics of the Married**

	TYP2011 Age 25	TYP2014 Age 28
<b>Average Age at 1st marriage</b>	<b>23.7</b>	<b>26.5</b>
<b>Having kid(s)</b>	74%	59%
<b>Birth within 7 months of marriage</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>27%</b>
<b>Co-Reside with Parents</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>54%</b>
with paternal parents	36%	30%
with maternal parents	31%	24%

Another intriguing finding about the son preference in East Asia has close linkage with the current lowest-low fertility phenomena. As society modernizes, the traditional ideology is expected to be weakened and be replaced by gender equality attitudes. One question repeatedly used in the Taiwan Social Change Survey has been considered a core traditional family value item (Figure 1). “To bear a son in order to continue the family line” is a most familiar statement in public.

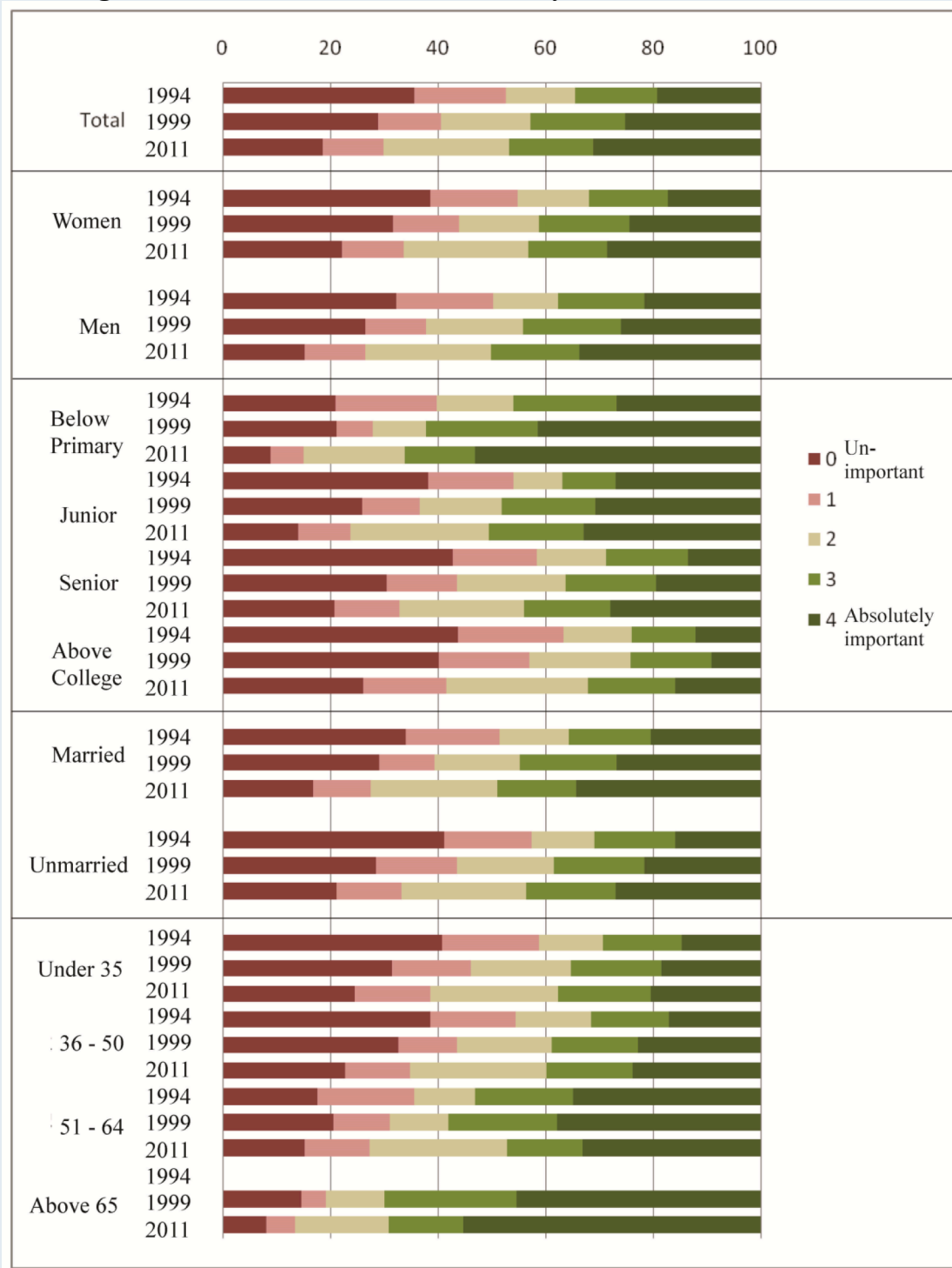
While we observed a gradual drop from mid-1990s to mid-2000s in terms of its importance, an unexpected increase was found in the 2011 survey. As high as 81% agreed with the importance of son preference in the family, even higher than in the 1990s. To further understand which population sector may reveal such a strong attitude, we examine differences by gender, education, marital status and age (Figure 2). Again, to our surprise, the upturned trend has been consistent across various demographic variables (see the green bars). What could be the explanation for this puzzle? The low birth rate becomes the most plausible cause. Because Taiwan suffered from the lowest-low fertility rate in the world in 2011 (TFR=0.89), the message delivered was young couples no longer want to bear children. If no or just one child will be born in the family, public as well as parents are not shy to reveal their desires—to have at least a son. Democratic or modern attitudes are affordable only when families are likely to raise few children over the lifespan.

**Figure 1. “In order to continue the family line, at least to bear a son.” (%)**



Data are taken from the Taiwan Social Change Survey

**Figure 2. “In order to continue the family line, at least to bear a son.”**



There are many other evidences indicating unchanging attitudes and behaviors in the contemporary changing families and societies. I hope you may find the above illustrations which represent the change as well as the continuity aspects of family behaviors in this part of the world interesting and inspiring.

Yours, Chin-Chun Yi (on 2016 Christmas day)

## Honorary President's Column



### On Relationships

A television advertisement for a healthy juice (or what is claimed to be a healthy juice) shows a woman with a glass in her hand. In the glass, there is a liquid seemingly to be juice. A voice says something to the effect: *There is only one relationship lasting for the rest of your life – The one to yourself!*

This statement reminds me of our colleague Jessie Bernard and her book from 1972: *The Future of Marriage*. She underlines that a marriage does not consist of one relationship but of two; in traditional marriages, her relationship to him and his relationship to her. In the 1970s her statement was looked upon as very radical – in the meaning of being extreme.

If we would go back another 70 years, we could find that Jane Addams, in her book *Democracy and Social Ethics*, also claimed that there are two relationships between two persons. Her statement was about the relationships more generally than marriage. Addams takes the house cleaner's perspective when she studies house cleaners and their relationship to the employers and the employer's perspective when she studies employers and their relationships to the house cleaners.

At about the same time Georg Simmel in his book from 1908 *Soziologie* also stresses that in a dyad there is not only one relationship, there are two relationships.

During 1985 I was an invited visiting professor at the Kinsey Institute in Bloomington, Indiana. Many of those I met there and otherwise said that they and Alfred C. Kinsey were very good friends. Such statements made me curious and since I had all the Kinsey archives I decided to see if I could find what kind of a social person he was during the latter decades of his life (he died in 1956). The result? I could not find any evidence that Kinsey had any friends other than, maybe, his wife. Thus, I have some doubt in the truthfulness of all who claimed that they and Kinsey were good friends. They might themselves have been good friends with Kinsey.



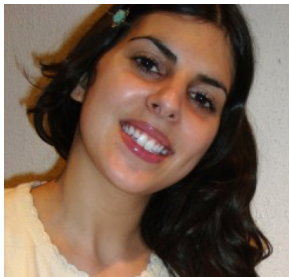
When listening to lay people as well as to professionals such as therapists, marriage counsellors, physicians as well as politicians and, sorry to say, even family sociologists, the idea of just one relationship in a dyad is quite common. We can hear statements like: “Their marriage is happy marriage” or “those two are so happy together”.

I presume that we all know cases where one of the two in a marriage is very satisfied, or happy, with her/his marriage while the other one is very dissatisfied, or unhappy. Social reality is what we are concerned about – not ideology – which for example, Jane Addams, Georg Simmel and Jessie Bernard, realized.

Nice would be if you would respond to me – independent of if you like or dislike my views.

Jan Trost  
[jan.trost@soc.uu.se](mailto:jan.trost@soc.uu.se)

## From the Secretary



It has been a hectic, but successful year for our RC06 community with a lively seminar in Beijing, a diverse and well-attended program at our first ISA Forum in Vienna, and an invited symposium at the *National Council on Family Relations* (NCFR) Conference in Minnesota, co-organized by Yan Xia and Mark Hutter.

For **2017**, we are organizing two exciting RC06 conferences: the first will be held at the *University of South Africa* (Pretoria), April 24-26, on “**Families and patterns of care**”, and the second at the *National Autonomous University of Mexico* (Mexico City), Nov 30-1 Dec, on “**Inequalities and families: an interdisciplinary perspective**”. We are deeply grateful to Marlize Rabe and Lukasz Czarnecki (and respective local organizing committees) for their work and enthusiasm. Please note that the deadline for the Pretoria conference is fast approaching: 15<sup>th</sup> of January. During this conference, we will award the *2017 RC06 Early Stage Family Scholar Award* (ESFSA, guidelines [here](#)). Papers for the award have to be submitted by the 31<sup>st</sup> of January (see page 11 of this Gazette for more information).



We are also thrilled with our plans for **2018**: a **joint-conference** with RC41 (Sociology of Population) in Singapore, being organized by Wei-Jun Jean Yeung and team at the *National University of Singapore* (May 17-19). Additionally, Mark Hutter, Ria Smit, and I are serving as program coordinators for the **ISA World Congress in Toronto** (July 15-21). The call for sessions will be sent out to our members in February.

This Gazette includes the call for papers for our 2017 conferences, and information regarding next year's *RC06 Early Stage Family Scholar Award* (to be awarded at the Pretoria conference). Included is also the poster of the RC06 joint-conference in Singapore with RC41, a list of recent publications of our members, and a call for the *Contemporary Perspectives in Family Research* series. In addition, this newsletter contains a guest piece: Rudy's 'ramblings' on his trip to Vienna to attend the ISA Forum. In the announcements, find enclosed job opportunities, new research projects, and awards and honors given to our members in 2016. Finally, we welcome our new and returning members.

As of December 2016, our membership stood at 262 of which 215 are ISA members in good standing. If you are not an ISA member, please consider joining the ISA – our number of sessions at the ISA congresses and fora are determined by our ISA membership. As mentioned in our last Gazette, to help keep our community active and engaging online, I am calling out to our tech-savvy members to send me an email if you would like to assist me with our social media, website, and newsletter.

Please don't forget to follow us on Twitter (@sociofamilyisa) and to join us on Facebook: ISA Research Committee on Family Research.

Wish you all a wonderful 2017,

Barbara Barbosa Neves

(RC06 Secretary & Treasurer)

[barbara@bbneves.com](mailto:barbara@bbneves.com) or [barbara.barbosa@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:barbara.barbosa@unimelb.edu.au)

# We have great pleasure in inviting you to a conference focusing on **‘Families and patterns of care’**

The conference will take place in **Pretoria, Tshwane in South Africa** from **24 to 26 April 2017** at the **University of South Africa (UNISA)**. Family and gender specialists are invited to participate in the conference by presenting papers covering aspects related to this theme.

If you are interested to participate, please submit an abstract of between 300 and 600 words before **15 January 2017** to [rabeme@unisa.ac.za](mailto:rabeme@unisa.ac.za)

You will be notified of the outcome of your abstract by 15 February 2017.

Various forms of physical, emotional and financial care are required by individuals over their life course. Family members are usually the prime caregivers and caregiving may take place with or without external support from other individuals or institutions. Apart from expected caregiving over the life course (for example care needs of young children and frail elderly people), various other forms of temporary care (for example short illnesses) and long term care (for example chronic illness of a severe handicap) may also confront families. Families may also have to take on such caring tasks under difficult circumstances such as displacement or within a context of family conflict. We propose the following sub-themes for the conference but additional themes are also welcomed:

Intergenerational care; Feminist ethics of care and work-life balance; Support and care for sick and disabled family members; Migratory families and patterns of care; African families in different contexts; Families, kin networks and external support of care; Paid care; Exploitation of paid and unpaid caregivers; Care within separated families; Siblings taking on care activities; Family policy; The interplay between health care and families.

# RC06 Junior Scholars Award

## Evaluation process to determine the recipient

Please observe the following important dates:

31 January 2017: Papers submitted  
1 March 2017: Winner confirmed

Papers will be evaluated according to perceptiveness with which issues are treated, the quality of materials presented, the consistency with which an analytic framework is used, the originality of ideas, and the clarity of style.

At least three RC06/CFR members will be appointed by the President in consultation with the Board to serve as referees to determine the winner. One member of the Board will serve as the Coordinator of the process.

Papers will be judged anonymously and the recommendations will be presented by the Coordinator to the President and Board for final approval.

The RC06/CFR Referees, President, and Board reserve the right not to select a winner.

# INEQUALITIES AND FAMILIES:

## AN INTERDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVE

**International Sociological Association (ISA)**  
**RC06 (Committee on Family Research)**

**29-30** AND **1**  
NOVEMBER DECEMBER  
**MEXICO CITY**  
**2017**

Thematic Areas  
and Call for Papers

This conference will provide a forum for scholarly papers on inequalities and families.

Topics include:

- Conceptual and methodological approaches
- Comparative and interdisciplinary studies
- Latin American and Caribbean Families
- Intergenerational perspectives
- Cross-cultural families
- Migrations and diasporas
- Work and care
- Gender and sexuality
- Sports and leisure
- Ageing and Inequalities

A deadline for abstracts (max. 300 words): July 31, 2017

E-mail: [rc06.isa@politicas.unam.mx](mailto:rc06.isa@politicas.unam.mx)

Organised by:

National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM)  
School of Political and Social Sciences (FCPyS)  
Centre for Sociological Studies (CES)

Foto: Lukasz Czarnecki



**SDI** SECRETARÍA DE  
DESARROLLO  
INSTITUCIONAL





# INEQUALITIES AND FAMILIES: AN INTERDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVE

Committee on Family Research, RC06, ISA  
Centre for Sociological Studies, FCPyS, UNAM  
Mexico City 30, 31 November and 1 December 2017

Latin America remains the most unequal region in the world. According to the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), by 2014, the richest 10% of the population in Latin America had concentrated 71% of the wealth of the region. Women and children, young and older, ethnic communities suffer the most unequal distribution of wealth in the region. Inequalities are always in plural, as there are inequalities in access to education, inequalities in access to health services, gender inequalities, intergenerational inequalities, work inequalities based on different conditions and access to labour, inequalities of living standards, inequalities on access to cultural activities, inequalities based on colour of skin, among others.

Inequalities create disadvantaged that accumulate from generation to generation, from past to the present. They reproduce and remain in spite of government and non-government actions and policies. Are we doomed for living in inequalities in Latin America and the Caribbean? That is the question which brings researchers on family issues to Mexico City to rethink and take actions on inequalities. Particularly, the Committee on Family Research must confront these issues and create analytical framework of understanding global issues. Rethinking inequalities in Latin America and the Caribbean will contribute to achieve understandings of inequalities in Asia, Africa, North America and Europe, and vice versa. We share the same global problems: social exclusions, unsustainable development, climate change, the ambivalent role of technology in our lives, and negative effects of economic system.

Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary of ECLAC clearly stressed: "equality is the goal". Let our meeting in Mexico City create the path of structural change in theory and practice on inequalities and families.

Lukasz Czarnecki, PhD

Chairperson, ISA RC06 Organizing Committee

UNAM Mexico City





**INTERNATIONAL SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION (ISA)**

**A JOINT CONFERENCE FOR**

**RC06 (FAMILY) & RC41 (POPULATION)**

**Changing Demography ↔ Changing Families**

**SINGAPORE | 17-19 MAY 2018**

Organised by:

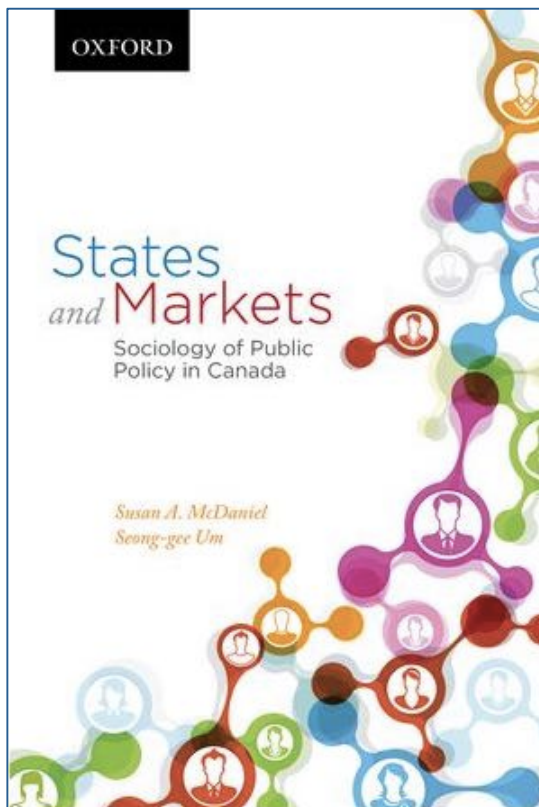


Centre for Family and Population Research  
Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences



# PUBLICATIONS

## Books



### *States and Markets: Sociology of Public Policy in Canada* 2015

*Susan McDaniel & Seong-gee Um*

Oxford University Press

This concise yet comprehensive sociological overview of public policy in Canada explores a range of important issues - such as demographic shifts, globalization, changes in the economy and labour markets, taxation, and more - offering students an informed look at the forces shaping public policy today.

*States and Markets: Sociology of Public Policy in Canada* is a core text for second-, third-, and fourth-year level social policy courses offered out of sociology departments at universities and some colleges. This text may also be used in public and social policy courses offered out of economics, political science, social work, and public administration departments at universities and colleges.

More information is available [here](#).

## Articles

Lyndall Strazdins, Jennifer Baxter, and **Jianghong Li**. **Long hours and longings: Australian children's views of fathers' work-family time.** Forthcoming in *Journal of Marriage and Family* (accepted 25 October 2016).



Dockery, A. M., Li, Jianghong, & Kendall, G. (2016). Sole-parent work schedules and adolescent wellbeing: Evidence from Australia. *Social Science & Medicine*, 168, 167-174.

**Abstract:** Extensive evidence has shown that working nonstandard hours, such as evening or night shifts, impacts negatively on workers' own health, and a growing literature suggests such impacts extend to the health of workers' children. Using matched parent and child data from a large Australian panel survey this paper explores the effects of parental work schedules on the mental and physical health of adolescents aged 15–20 in sole-parent families. Random-effects models indicate adolescents have marginally worse emotional and physical health when their parent works nonstandard hours, based on SF-36 component summary scores, associated primarily with emotional or physical role limitations. Parental weekend schedules are particularly detrimental to adolescent physical health. Evidence is found that the effects of nonstandard work schedules on adolescent wellbeing are transmitted through increased work-family conflict and exacerbated where parents have low job control.

McDaniel, S. A., Gazso, A., & Duncan, K. A. (2016). Relative prospects of children as they age: Canadians and Americans in midlife in the great recession frame future generations. *Journal of Aging Studies*, 37, 69-80.

**Abstract:** Studies of intergenerational relations in aging and changing families often focus on the present, how generations interact, relate or depend on each other in families. Less often is the focus on the prospective, on projected perceptions of life course prospects for future generations as they age. In this paper, part of a large multi-method project, we adopt this focus. We rely on interviews conducted in 2013 with midlife respondents in two socioeconomic classes in comparable cities in the United States and Canada. We specifically explore whether and how Canadians and Americans in midlife discuss life course prospects for their children (or younger relatives) in ways that map onto wider discursive frames of aging. Through a combined discourse and frame analysis of our interview data, we find that frames of “The Dream” and “Intergenerational Contract” construct and reflect competing models of intergenerational shifts in life course spaces as well as suggest intergenerational changes in mobility and opportunities.

## Book Chapters

- McDaniel, Susan A. 2017. “**Knowledge Paradigms and Intransigent Intuitions**,” in Marian Adolf, Ed., *Book title to be determined*. In Springer book series, *Pioneers in Arts, Humanities, Science, Engineering, Practice*.
- McDaniel, Susan A. 2017. “**Sociology of Aging**,” In J. Michael Ryan, Ed., *Essential Concepts of Sociology*. Wiley-Blackwell.
- McDaniel, Susan A. 2016. “**Inequality, Demographics and the New World Order**,” In Patrizia Albanese and Lorne Tepperman, Eds., *Reading Sociology*. Don Mills, Ontario: Oxford University Press, forthcoming.
- McDaniel, Susan A. 2016. “**Duel of the Dualisms: Production and Reproduction Reconfiguring**,” In Raquel Sosa Elizaga, Ed., *Facing an Unequal World: Challenges for Global Sociology*. London, UK: Sage, forthcoming, pp.121-133.
- McDaniel, Susan A. & Seonggee Um. 2016. “**More than Demand and Demographic Ageing: Transnational Ageing, Care and Care Migration**,” in Horn, Vincent and Cornelia Schweppe, Eds., *Transnational Aging: Current Insights and Future Perspectives*. New York and London: Routledge, pp. 217-230.

## Series Editor

Sampson Lee Blair  
*The State University of New York*  
(United States of America)

## Editorial Board

Clarence M. Batan  
*University of Santo Tomas*  
(Philippines)

Eli Buchbinder  
*University of Haifa*  
(Israel)

Yu-Hua Chen  
*National Taiwan University*  
(Taiwan)

Patricia Neff Claster  
*Edinboro University*  
(United States of America)

Teresa M. Cooney  
*University of Colorado-Denver*  
(United States of America)

Rosalina Pisco Costa  
*University of Évora*  
(Portugal)

Alda Britto da Motta  
*Federal University of Bahia*  
(Brazil)

Giovanna Giancesini  
*University of Verona*  
(Italy)

Cardell K. Jacobson  
*Brigham Young University*  
(United States of America)

Josip Obradović  
*University of Zagreb*  
(Croatia)

Gary W. Peterson  
*Miami University*  
(United States of America)

Matthias Pollman-Schult  
*Social Science Research Center Berlin*  
(Germany)

Allison J. Pugh  
*University of Virginia*  
(United States of America)

Ria Smit  
*University of Johannesburg*  
(South Africa)

Helen M. Stallman  
*University of South Australia*  
(Australia)

Fleur Thomése  
*VU University, Amsterdam*  
(The Netherlands)

# Contemporary Perspectives in Family Research

## CALL FOR PAPERS

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 its 2017 volume. The 2017 volume of CPFR will focus on the theme of **‘Dating, Mating, and Coupling: The Evolving Nature of Intimate Relationships.’** In cultures around the globe, there is the ever-present expectation that individuals will, at some point in their lives, find an intimate partner. In most societies, this expectation is associated firmly with marriage, along with childbearing and childrearing. Over recent decades, however, considerable shifts have developed in the ways in which individuals both find a partner and establish intimate relationships. Technology, through online dating, social media, dating apps, and the like, has increasingly changed how we find a partner. Further, the traditional paths of intimate relationships have changed, with increasing numbers of couples opting for cohabitation, rather than going directly into formal marriage. In order to better comprehend these issues, this multidisciplinary issue of CPFR will address such topics as: online dating; cohabitation; assortative mating patterns; the role of parents and siblings in the selection of a partner; sex and sexuality within dating and mating; evolving forms of non-traditional marriage; the interplay of personality and sociodemographic traits within partner selection; and the role of race, ethnicity, and religion in dating and mating; among others.

The 2017 volume will be coedited by Christina L. Scott of Whittier College and Sampson Lee Blair of The State University of New York (Buffalo). Manuscripts should be submitted directly to the editors ([CScott@whittier.edu](mailto:CScott@whittier.edu) and [slblair@buffalo.edu](mailto:slblair@buffalo.edu)), preferably in MS WORD format. Manuscripts should not exceed 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 150-200 words should be included at the beginning of each manuscript. All manuscripts will undergo peer review.

The deadline for initial submissions is January 31, 2017. Any questions may be directed to the editors at [CScott@whittier.edu](mailto:CScott@whittier.edu) and [slblair@buffalo.edu](mailto:slblair@buffalo.edu).



## **Ramblings on Trip to Vienna to Attend ISA's 3rd Forum in Vienna: July 10 – 14, 2016**

**Rudy Ray Seward**

### **Rudolf's Forum in Vienna Rivalled World Congress**

The Forums are a relatively new venture for the ISA as President Chin-Chun Yi writes in her brief history in [August 2016 Gazette](#). Eighteen ISA World Congresses have been convened but this was only the 3<sup>rd</sup> Forum. The Forum's humble and small beginning was followed by an exponential rise in participation to the point that attendance at the 3<sup>rd</sup> approached recent world congress levels. RC06 former President Rudolf Richter was Chair of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Forum's Local Organizing Committee (LOC). At the opening ceremony Jean and I stood at the back of the standing room only crowded Auditorium Maximun listening to Rudolf's remarks. As he talked, I wondered if Rudolf anticipated that the proposed forum would attract so many ISA members. Probably not based on the impressive growth in numbers over time that he, Chin-Chun, and others mentioned. The initial proposal was for about 2000 attendees. Later the ISA Executive Committee requested that the limit be raised to about 4000. A surprising 6000 abstracts were submitted, many with multiple authors, and about 5000 were accepted. The vast majority of authors registered and attended.

Rudolf would be the first to tell you it was not his Forum as he graciously acknowledged by devoting most of his opening remarks to expressing thanks to a lengthy list of ISA and University of Vienna (UV) helpers. Further due to time limits his list by necessity was incomplete. RC06's participation, as Chin-Chun and Secretary Barbara Barbosa Neves summarize in the Gazette, was impressive as well and was enhanced by Rudolf and several of his UV colleagues' roles in the Forum. Margaret O'Brien, along with Barbara, organized the excellent RC06 program sessions.

At check-in attendees received the dense World Congress size program book, promotional flyers, a heavy-duty canvas bag (needed to tote the heavy book), and unexpectedly a sturdy aluminum reusable water bottle plus a handheld folding fan. The bottle and fan were inscribed with grand aspirations for "In the Futures We Want." On the

bottle was “Free Drinking Water for Everyone” and on the fan “Fresh Air for Everyone.” The ISA Student Organizing Committee supplied the fan. We soon realized how useful both the bottle and fan would be during the forum and stay in Vienna. The warm August temperatures combined with venues lacking central air conditioning required cooling and hydration strategies. The UV’s Main Building, primary venue for Forum, was stately, beautiful, and fortunately made mostly of stone. The building cooled off some during the night, but as daytime temperature rose only opening windows allowed some of the warmed air to escape, which occasionally was replaced by cooler breezes. A couple conference days felt very hot (even by Texas standards) and drinking water and fanning helped the most to keep cool as the window breezes were infrequent and not cool. Outdoors avoiding the hot sun and finding shade provided comfort. Fortunately some unexpected afternoon rain showers broke the heat spell and brought moderate temperatures.

The versatile water bottle deserves further praise. The carabiner clip and split key ring permit attachment to belt, bike, case, etc. The screw top black lid with silicone ring is virtually leak proof, when enclosed instructions followed. Being reusable made it an eco-friendly choice replacing disposable plastic water bottles. I am glad to report that apparently RC06 members had read all of the enclosed instructions as no one reported getting their tongue stuck in the neck of the bottle (cf., Entrapment Hazard). Further the bottle helped encourage the Forum’s promoted drink of choice for attendees, water, especially during those hot days. The pure cold water available from taps everywhere and dispensers on the busy streets, especially in tourist areas, was a refreshing treat. The ‘secret’ source was water ‘piped in’ via multiple viaducts from alpine springs. Back at our hotel a polar-freezing invigorating shower was a cool off option. All water was free of charge. On the other hand, to eliminate water from your body other than perspiring, one often had to pay 1/2 Euro to use toilets in popular tourist areas.

Thank you Rudolf and all you – too numerous to mention colleagues for a wonderful forum and experience in Vienna. Thank you Margaret, Barbara, and again many others responsible for coordinating the diverse, stimulating, and informative RC06 program. Also extend thanks to Chin-Chun for her service on the ISA Executive Committee since 2010. She provides important communication and resource links with all segments of the ISA. All together these contribute to the RC06 community and family. That sense of community will grow at several interim RC06 gatherings before the next major ISA event, the 2018 XIX World Congress in Toronto. Our dear Board member Susan McDaniel is a LOC member so

will be a valuable resource providing helpful insights and assistance. Part of LOC service was Susan giving a rousing, humorous, and great promotional talk for the Congress at RC06 Business meeting during the Forum.

### **Excerpts from Daily Log during Forum from July 8 to 23 Trip**

**10th Sunday:** Started our day with an early morning walk through the Old Town, locating many places would return to later including back entrance to the imperial Hofburg Palace and Spanish Riding School plus five churches. At Graben Square, near St. Peter's Church, we encountered the prominent sculptural Pestsäule (Plague) Holy Trinity column, erected after the Great Plague in 1679. Our final destination was St. Stephen's Cathedral massive structure. We did not tarry long as a massive tourist mob was swarming both inside and out announcing its popularity.

Back at the Forum, we attended session organized and chaired by Margaret O'Brien and the opening plenary session with Rudolf, ISA President Abraham, and others making welcoming remarks. We tired of standing at the back of the crowded and warm confines of the auditorium so left when the music started for the open airy and cooler arcaded courtyard for the opening reception. Unlike some similar past World Congress events, food and drink were easily accessible and plentiful. As always it great to greet and share updates with many RC06 colleagues.

**11th Monday:** After walking though nearby Sigmund Freud Park to the tram and U-bahn (subway) station, we bought our weekly bargain public transportation passes. The small but popular Park, adjacent to UV, was only a ten minute walk from Freud's former apartment (now a museum), where he lived and had his practice from 1891 to 1938 before he and his family fled to escape from the [National Socialists](#). After attending conference sessions during the day that evening on our way to dinner with Mark and Loraine Hutter, I discover my Senior Moment Squared. On the way out of the hotel we ran into Chin-Chun and other RC06 colleagues, who reminded me that we were supposed to dine together that evening. I felt like a complete idiot for forgetting (especially since I participated in arranging this gathering a month earlier) and not checking my calendar to catch the conflict sooner. Figuring that our absence would be more obvious to the Hutters, we processed to join them

for delightful meal at Zu Ebener Erde und Erster Stock (Das Biedermeier) in the Spittelberg district. The pleasant weather led us to dine outside on an alleyway once dominated by ladies of the night. After a great meal we took a walking tour of the neighborhood.

Chin-Chun later wrote that the RC06 gang at Glacis Beisi also dined outside in a courtyard--under lovely trees and blooming forget-me-nots and invited us to find time to enjoy it. [Note: We dined there a week later and discovered (to my further embarrassment) that along with the Hutters we had strolled by a not well marked entrance to the restaurant on the street above. If we had known earlier we could have dropped by to at least say hello. I jokingly wrote Chin-Chun that the RC06 group must have made quite an impression as a brass plaque was already in place commemorating their visit and the spot would soon be part of an 'RC06 tour' in Vienna (tours seem to be offered for just about anything associated with the city)].

**12th Tuesday:** Besides attending several paper sessions, we took our first Ringstrasse Tram Tour, which circles the Old Town on streets that replaced the former city wall. While riding the Ring one cannot help but notice the multitude of statues on many buildings. The Old Town and streets beyond the Ring are filled with statues on the sides, entryways, corners, and tops of many historical buildings. Some were lined with unbelievable dense layers of statues. Statue watching soon replaced our normal people watching. Were they also 'watching' us, I wondered? The Austrian Parliament building is a [prime example](#).

The RC06 reception that evening was held in a corner of the arcaded courtyard, which provided plenty of cover from light rain. Great visits with many more RC06 colleagues ensued, including recently arrived Michael and Liz Rush from Ireland, but the noise bouncing off the stone walls made for challenging hearing especially for old ears.

**13th Wednesday:** Forum activities dominated as I prepared for and made short presentation of paper written with Michael at Mark's session on Global Family Issues. At RC06 Business meeting were updated about coming events and challenges. Ended the day by retiring to Molly Darcey, which claims to be one of only four authentic Irish pubs in Vienna. Their interior decorations had been transported from Ireland.



**14th Thursday:** Jean attends morning sessions on leisure and fitness, while I joined sessions on families. While grabbing a quick bite for lunch in the very crowded university café, Jean discovered her wallet was missing from her purse. We retraced all our steps that morning including going back to hotel where she last remembered seeing it, all with no luck. We cancelled credit cards, including my backup to cover trip expenses. We later contacted lost and found at university, hotel, and city and left contact information, again with no positive result. Consequently, I missed most of Michael's session on Social Policy, Feminism and the Decline of Patriarchal Fatherhood that had the most papers related to our interests. By evening we were in better spirits and attended Forum's elaborate and extravagant farewell party. UV's Main Building was converted into a large party venue with again plenty of food and drink available on multiple floors supplemented by entertaining bands and DJs. What a grand end to a grand forum.

### **Film Glimpses of Vienna under Habsburg Rule and Post WWII**

Erich von Stroheim's silent film "The Wedding March (1928) is set in early 20<sup>th</sup> century Vienna, where he was born in 1885. Coincidentally, the movie was shown on my favorite movie channel (TCM) several days after our return from the city. USA's Library of Congress in 2003 selected film for preservation as being culturally and historically significant. Details [here](#). Link to [view film](#). [Another version](#) includes music from Viennese composers but is a poorer print.

The 1995 Austrian film "Sissi" dramatizes the life of young Empress Elisabeth of Austria, who was known to her family as Sissi ([version with English subtitles](#)). Original locations filmed include where the Empress lived and visited (e.g., Schönbrunn Palace, Imperial Villa in Bad Ischl, St. Michael's Church). In 1962, a condensed version that included two related films was released in English under the title "Forever My Love."

One Vienna tour among the multitude available allows visitors to retrace the footsteps of Harry Lime in Orson Wells' "The Third Man" shot in Vienna in 1948. Included is sewer tour, Giant Ferris Wheel in Viennese Prater or amusement park, and more plus of course the [Third Man Museum](#). A local cinema still presents the film multiple times weekly (Note: Erich von Stroheim or his films have yet to generate a tour).

## Enjoying music with Vienna connections

A unique way to enjoy some music written by composers associated with Vienna, while visually experiencing the drive from Vienna to Budapest, is [here](#). The drive starts on an early summer morning outside the Schönbrunn Palace with Strauss' Blue Danube Waltz providing the musical background.

Rudy Ray Seward

Professor Emeritus of Sociology

Department of Sociology, University of North Texas

1155 Union Circle #311157

Denton, Texas 76203-5017

## Other Announcements

### I. Job Opportunities

Faculty Positions – Demography and Family Studies at National University of Singapore

The Centre for Family and Population Research (CFPR), an interdisciplinary center at the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at the National University of Singapore (NUS) is inviting applications for two senior level faculty positions for scholars who specialize in Demography and Family Studies to be affiliated with the Centre. In particular, research and teaching interests in fertility and marriage, family policies, aging and health, children and youth development, intergenerational relations and transfers, changing family living arrangements and family values in Asia, migration and integration, human capital and labor market, and gender relations are desired.

Position 1: Full Professorship based in the Department of Sociology.

Position 2: Full or Associate Professorship based in any of the FASS departments.

Evaluation of applications will begin in 16 January 2017 and continue until the vacancy is filled. We regret that only shortlisted candidates will be notified.

More details are provided at: <http://www.fas.nus.edu.sg/cfpr/joinus/index.html>

## II. New Research Projects

### ERC Starting Grant project MobileKids :

#### Children in multi-local, post-separation families (2016-2021)

Laura Merla, Cirfase, Université catholique de Louvain (Belgium)

#### **Shared physical custody: an emerging form of multilocality**

The diversification of contemporary family forms, and the emergence of multi-local, post-separation families resulting from rising divorce rates challenge Western constructions of residentiality and sedentariness. Multi-local residentiality, which designates a situation where an individual or a group of individuals stay in more than one usual dwelling over a period of one year, questions the classical paradigm of the territorial 'double container' that is, the administrative management of political territories from the national to the communal level through the registration of a place of residence, combined with the administrative assignation of each inhabitant to a household corresponding to this unique domicile (Duchêne-Lacroix, 2013: 67). This paradigm was reflected in the standard, institutional model of the family, that represents family members as bonded together by physical co-presence and bounded by the confines of the privately-owned land and house that contains them (Morgan, 2011).

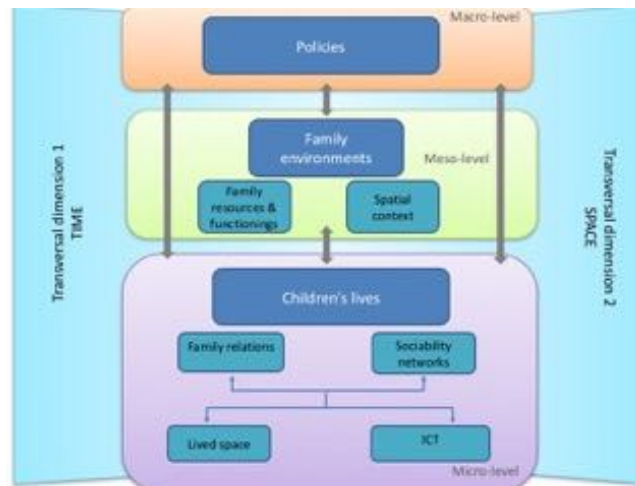
Today, mobility has largely become a normative standard in many areas of social life, including family. But for children in particular, residential mobility within the borders of a specific Nation State is still largely conceived by policy makers as a one-way move from one fixed residence to another fixed residence rather than regular mobility between two residences. The adoption of shared physical custody as a legal option in case of divorce or separation in several countries represents one step towards the recognition and institutionalization of multi-local residential arrangements, but this move raises

the important question of the extent to which public policies acknowledge and facilitate this type of family arrangement rather than creating obstacles in the everyday lives of mobile children and their relatives.

Multilocality, defined as active everyday life in multiple places (Rolshoven cited by Nadler, 2009), has only recently started to emerge as a topic of interest for geographers and social scientists. Multilocality has been conceptualised through notions of multi-local residentiality and multi-local living, a notion that stresses processes of appropriation, territorial familiarity, practices and continuity within the spaces of residential multilocality (Duchêne-Lacroix, 2013). So far within this field very few studies have focused specifically on multi-local post-separation families, and the particular experience of children within these family configurations remains largely under-studied. There is an urgent need for social sciences to fully engage with these new family configurations, and highlight the wider societal challenges and transformations that arise from their expansion.

### **Key research questions**

This project contributes to this task by seeking to understand how children's socialisation is shaped by the experience of multilocality in post-divorce families practicing shared physical custody arrangements in three metropolitan areas (Brussels, Lyon and Turin). One of our major goals is to determine under what circumstances children develop new forms of habitus that incorporate the capacity to maintain social relations in a multi-local context, through the appropriation of mobility and virtual connectedness. This is done by a) examining children's lived experience of multilocality in post-separation families, b) identifying the resources and forms of capital that are important to sustain social relations in multi-local family arrangements, and c) considering the level of institutional support to these family forms. In analysing these questions, MobileKids pays particular attention to the role that children's class, gender, ethnic and religious background play in these processes. As this diagram shows, this project combines three levels of analysis.



The micro-level of ‘children’s lives’ represents the core of this study. Here we analyse how children aged between 10 and 16 try to maintain their social and family relations, what role they play in the everyday organization of their multi-local lives, how they negotiate the various aspects of their multi-local lives, and what strategies they put in place to control, resist, limit their mobility. We also examine the complex interconnections between geographical and virtual mobilities. Key questions in this regard include how children construct a ‘sense of home’ and attachment to place, how they appropriate and connect their various life spaces to construct meaningful “lived” spaces, and what place and role ICT play in the everyday maintenance of social and family ties. In September 2017, we will start a longitudinal fieldwork with 2 cohorts of children aged 10 and 13 at the beginning of our study. Children’s accounts of their everyday lives will be collected through a qualitative, flexible multi-methods design that brings together theme-centred, narrative interviews grounded in participatory visual methods and methods derived from social geography, and participant observation.

The meso-level of family environments focuses on the role played by a) the characteristics of family resources and functionings, and b) spatial contexts in children’s socialization to mobility and virtual connectedness. We will thus analyse the social, cultural and economic characteristics of these children’s families, the specific cultures and practices that characterize them and their evolution over time, as well as the characteristics of the spatial contexts

where children's double households are located, including the size and quality of housing, and the availability and affordability of transport and communication infrastructures. Data collected during fieldwork with children will be combined here with semi-structured interviews with their parents. We are also currently trying to establish the general profile of families practicing shared physical custody in Belgium, France and Italy through secondary data analysis of relevant databases.

Finally, the macro-level of 'policies' analyses how local, sub-national, national and international policies structure multi-local living for children in post-separation families located in Belgium, Italy and France. Here we identify the policies and regulations that constrain or support this mode of living in those three countries, and highlight the normative constructions of family relations that underlie these regulations.

Our website is still under construction, but in the meantime you can follow us on ResearchGate: <https://www.researchgate.net/project/ERC-Starting-Grant-MobileKids-Children-in-multi-local-post-separation-families>

## References

- Duchêne-Lacroix C. (2013) Éléments pour une typologie des pratiques plurirésidentielles et d'un habiter multilocal. *Emigrinter* 11: 151-165.
- Morgan DHG. (2011) Locating 'Family Practices'. *Sociological Research Online* 16: 14.
- Nadler R. (2009) Multilocality: An Emerging Concept between the Terms of Mobility and Migration. (accessed 25/11/2014).  
<http://www.sociologiadip.unimib.it/dipartimento/ricerca/scheda.php?idUser=246>

## Contact:

Prof. Laura Merla, Cirfase, Université Catholique de Louvain (Belgium),  
[laura.merla@uclouvain.be](mailto:laura.merla@uclouvain.be)

### III. Awards & Honors

Congratulations to Susan McDaniel, who was one of three finalists for the *Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Impact Award* and was awarded the *Ingrid Speaker Research Award for Outstanding Research*, University of Lethbridge (June 2016).

### New & Returning Members

We welcome the following new or returning members:

Mohammad Reza Alipour Portugal	Titik Harsanti Indonesia	Katherine Twamley United Kingdom
Sara Amin Fiji	Joe Inguanez Malta	Daria Ukhova Germany
Kritika Bahadur United Kingdom	Candace Lynn Kemp United States	Sinteche van der Merwe South Africa
Vern Bengtson United States	Ausra Maslauskaitė Lithuania	Winnie W.C. Wen Taiwan
Diana Dias de Carvalho Portugal	Hideki Nakazato Japan	Yan Xia United States
Lukasz Czarnecki Mexico	Anika Schenck-Fontaine United States	Wei Xing Canada
Judith Eckert Germany	Monica Santoro Italy	Wei-Jun Jean Yeung Singapore



Cristina Gomes Mexico	Pia Sophia Schober Germany	Gundula Zoch Germany
Haruka Kudo Japan	Hsiu-hua Shen Taiwan	Patrizia Albanese Canada
Sahmicit Kankemwa Kumswa South Africa	Leigh Anne Spanner Canada	Loretta Baldassar Australia
Erika Busse Peru	Jo Lindsay Australia	Margaret O'Brien United Kingdom
Emiko Ochiai Japan	Vladimir Solodnikov Russia	

## Board of RC06 (2014-2018)

President	Chin-Chun Yi
Vice-President	Mark Hutter
Secretary and Treasurer	Bárbara Barbosa Neves
Members at large	Sylvie Fogiel-Bijaoui Susan McDaniel Margaret O'Brien
Honorary President	Jan Trost

[www.rc06-isa.org](http://www.rc06-isa.org)

@SocioFamilyISA on Twitter

ISA Research Committee on Family Research on Facebook