

ACCUMULATION AND  
COMPENSATION OF  
INEQUALITIES



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Poster  
Abstract Book



Social  
Stratification



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### **Virtual Poster Exhibition**

Posters are displayed on the Virtual Poster Exhibition at the RC28 Conference Platform. The platform will be open until 30 June 2021.

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## 442 Does household dysfunction harm child development? Studying selection and the mediating and moderating role of financial resources with British panel data.

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### **Abstract**

Children who experience household dysfunction often have more development problems and lower educational attainment and well-being later in life. The question remains, however, whether this is due to the experiences of household dysfunction, or other (pre-existing) factors such as growing up in poverty. Based on the extended family stress model, we derive hypotheses on the consequences of household dysfunction for child development, accounting for differential selection into these experiences. Furthermore, we consider its interplay with parents' financial resources. We directly investigate the mediating and moderating effects of (reductions in) financial resources for the development consequences of household dysfunction. We study these relationships with data from the British Millennium Cohort Study, using descriptive and Fixed Effects Analyses. Our results show that children who experience household dysfunction already have lower verbal ability and more behavioural problems before the onset of these experiences, underscoring the importance of accounting for differential selection into these experiences. Household dysfunction also has a clear independent impact, as it increases children's behavioural problems. Families experience a reduction in financial resources after household dysfunction, but this only plays a minor mediating role for the influence of household dysfunction on children's development problems. Furthermore, the consequences of household dysfunction do not differ between children from low and high income families. Financial resources are thus mainly important for selection into household dysfunction, while non-financial factors explain why household dysfunction harms child development.

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## 447 Helping children with 'cash' or 'care'? Social inequality, welfare policies, and downward intergenerational transfers

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## Abstract

Intergenerational transfers are an important form of social support across the life course. The literature on intergenerational support largely agrees that the parental generation until old age provides more intergenerational support than it receives. Young parents often rely on grandparental childcare to reconcile parenthood and employment, and financial support may help them settling professionally and with regard to housing. However, the availability of older parents' support, and which type of support is provided (financial, childcare), depends on parents' economic resources. Social inequalities are thus also reproduced through transfers between adult generations. Moreover, the need for intergenerational support and the shape it takes have been shown to be influenced by the policy context, for instance formal childcare provision and pensionable age and pension generosity, but also the degree of social inequality.

This contribution takes a multidimensional and multigenerational look at how social stratification and welfare policies promote or hinder intergenerational solidarity. It focuses on grandparents aged between 50 and 70 and assesses two different types of support that may be provided to their adult children, namely: financial transfers and childcare. Based on six waves of data from the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement, we analyse longitudinally: 1) how often grandparents support their children with either type, or a combination of different types of support, 2) how likelihood of helping depends on the socioeconomic status and economic resources of parents and children, and 3) whether the likelihood of providing different types of intergenerational support varies with the country characteristics.

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## 454 Individual achievement, occupational interests, or social environment: What causes students to switch majors in German higher education?

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## Abstract

While a large body of research addresses both subject choice and student dropout in higher education, much less is known about why students switch from the major they have initially chosen. Therefore, we ask what factors cause students to switch their major in higher education and analyse this for the case of Germany, taking the *timing* and the *direction* of such switches (within and across subject groups) into account. Based on the extended rational choice framework, we identify three main factors that might explain switching majors: *individual achievement in secondary education*, a *(mis)match between individual occupational interests and the content of studies* and *parental and peer judgement* on the initial subject choice. We test the derived hypotheses by applying logistic regression models to representative data from the German National Educational Panel Study (NEPS), Starting Cohort 5. Our results indicate that all factors affect switching majors, but their influence varies according to the direction and timing of the switch. While high-achieving students are more likely to switch majors, especially across disciplines and at a later stage in their studies, a mismatch in occupational interests mainly affects

switching majors across broad subject groups. Finally, disapproval of the initial subject choice by parents and peers matters most for switches during the first two semesters and across academic disciplines.

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## 481 Childhood Family Structure and Complexity in Partnership Life Courses

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### **Abstract**

This study investigated the associations between childhood living arrangements and *complex* adult partnership trajectories. The authors defined first union dissolution as the event initiating a complex partnership life course, and measured the level of complexity using a weighted cumulative index of subsequent partnership episodes. The analyses were based on a representative sample of the German population born in 1971-73 from the German Family Panel and used multivariate hurdle models to estimate the probability of experiencing the initiation of a complex partnership trajectory, as well as the level of complexity. Results showed that respondents who did not grow up with both biological parents (i.e. those who experienced an *alternative* family structure) had both a greater likelihood of experiencing the dissolution of their own first union, and followed more complex subsequent partnership trajectories. These associations varied across types of (alternative) family structures experienced during childhood and according to the level of parental partnership (in)stability. This study contributes to our understanding of contemporary partnership complexity and its precursors using a long term life course theoretical and methodological frame. We acknowledge that continuities and disruptions in the development of adult (complex) partnership trajectories can be linked to a growing diversity of family structure in childhood. Thereby, we expand knowledge on intergenerational interdependencies of family instability and complexity beyond the reproduction of the event of union dissolution.

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## 488 Payroll taxation reinforces income inequality in the top

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### **Abstract**

In recent decades, inequality of household income increased globally. Countries leverage their tax and transfer system in order to reduce this trend. However, previous literature has pointed out that redistributive systems may also increase inequality in parts of the income distribution, which runs counter to their goals. Here, we take up this line of reasoning, arguing that we cannot view a country's payroll tax system as a mere redistributive channel. Despite its large fiscal

volume and potentially important role for inequality, our knowledge about the distributional consequences of payroll taxation is remarkably thin. Here we offer a novel sociological focus on its role for income inequality. We argue that many countries restrict payroll taxes to a maximum amount, resulting in significant payroll-tax exempted incomes for high-earning households. Strongly growing top labor incomes thus lead to increased payroll-tax exempted incomes for households in the upper parts of the income distribution and, consequently, to higher income dispersion. We use Germany (1992-2017), a highly redistributive country, as a case study. Our empirical results suggest that a) households profit more from payroll-exempted labor incomes across the upper quarter, b) this benefit increased strongly over time, and c) increased amounts of payroll-tax exempted labor income explains up to 60% of income dispersion in the top of the distribution.

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## 497 The Impact of Intergenerational Class Mobility on Subjective Social Status in Japan

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### **Abstract**

Despite a considerable accumulation of subjective social status studies in Japan, the relations between class mobility and Subjective Social Status for mobile class members have still not been cleared. The present study explores intergenerational class mobility effects on Subjective Social Status in post-war Japan using Social Stratification and Social Mobility survey data from 1965 to 2015 for men. We applied the Diagonal Reference Model to capture the origin, destination, and mobility effects, respectively. We first examined the overall impact of intergenerational class mobility and confirmed whether the results differ in socioeconomic situations. The results indicated that mobile members' subjective social status is mainly affected by their destination class, not the origin class. However, the effects change in macro social context. The influence of the origin class has been increased according to times. Younger generations that entered the labor market during the low economic growth era and the recession-era are more affected by their origin class than the former generations. However, we could not find clear evidence of a mobility effect on subjective social status except for the upwardly mobile members in stable economic growth cohort. Our study implies it is crucial to consider the macro-social context when examining class mobility consequences for subjective aspects of society members.

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## 502 Educational mobility across three generations of Finnish-speaking and Swedish-speaking Finns

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## Abstract

Using multigenerational register data (N=322,763), this article studies educational mobility across three generations in two native ethno-linguistic groups, Finnish speakers and Swedish speakers in Finland. The groups have equal constitutional rights with parallel school systems up to upper secondary level. However, the access to university studies is easier for Swedish speakers. Thus, we study whether and how social mobility differs across population groups in a setting where the groups studied are indigenous and have equal rights but differ on educational prerequisites. We examine the contribution of both parents' and all four grandparents' education to the ethno-linguistic differential in the grandchildren's probability of having a master's level education. We also study whether these effects differ between the two groups. Educational mobility across the three generations is measured with logistic regression models, from which we report average marginal effects. Men and women in the Swedish-speaking numeric minority are 2.8 and 7.1 percentage points more likely to have a master's or equivalent level education as compared to their Finnish-speaking counterparts. The contribution of parental and grandparental education to the between-group differential is minor, and there are modest differences in how the educational level in the grandchild generation is affected by parental and grandparental education. Alongside the unequal educational prerequisites, the findings are interpreted as related to cultural disparities and ethnic capital.

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## 506 Working from home – a curse or blessing for the gender wage gap

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## Abstract

Even before the Covid-19 pandemic, there was a positive trend toward more work from home in the wake of digitalization. Against this backdrop, we want to shed light on with this study is the role of working from home for the gender wage gap. We ask whether an expansion of remote work will contribute to a better reconciliation of family and working life and thus giving women more flexibility and increase the wage prospects enabling them to catch up with men. Or whether the option to work from home will result in negative wage effects as suggested by the theoretical background of compensating differentials according to which employers should penalize flexible working conditions as they interpret them as a compensation of higher wages (Filer 1985). In this case working from home should only come along with a wage premium, when it supports the employee in working even more hours by expanding the working time corridor. Our paper attempts to disentangle both countervailing channels.

To test this hypotheses empirically, we rely on a rich linked employer-employee data set: the Linked-Personal-Panel (LPP) of the Institute for Employment Research (IAB) in Germany. Our empirical approach is two-fold: First, we employ cross-sectional regressions analyses to estimate how different forms of remote work, namely remote working only during working hours and remote work beyond the regular working hours, affect the gross hourly wage of men and women. In the second step, we plan to use Oaxaca-Blinder decomposition methods.



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## 514 Resources and status inconsistency. Class differences in the effect of perceived job insecurity on health.

Nils Teichler

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### **Abstract**

This study investigates occupational class differences in the effect of perceived job insecurity on health. While there is burgeoning research on the general negative health effect of job insecurity, studies on a class-based heterogeneity show mixed results and go back many years. Ongoing discussions about the fear of downward mobility of the middle classes re-raise the question in which occupational classes job insecurity might cause higher stress and thus stronger negative health effects. This research project employs the Erikson-Goldthorpe-Portocarero (EGP) class scheme addressing the following research questions: Are there occupational class differences in the effect of perceived job insecurity on health? Can class differences be explained by class-varying sets of material resources and employability? I apply linear fixed effect regressions based on the German Panel Study Labour Market and Social Security (PASS). Results show strong negative effects of perceived job insecurity on two health outcomes, general subjective health and numbers of visits at the doctor, only for routine non-manual workers. These effects are significantly stronger than the effects for skilled and unskilled workers. The class differences cannot be explained by different sets of material resources and employability. Job insecurity and unemployment might more often hit lower social classes, yet the negative health shock of perceived job insecurity is strongest for the middle classes. The results support the idea that job insecurity evokes a fear of social downward mobility more strongly among the middle classes.

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## 517 How does Sexual Orientation affect the Transition into Further Training?

Lisa de Vries

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### **Abstract**

Based on research about unequal access to further training on the one hand and labor market inequalities by sexual orientation on the other hand, I investigate the further training participation of lesbian, gay, and bisexual individuals. Using a pooled dataset (years 2015-2019) of a representative German household panel (Socio-Economic Panel) and logistic regression models, I run separate models for men and women. I found that gay and bisexual men have a lower probability to participate in further training than heterosexual men. This effect is statistically significant even if I consider the occupational and family situation. For women, I could not find statistically significant differences by sexual orientation. My analyses offer a new view on

differences in further training participation, as well as on labor market outcomes of sexual minorities, and suggest that both strings of research should be interconnected more often.

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## 530 Seasonal patterns in newborns' health

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### **Abstract**

There is much evidence showing that a child's life prospects can be predicted by their health at birth. But what determines a newborn baby's health? Identifying the individual and environmental factors that contribute to birth outcomes is important to help policymakers and health care workers to anticipate which pregnancies are at risk of adverse birth outcomes and provide preventative care. This paper focuses on one important determinant of newborns' health: the time of year that the baby is born or conceived.

Birth outcomes vary with the seasons. A large literature proposes many potential explanations for this seasonality, including weather conditions, disease prevalence, economic conditions and seasonality in conception. This paper brings together these explanations to test their relative importance in the tropical and arid climates of the Northern Territory of Australia, using administrative birth records, geo-linked to data on weather and other environmental conditions.

The most important explanations for seasonality in birth outcomes in the Northern Territory appear to be extreme heat and prevalence of sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Seasonality in influenza prevalence, food prices, employment conditions, and road accessibility also have small effects.

These findings have important implications for policy: notably, that interventions to increase testing and treatment of STIs, to moderate the effects of extreme heat, and to update road infrastructure could help to reduce seasonality in newborns' health, with potential long-term effects on population-level health and wellbeing.

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## 547 Trends in the geographical distance between separated parents in Belgium, 1991-2015

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### **Abstract**

Geographic proximity between separated parents' households is a key aspect of the reorganization of the family following the parental break-up. Although it has been well documented in the existing literature that children link the lives of the ex-couple and their migratory decisions

after separation, it is less clear how this link changes 1) across divorce cohorts, 2) with time elapsed since separation, and 3) how these changes differ according to parents' education. We add to the existing literature by investigating these questions using Belgian register data (1991-2015) and census data (1991, 2001 and 2011). Preliminary results suggest that there is no clear general cohort trend in spite of profound change in post separation care arrangements. Further, we observed reversed trends for low and highly educated fathers. While highly educated fathers were more likely to stay living closer to their ex-partners in the more recent separation cohorts than in the earlier cohorts, the opposite was true for the fathers with low educational levels.

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## 565 Social stratification, threatened identities and populist attitudes

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### **Abstract**

This paper assesses Fukuyama's (2018) thesis that threats resulting from identity insecurity and perceived deficits of social recognition foster populist attitudes. Using data of an online survey (n=917) we construct ten factors capturing identity insecurity and social recognition in respect to social categories which can be viewed as important building blocks of social identity; specifically, social class, gender, nationality, living arrangements, and the distinction between eastern and western federal states which is quite salient in Germany.

First analyses reveal that these factors indeed have strong effects on populist attitudes. Not only do they explain a large proportion of variance in populist attitudes, taking into account the effects of additional indicators that measure respondents' socio-economic position as well as related subjective perceptions. The social recognition related factors also partly mediate the effects of the indicators capturing the socio-economic position.

Thus, it can be shown that the "threatened social identity thesis" points to an important micro-sociological mechanism which connects macro-societal social change to individual political attitudes. Identity threat is the first mechanism which explains *why* cultural changes related to modernization processes can lead to a surge in populism, as the "cultural backlash thesis" proposes. Moreover, economic developments related to globalization foster populism not only because of fears of loss for some people, as the "losers of modernization thesis" proposes, but also because of identity threats created by these developments.

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## 570 Dyadic employment biographies and the intra-couple wealth gap in Britain and Germany

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## Abstract

This study examines how the interplay of both partners' employment biographies is associated with the intra-couple gender wealth gap in later life in the welfare state contexts of Britain and Germany. Although prior research has shown that women accumulate less personal wealth than men throughout working life, little is known about the long-term influence of both partners' prior work and family experiences on the within-couple allocation of wealth in later life. We further examine how distinct institutional arrangements shape wealth accumulation processes within couples. Using data from Britain (UKHLS; wave 8; 2016-2018) and Germany (SOEP; 2017), we employ sequence and cluster analyses based on partners' dyadic employment constellations to identify groups of typical breadwinning types in Britain and Germany. We find that the gender wealth gap is larger in male-breadwinner compared with dual-earner couples in Germany. Although not statistically significant, most clusters are more negatively associated with the size of the gap than dual-earner couples. The results suggest that women in dual-earner couples in Germany are more likely to reduce within-couple wealth inequality than those in Britain.

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## 582 The Impact of Context: The Effect of Local Labor Market Opportunities and Neighborhood Unemployment on Regional Job Mobility

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## Abstract

This paper investigates the effect of changes in the individual local labor market (LLM) opportunities and neighborhood unemployment on the probability of leaving a LLM. We disentangle the economic and social dimension of contextual effects on individual regional job mobility in using German process data on the local number of suitable job vacancies for the economic context and fine-grained administrative data on neighborhood unemployment for the social context. Moreover, we perform qualification-specific analyses to show how high- and low-qualified individuals react differently on changes in the economic and social context. New geo-coded data enables us to capture occupation-specific LLM opportunities and regional mobility decisions irrespective to the size or shape of historically established administrative regions.

Results indicate that rising unemployment in the neighborhood positively affects the mobility probability in general. If the neighborhood unemployment rises, especially high-qualified individuals are more likely to leave the local labor market. Regarding LLM effects, we find a small, significant effect that improving labor market opportunities lower the probability of regional job mobility. When no suitable vacancies are available in the LLM, the probability of becoming regionally mobile increases significantly - especially for highly qualified. In contrast, unskilled and medium skilled individuals do not react with regional job mobility when the individual LLM yields no suitable job vacancies for them. A joint analysis indicates that both contextual channels significantly affect individual regional job mobility decisions.

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## 599 Exploring the support of implementing European social policy schemes

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### **Abstract**

While evidence continues to mount from recent findings that European welfare solidarity measured as generalized attitudes is salient across the EU, considerably less information is available about policy attitudes about the same topic. In particular, it remains unclear how consistent are mechanisms that some recent studies have detected for attitudes towards European social policy schemes (Baute and Meuleman 2020, Kuhn et al 2020). Thus, a systematic, but refined approach is needed to gain better understanding of the underpinnings related to public opinion on employing social policies to facilitate European (welfare) solidarity at the supranational level. Findings have thus far hypothesized that structural and cultural factors play a role for attitudes about European social security, but so far there is indication that cultural factors have a strong hold on policy attitudes. This current paper contributes to the discussion by analyzing in details factors that influence the support for establishing a uniform European social policy programs and into also contemplates the implications for developing long-term publicly supported EU-wide social policies. The paper investigates in-depth support for a European social security scheme, and a European poverty insurance program. The empirical analysis is based on the TESS dataset conducted 13 European countries in 2016 and the Europeans Social Survey's 8th round conducted in 2016. The analysis from the two data sources are harmonized and therefore the effects are directly comparable. Findings show that mechanisms are robust and cultural factors indeed have an overbearing effect on attitudes for European-wide social policy schemes.

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## 601 Class mobility in an ascription-based hierarchy context: Structural and net effects of caste and religious belonging in India

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### **Abstract**

The role of ascription in shaping class mobility is one of the pitfalls of the modernization thesis. While ethnic and racial inequality are routinely analyzed in class mobility studies of the Global North, less attention has been given to caste and religious categories in Indian society. These categories nonetheless reflect strong ascription-based hierarchies. In this article, I examine the levels of class and educational intergenerational mobility of father-son pairs in India between different ascribed status groups. Strong differences in the class structure between caste and

religious groups, comparing here Brahmins, Dalits, and Muslims, point the role of ascribed identities in shaping one's class destiny. Educational mobility is higher than class mobility and intergenerational improvements in educational attainment for all examined caste and religious groups is visible. Yet, strong educational inequalities maintain between these groups, contributing to the class structure differences. Finally, after accounting for class origin, residential area and educational attainment, caste and religious belonging have a lower impact on the access to professional occupations. But this result does not hold when focusing on corporate professional occupations where job recruitment does not involve any affirmative action policy. This suggests that policies of equal opportunities help mitigate privilege from ascribed categories but they need to be implemented at different levels: educational access and job recruitment. Indeed, ascribed categories involve the unequal inheritance of social and economic endowments which contribute to class immobility.

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## 619 Household Head's Livelihood Choice, Gender and Income Growth in Rural China

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### **Abstract**

There is decades debate on whether migration as a livelihood choice is beneficial to rural household economic development, but previous studies seldom consider the role the key household members play. Moreover, the livelihood choices are often dichotomously divided into migrants and non-migrants, while masking the distinction of farm vs non-farm livelihood choice the non-migrants made. In this study, using five waves of data from the China Family Panel Studies (CFPS) from 2010 to 2018 and growth-curve models, we examine how three types of livelihood choices of farm, local non-farm and migration affect the household economy in rural China. Our results show that head's households with the heads migrating or working in local non-farm industries have a higher income growth on average than those with the heads attaching to farming. Comparing to migration, household heads working in local non-farm industries experience the steepest increase rate of household income. However, for female headed household, migration can make them a greater starting point, but the growth curve decline over ages, indicating women's aging disadvantages when choosing migration as livelihood choice.

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## 637 Wage growth predicted by couple divisions of paid and unpaid work across the UK wage distribution

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## Abstract

Housework specialization has long been offered as an explanation of partnered men's higher wages despite mixed support for the theory. Even though specialization is dyadic in nature and includes both paid and unpaid labor, few studies incorporated both partners contribution to paid and unpaid work. Furthermore, specialization may offer diverse wage premiums or penalties across the wage distribution, considering varying norms regarding what constitutes an 'ideal worker'. We thus contribute to the literature by studying how wage growth is related to the division of employment and housework between partners across the wage distribution.

We analyze individuals' wage growth using 28 waves of British panel data (BHPS and UKHLS) using unconditional quantile regression to assess how the division of housework and employment is associated with wage growth. Preliminary findings indicate that median- and high-earning men benefit significantly from a traditional male breadwinner or 1.5 earner arrangement, whereas it predicts a significant wage growth penalty for low earning men as compared with equal divisions. Median earning men in the dual fulltime/double burden group, also had a significant growth premium. Among low and median-earning women, being in a 1.5 earner household as compared with more equal households predicts a significant penalty. We conclude that specialization benefits the wage growth of only more advantaged men while in fact it hurts that of the lowest-wage men. Contrary to specialization, however, women's wage growth is largest either with equitable divisions of household labor or when she carries a double burden.

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## 639 A tour guide to your favorite class conceptualization - The relationship between social class schemes and inequality and class voting from a comparative perspective

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## Abstract

We present current work on the construct validity of six different class schemes from an international perspective. Most construct validation studies usually investigate the validity of social class for one country or restrict themselves to one class scheme or one outcome. To overcome these restrictions, we compare the explanatory power of six different class schemes – two based on employment relations, two based on tasks and two disaggregated class schemes – for objective positional outcomes and measurements of political attitudes and decisions. Drawing on a wide range of international survey programmes (ESS, EVS, ISSP), we study the schemes' construct validity in currently up to 20 countries. To judge each scheme's explanatory power, we investigate overall goodness-of-fit (GoF) statistics and the kappa and lambda index (known from the class voting literature). While GoF statistics are informative regarding each class scheme's overall explanatory power, the two indices help to understand how well classes discriminate substantially between social groups concerning the outcomes. Over and above the construct



validation of the different class schemes, we aim at assisting stratification analysts in selecting the best class measurement for their subject.

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## 640 Educational Attainment among Immigrants in Germany – Does Home Language matter, and if so, in what Tracks?

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### **Abstract**

It is indisputable that proficiency in the destination language and educational attainment are essential for the integration of immigrants and their offspring. However, immigrant children in Germany, just like in most Western countries, evidently possess relatively low educational attainment when compared to the native-born children. Since communication in the language of country of origin is common in immigrant homes especially among early generations, there exist two main contradictory positions that such choice of language, instead of using only the destination language, is either beneficial or detrimental for the immigrants' structural integration including educational attainment of their children. This study, therefore, investigates whether home language matters in educational attainment among immigrants in Germany, and whether the effect is the same regardless of the school track. Using the cohort 4 (Grade 9) data in the German National Educational Panel Study (NEPS) with multivariate logistic regression models, the findings suggest that use of origin language at home has a positive effect on Abitur (university track) attainment but a negative effect on VET (vocational education and training track) completion among immigrants in Germany. There is an indication that the level of proficiency in the destination language required for VET completion is generally higher than that which is required for Abitur attainment. Some important policy implications are made.

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## 645 Explaining SES gaps in field of study choice

Carina Toussaint

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### **Abstract**

Research still shows that given the same performance in school students with a low socioeconomic status (SES) are less likely to enrol at a university and choose different fields of study compared to high SES students. As these vertical and horizontal differences in the educational decision process have important implications for social inequality in later life, a profound body of sociological research investigates social inequalities in these decisions. However, thus far research on horizontal differences in higher education does not provide a comprehensive test of theoretical mechanisms and investigates social inequality in rather broad



subject categories. To close this research gap, we derive mechanisms from Boudon's work on inequality in educational opportunities and jointly test their explanatory power. Moreover, we advance current research in employing a fine graded dependent variable (i.e., 23 different fields of study) and conditional logit models. These models allow person characteristics to vary across choice options and account for the unequal distribution in field of study choices by social strata. Therefore, CL models facilitate a flexible test of mechanisms. Using data from the National Educational Panel Study, our preliminary results show that the most relevant mechanism to explain the SES gap in horizontal decisions is a poorer final school grade of students of low SES. The lower tendency of low SES students to choose majors of high prestige explains nearly 10% of the gap. Differences in the ratings of the importance of wages and probability of success explain only a very small part.

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## 647 Why non-regular workers are less likely to get married? A test of economic independence, job qualities, and opportunities to meet in Japan

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### **Abstract**

The rise in precarious and non-regular work among high-income societies had a significant impact on change in family formation behavior. Especially in East Asia, the rise in non-regular work has been closely linked to fertility decline through delayed marriage. While previous studies have revealed that non-regular workers are less likely to get married, little is known about what aspects of non-regular work contribute to the association. Using a nationally representative yearly panel survey data in Japan collected between 2007 and 2019, we test the three explanations on why non-regular workers are less likely to get married: Economic independence, job qualities, and opportunity to meet. Employing logit models of the transition to marriage, we found that economic independence explains around 42 percent of the negative association between non-regular work and the transition to marriage and it only applied to men. For women, economic independence did not have a significant role in explaining the association. Although job qualities and opportunities to meet were significantly associated with the transition to marriage, they did not explain the negative association between non-regular work and the transition to marriage. Controlling for these mediating mechanisms, there remained a negative association between non-regular work and transition to marriage both for men and women.

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## 651 The role of training for the effects of technological change – Firm-level evidence for Germany

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## Abstract

Skill-biased technological change (SBTC) increases the demand for higher skills and fosters wage inequality. The importance of workers' training participation in the context of SBTC is oftentimes stressed as a potential measure to adapt workers' skills and mitigate inequality. However, neither the training activities of firms nor their consequences for inequality are well understood in the context of SBTC. Therefore, this article investigates, first, how firms' investments in digital technologies (IT) affect workers' training participation, and, second, whether training affects the effect of IT on wage inequality. I use linked employer employee data containing detailed information about firms' investments and workers' training participation to estimate event-study models. I show that firms' investments have a large positive effect on the training participation of high skilled workers. In contrast, I find no effects for low and medium skilled workers. These results suggest that high-skill bias in both technological change and concomitant training reinforces wage inequality within firms. Additional investigations show that training of high-skilled workers mediates around 5 percent of the effect of IT-investments on wage inequality within firms contributing to the detrimental effects of technological change.

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## 654 Secondary school choice as the turning point: Testing the thesis of Effectively Maintained Inequality in Finland

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## Abstract

The first educational transition from compulsory to secondary education sets the direction for further educational path in Finland due to a dual system. Thus, it can be considered as a critical turning point in either reproducing the class divide or enabling social mobility. We use Finnish register data and random-effects linear probability models to test the thesis of Effectively Maintained Inequality (EMI). We focus on analyzing the effect of family background in children's secondary school choice and further explore, how individual differences in academic achievement mediates the effect. We use multiple measures for family background to capture the diverse forms of disadvantage. Academic achievement (GPA) is measured at the end of compulsory education.

Similar to previous studies, we found that parental disadvantage factors are negatively connected to children's educational decisions. Children from low socioeconomic status families are more likely to choose vocational education compared to their peers. Parental education was the strongest single background indicator, while low income was the weakest indicator for school choice. The cumulation of different disadvantages explained the children's educational decisions better than any single parental disadvantage indicator alone. However, GPA predicted school choice better than any of the background indicators and diminished the connection almost by half. Thus, academic achievement can be considered as an intervening factor in inheriting a

disadvantaged position and ensuring wider opportunities to continue in higher education. Further, non-socio-economic factors play equally important role in school choice. Our results do not give strong support for the EMI thesis.

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## 661 Parental practices in secondary education: supporting, coaching, guiding - how parents influence the educational path and the educational success of their children

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### **Abstract**

International research shows that parental practices can explain a significant part of social inequality in the education system. Regarding the sociology of educational inequality in Germany, quantitative and qualitative researchers have paid little attention to the conscious and unconscious forms of parental support and counseling in everyday life. Little is known about how parental practices differ along the social background, what they look like in detail, and what impact they have on the educational path. Mixed methods studies with a focus on parental practices do not exist at all.

Building on this research gap, the research interest of this project is to explore how parents, who are endowed with different social, economic, and cultural capital, influence the educational path and educational success of their children through everyday practices.

A pre-study with seven families from students in secondary education provided valuable insights and revealed starting points. It becomes clear that the experiences in the education system linked to the social background are decisive for varied, targeted, and strategic parental practices. Especially insider knowledge about the education system creates exclusive and far-reaching educational advantages as part of the cultural capital.

Taking these results into account, a mixed methods study was designed. To answer the questions about the different forms of practices and the role of parental knowledge about the education system quantitatively, data of the starting cohort of fifth-graders from the German National Educational Panel Study (NEPS) will be analyzed in the first phase. First results will be presentable at the conference.

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## 687 Elites will be elites: Social background and elite higher education institutions in France

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### **Abstract**

In the context of educational expansion, the difference between elite and non-elite institutions is becoming increasingly important for the labor market returns of graduates. So far elite institutions have been approached mainly in terms of access and much less attention was given to the labor market outcomes. Due to the selection effects in attending elite institutions, estimating the effect of elite institutions on labor market outcomes is challenging. Focusing on the unique admission system to elite higher education institutions in France, the aim of this paper is twofold. First, to estimate the effect of attending elite institutions on monetary returns while I hold constant students' motivation to enroll in elite institutions. Therefore, by doing this, I address one of the major confounders of later labor market success. Second, I assess the heterogeneous effect of elite institutions on income condition on social origins. Thus, I assess whether attending elite institutions lead to an income boost for students from advantaged backgrounds, compared to students from disadvantaged backgrounds, three years after graduation. However, graduation from elite institutions might also level the playing field and the effect of social origins might cease to prevail after graduation. Using both covariate adjustment and propensity score matching on *Génération 2010* dataset, findings indicate that attending elite institutions, compared to non-elite institutions, provide a substantive boost in income. Moreover, while there is a substantive effect of social origins on attendance to elite institutions, after graduation from elite institutions, social origins cease to have an effect on income.

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## 694 Educational expansion in a post-socialist state. Occupational status returns to education at labor market entry and early occupational mobility in Poland after 1989

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### **Abstract**

The paper analyzes changes in the labor market returns to a higher education diploma over the course of rapid and little institutionally regulated higher education expansion in post-socialist Poland after 1989. On the one hand, an increasing rate of tertiary graduates is a factor facilitating economic development and hence must be considered beneficial, especially in the transformational context. On the other hand, a rapidly rising supply of higher educated may result in labor market imbalances if the labor demand structure is lagging behind. In such a case, returns from a higher education diploma may decrease and higher education may no longer guarantee a stable employment career. In accordance with this scenario, the paper provides evidence for

declining benefits from higher education in Poland following educational expansion there. Specifically, it finds that the occupational status of tertiary graduates in their first job decreases with the increasing rate of higher education participation. Furthermore, the analysis of early career patterns of higher education graduates by means of growth curve methodology shows that initial career disadvantages in the higher education expansion cohort are not compensated by subsequent career growth. As a result of higher education expansion the labor market for tertiary graduates in Poland undergoes a structural change – from a primary labor market offering good career prospects for everybody to a dual labor market of high opportunity for the initially advantaged and little change for occupational upward mobility for those starting from lower positions.

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