



## **3rd ISSP User Conference and International Journal of Sociology: Celebrating 40 Years of the International Social Survey Programme**

Online, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2024 12:30-16:30 (CET)

In honor of the 40th anniversary of the International Social Survey Programme (ISSP), the ISSP Secretariat and the editor of the International Journal of Sociology (Prof. Markus Hadler), invite submissions for a special collection of papers using ISSP data.

### **Program:**

**12:30 – 12:40: Short welcome and introduction to the ISSP**

*Stephanie Steinmetz (University of Lausanne)*

**12:40 – 13:40: Session 1: Family and changing gender roles**

*Chair: tbd*

1. Work and Family Conflict: Indicators, Changes, and Welfare Policy Regimes  
*Shih-Yi Chao (Institute of Sociology, Academia Sinica, Taiwan)*
2. Toward a Universal Caregiver Society: Examining the Effectiveness of De/Familialization Complementary Measures  
*Eun-Jung Hwang (Gyeonggi Research Institute, Republic of Korea)*
3. Heterogeneity in Family Norms for Elderly Caregiving and Cost- Bearing: A Global Evidence  
*Harchand Ram (Institute of Development Studies, Jaipur, India)*
4. How many children in a family? Fertility ideals and gender equality norms in 26 societies.  
*Jonas Edlund & Ida Öun (Umeå University, Sweden)*

**Break 15 min**

**13:55 – 14:55: Session 2: Social networks, social capital and inequality**

*Chair: tbd*

5. Social Capital and Gender Wage Gaps: A Cross-National Comparative Analysis  
*Yifei Lu (Research Institute of Social Development, Southwestern University of Finance and Economics, China)*

6. Integration and Differentiation: The Structural Forces Shaping Individual Social Capital Across 31 Countries  
*Xiaoguang Li, Xiaoxian Guo & Runqi Zhou (Department of Sociology, Xi'an Jiaotong University, China)*
7. How Income Inequality Shapes Individual Health: A Weak-Tie Social Capital Perspective in the Cross National Context  
*Chin-Han Chan (University at Albany, State University of New York)*
8. Social networks and attitudes towards inequality: Unraveling the influence of acquaintances' socioeconomic diversity and status across contemporary societies  
*Gonzalo Franetovic (Department of Social and Political Sciences, University of Milan, Italy)*

**Break 15 min**

**15:10 – 16:10 Session 3: Health, environment and social contexts**

*Chair: tbd*

9. Comparison of paid leave preferences in Hungary, Poland, and Slovakia between 2012 and 2022  
*Třísková Hana (Department of Demography and Geodemography, Charles University, Czech Republic) & Szalma Ivett (HUN-REN – Centre for Social Sciences – Institute for Sociology, Hungary)*
10. When do mothers matter most? How is intergenerational reproduction of father's and mother occupational status affected by institutional and normative context?  
*Harry B.G. Ganzeboom (Department of Sociology, VU University Amsterdam), & Irma Mooi-Reci (University of Melbourne)*
11. Trust in Healthcare and its predictors before and after COVID-19 pandemic: Time-comparative research using ISSP data  
*Alena Auchynnikava, Dr. Nazim Habibov (School of Work, University of Windsor, Canada) & Yunhong Lyu (Department of Mathematics and Statistics University of Windsor, Canada).*
12. 30 Years of Environmental Attitudes and Behaviours. A Longitudinal Study on Environmental Change and National Affluence in European Societies using ISSP Data (1993-2020)  
*Matthias Penker (Center for Social Research, University of Graz, Austria) & Rebecca Wardana (Department of Sociology, University of Graz, Austria)*

**16:10 – 16:30: Best Paper Award Ceremony & Closure of the conference**

We would like to thank our sponsors (Slovakia; South Korea and Switzerland) for their generous contribution to the best paper award.



# **Work and Family Conflict: Indicators, Changes, and Welfare Policy Regimes**

Shih-Yi Chao

Institute of Sociology, Academia Sinica

## **ABSTRACT**

Existing literature has inconsistent findings regarding the relationship between work-family conflict and welfare regimes. It also rarely includes countries beyond western welfare regimes and explores changes in work-family conflict over time. To address the puzzle and gaps, this study uses 2002, 2005, 2012, and 2015 the International Social Survey Programme (ISSP) to investigate the differences and changes in three indicators of work-family conflict, including time squeeze, energy depletion, and blurred boundary, and their performance in western welfare regimes, as well as in welfare developing areas including southern European, central/east European, Latin American, and Asian countries. The results from multilevel logistic regression reveal that the patterns of time squeeze and energy depletion differ from that of blurred boundary. Western welfare regimes tend to have a lower level of time squeeze and energy depletion, but exhibit a higher level of blurred boundary, compared to developing welfare countries. Additionally, social democratic welfare regime experiences a greater decline in work-family conflict over a decade, as does Latin America, which initially has the highest baseline of work-family conflict. This study demonstrates the dimensions of work and family conflicts, their patterns and changes across different welfare regimes, offering implications for family policies.

Keywords: work and family; work and family conflicts; welfare regime; social policy

# **Toward a Universal Caregiver Society: Examining the Effectiveness of De/Familialization**

## **Complementary Measures**

Eun-Jung Hwang

(Gyeonggi Research Institute, Republic of Korea)

### **Abstract**

This study investigates the effectiveness of complementary measures designed to support a transition towards a UC society by addressing the shortcomings of existing de/familialization policies. Utilizing data from the International Social Survey Programme (ISSP), this research provides a comparative analysis across 23 OECD countries, examining how these measures affect gender and class disparities in caregiving and labor force participation. The study utilizes hierarchical generalized linear models (HGLMs) to examine data from 5,337 individuals aged 18–45 with children under school age. The analysis includes key variables such as childcare affordability, wage equality, parental leave policies, and labor market conditions. These factors are combined into a composite index to assess their collective impact on supporting the transition to a more universally supportive (UC) society. This comprehensive approach allows the study to explore how different policies work together to address family and work-related challenges in various welfare state regimes. The study conducts a comprehensive analysis of de/familialization measures and their role in promoting a more universally supportive (UC) society. Utilizing cross-national data, this research examines how various welfare policies impact gender and class inequalities. The findings emphasize the need to integrate complementary measures—such as affordable childcare, wage equality, and flexible work arrangements—into existing de/familialization policies to address unintended consequences and foster a gender balance in both caregiving and paid work roles.

**Keywords:** Universal caregiver society, de/familialization complementary measures, ISSP, intersectional inequality, genderization, stratification, comparative analysis.

# Heterogeneity in Family Norms for Elderly Caregiving and Cost- Bearing: A Global Evidence

Harchand Ram

Institute of Development Studies, Jaipur, India

## Abstract

With rapid aging, elderly caregiving, and related cost-bearing are the significant implications that the countries are encountering today. The role of the family in elderly caregiving and its cost-bearing is also transforming swiftly, where traditionally, the family is considered a fundamental institution for elderly support. Thus, it is imperative to understand the changing family norms and their heterogeneity across the countries. In order to assess the heterogeneities in elderly caregiving and cost-bearing norms across the globe. This study aims to assess the heterogeneity in family norms towards elderly caregiving and cost-bearing by socio-demographic characteristics and place of resident country of the individuals. The findings of our study clearly highlight the prevailing heterogeneity in elderly caregiving and cost-bearing norms across the 41 countries. Globally, 54% of individuals' report providing domestic help to the elderly, while 31% depend on Government agencies and 14% on others. Similarly, for cost-bearing, 41% of individuals depend on family or themselves, while the government supports 51%. The results from unadjusted bivariate analyses, multinomial regression, and MCA-based adjusted percentages highlight significant differences in family support for elderly caregiving across the countries and socio-demographic characteristics. The findings exhibit that countries such as Bulgaria, France, Netherlands, and Belgium have lesser reliance (<50%) on family members for elderly caregiving and cost-bearing compared to countries such as Poland, Philippines, Argentina, China, Switzerland, Venezuela, and South Africa (>80%). Compared to females, more males perceive that family is an important source of care-giving and financial help for the elderly. Financial instability seems to play an important role in one's perception of adult children as a source of help for the elderly, as 91% of the individuals who never had any paid work perceive them to have great help. Also, the share was higher among individuals whose spouses were not working. Education seems to have a profound influence over one's perception as the higher the education, the lower the dependability on adults for elderly caregiving. Nearly 57% of the individuals residing in the country village perceive adult children as a source of caregiving.

## **How many children in a family? Fertility ideals and gender equality norms in 26 societies.**

Jonas Edlund and Ida Öun

Umeå University

### **Abstract**

The first objective of this paper is to examine the relationship between gender equality and fertility ideals in different national contexts. As a measurement of gender equality, we focus on the prevalence of norms embracing the second half of the gender revolution – i.e., men’s integration in household work and care responsibilities. While previous research has mostly focused on actual fertility behavior and personal fertility intentions – which excludes individuals that are not in child-bearing ages, we turn the attention to fertility ideals. This is not a measure of the respondent’s own intentions, preferences or experiences concerning childbearing, but aims to capture the overall fertility norm in a society, regardless of the individuals’ own conditions. This strategy entails a possibility to include the whole adult population in the analysis and thus an opportunity to compare potential differences between social groups. As previous research focusing on the first half of the gender revolution – the massive influx of women into paid employment – noted that actual or intended fertility was comparatively lower among women, the highly educated, younger generations, and the non-religious, our second objective is to analyze the extent to which national norms about gender equality have the capacity to modify these relationships.

# **Social Capital and Gender Wage Gaps: A Cross-National Comparative Analysis**

Yifei Lu

Research Institute of Social Development,

Southwestern University of Finance and Economics, Chengdu, China

## **Abstract**

While a substantial body of research has examined factors such as occupational segregation, differences in work experience, educational attainment, and discriminatory practices, a significant portion of the gender wage gap remains unexplained by these variables alone (Blinder, 1973; Blau & Kahn, 2017). Emerging evidence suggests that social capital, particularly the composition and structure of social networks, plays a critical yet underexplored role in perpetuating gender-based income disparities (Collischon & Eberl, 2021). This research study focuses on addressing a gap in existing research regarding how social capital impacts gender wage gaps across different countries. Using Lin's (2001) theoretical concepts of "capital deficit" and "return deficit," the study examines two main questions: whether women have less social capital compared to men, and whether women receive lower economic returns from social capital at equivalent levels. This approach aims to explore the consistency of these dynamics across various national contexts.

The analysis is conducted in two parts. First, pooled ordinary least squares (OLS) regression assesses how social capital affects income, controlling for variables such as demographics, education, and occupation. This provides an overarching understanding of social capital's role in determining income across the sample. Second, the study applies the Kitagawa–Oaxaca–Blinder (KOB) decomposition method to break down the gender income gap into two components: capital and return deficit. This decomposition is performed separately for each of the 30 countries, enabling cross-national comparisons. Furthermore, the study investigates the relationship between these findings and each country's Gender Equality Index to examine how broader societal gender equality affects the magnitude of both capital and return deficits. The cross-national analysis is expected to show significant variations in how social capital influences gender income disparities, emphasizing the importance of contextual factors in shaping these dynamics. By correlating the results with the Gender Equality Index, the study seeks to provide insights into how national levels of gender equality impact social capital's role in the wage gap. These findings are intended to inform policy interventions aimed at reducing gender wage disparities.

# **Integration and Differentiation: The Structural Forces Shaping Individual Social Capital Across 31 Countries**

Xiaoguang Li, Xiaoxian Guo, & Runqi Zhou  
(Xi'an Jiaotong University, China)

**Abstract.** International comparison of social capital has long been a central focus in this field, yet systematic theoretical mechanisms remain underexplored. This article, from the theoretical perspective of integration and differentiation, investigates how institutional forces in the economic, cultural, and social dimensions shape the construction of individual social capital. Using data from 2017 International Social Survey Programme, this study measures individual social capital with the position generator and conducts a comparative analysis across 31 countries. The results reveal significant differences in individual social capital across countries, with notably higher levels in Nordic countries and relatively lower levels in East Asian countries. Similar findings are observed in the heterogeneity, reachability, extensiveness, and socio-economic status of social contacts within social networks. Additionally, the dynamics of integration and differentiation at the economic, social, and cultural dimensions within each country emerge as structural forces shaping the construction of individual social capital. This study primarily employs a multilevel random intercept model. Individual-level variables encompass social networks, social capital, and covariates, whereas country-level variables include identifiers and explanatory variables for economic, cultural, and social dimensions.



# **How Income Inequality Shapes Individual Health: A Weak-Tie Social Capital Perspective in the Cross-National Context**

Chin-Han Chan

University at Albany, State University of New York (SUNY)

## **Abstract**

How income inequality leads to health disparities has been one of the foremost issues in social determinants of health. Income, a key indicator of socioeconomic status (SES), is considered a fundamental cause for health divergence across social strata, as it represents constantly unequal access to resources for eschewing risks and minimizing the results of disease (Clouston and Link 2021; Elo 2009; Link and Phelan 1995; Phelan and Link 2005). However, studies linking income inequality to individual health have been mixed across countries (Holstein et al. 2009; Jutz 2015; Karlsson et al. 2010; Kim et al. 2008; Kim and Katelyn Kim 2021; Mansyur et al. 2008; Präg, Mills, and Wittek 2016; Rai et al. 2013; Rözer, Kraaykamp, and Huijts 2016; Semyonov, Lewin-Epstein, and Maskileyson 2013; Zagorski et al. 2014). Also, few scholars have examined whether income inequality is indirectly related to health status (Lynch et al. 2000:1202–3) when thriving on contextualizing potential mechanisms in the middle. This study draws on a less tested mechanism between income inequality and individual health in the cross-national context: weak-tie social capital. Weak-tie social capital is defined as the resources embedded in the ego network at the meso level across social groups, positions, and boundaries and approached by individuals. According to the social resource theory, the more upper-extensive weak ties across social hierarchy, the more social resources individuals can mobilize to foster their health. In contrast, the social cost theory suggests that the broader weak-tie network may instead consume personal well-being, because of more negative comparison and unsolicited contacts and a higher cost of network expansion and maintenance. Although weak-tie social capital is insightful for theoretical development in the health-income inequality relationship, in this research it will be applied to link income inequality at the macro level and individual health. This study examines whether weak-tie social capital is a mediator bridging the association of income inequality and individual health in the cross-national context. To evaluate the mediating role of weak-tie social capital between income inequality and individual health, this study employs cross-level mediation analysis to model the possible relationship. Preliminary results of cross-level mediation analysis show that the Gini coefficient is significantly and negatively associated with individual health and weak-tie social capital, respectively. However, when both of them are specified simultaneously, only weak-tie social capital remains significant. Income inequality is not directly related to personal health when social capital is considered. The within Sobel test shows that income inequality significantly affects individual health via weak-tie social capital. Similarly, the within Bayesian test systemically indicates a negative indirect correlation between income inequality and health status at the individual level. These indirect examinations are more in support of the psychological environment interpretation than the neo-material interpretation. Collectively, the empirical evidence across 27 countries is aligned more with the psychological environment interpretation and social resource theory.

# **Social networks and attitudes towards inequality: Unraveling the influence of acquaintances' socioeconomic diversity and status across contemporary societies**

Gonzalo Franetovic

Department of Social and Political Sciences, University of Milan

## **Abstract**

This research investigates the impact of the socioeconomic composition of social networks on attitudes towards inequality. Two key attitudes towards inequality are examined: perception of inequality and preference for redistribution. Using linear regression models with country-fixed effects and individual sociodemographic and socioeconomic controls, this article shows that the diversity of social networks increases people's perceptions of inequality across contemporary societies, but, on average, reduce their preference for redistribution. A powerful effect of having acquaintances from higher socioeconomic status was found on a sustained decrease of both studied attitudes towards inequality. Second, it provides large-scale evidence on the effect of network socioeconomic composition on people's perceptions and beliefs about inequality. This research highlights the importance of considering with whom people tend to relate and not just how diverse these circles are. However, by referring to whether acquaintances are similar to the individual or not, the differential effect that maintaining social relationships with high or low positions in the social structure is overlooked. The strong influence expressed by network status enhances the contributions that literature focused on intergroup contact and social influence can have within the field of subjective inequality.

# Comparison of paid leave preferences in Hungary, Poland, and Slovakia between 2012 and 2022

Třísková Hana<sup>1</sup>, Szalma Ivett<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Charles University – Faculty of Science – Department of Demography and Geodemography

<sup>2</sup> HUN-REN – Centre for Social Sciences – Institute for Sociology

## Abstract

Paid leave policies, including maternity, paternity, and parental leave, are crucial tools for supporting families, employees, and employers while also benefiting society as a whole. These measures provide financial stability and job security during the early stages of child-rearing, allowing parents to form strong emotional bonds with their children, improve relationships between partners, and offer health benefits to women post-childbirth. Our research focuses on three EU member states: Hungary, Poland, and Slovakia, which tend to exhibit more traditional family values compared to countries in Northern and Western Europe. Despite similar historical roots, these three countries significantly differ in their views on gender roles. For instance, Edlund and Öun (2016) found low support for the equal sharing of parental leave in Poland, while Weziak-Bialowolska (2015) revealed more egalitarian attitudes in Hungary and more traditional views in Slovakia. The aim of our study is to compare attitudes towards the desired length and gender distribution of paid leave in Hungary, Poland, and Slovakia between 2012 and 2022, based on the ISSP “Family and Changing Gender Roles” modules IV and V. We employed ordinary least squares (OLS) regression to predict the desired length of paid leave and multinomial logistic regression to analyse preferences for the distribution of paid leave between mothers and fathers. The descriptive data show that in all three countries, the proportion of those preferring longer paid leave decreased between 2012 and 2022, while the proportion preferring shorter paid leave increased. A similar significant change is observed regarding the Preferred Gender Division of Paid Leave. In all three countries, there is a clear trend indicating a decline in the desire for a traditional division of paid leave.

## **When do mothers matter most? How is intergenerational reproduction of father's and mother occupational status affected by institutional and normative context?**

Harry B.G. Ganzeboom, Department of Sociology, VU University Amsterdam.

Irma Mooi-Reci, University of Melbourne

### **Abstract**

We examine the role of mothers and fathers in intergenerational occupational status reproduction for women and men at labour market entry, across 45 countries in cohorts born between 1933 and 1988, as produced by the ISSP-2009 (Social Inequality IV). In particular, we address the causal effects of two contextual characteristics on gender role modelling in intergenerational occupational reproduction: the institutional context, which is measured as the proportion of employed mothers in each country and cohort, and the normative context which is the gender role attitudes in each country and cohort. These contextual variables are constructed for cohort in the ISSP Family and Gender Role modules (1988, 1994, 2002, 2012, 2022 (expected)). We find that around the globe, both mother's and father's occupations matter less for their offspring's occupational status in more recent cohorts. However, mother's occupation is more influential and serves as a role model for both men and women in contexts where working mothers are more common. By contrast, egalitarian gender role norms make daughters more likely to follow in the footsteps of their fathers, but a similar pattern does not hold between mothers and their sons.

# **Trust in Healthcare and its predictors before and after COVID-19 pandemic: Time-comparative research using ISSP data**

Alena Auchynnikava<sup>1</sup>, Nazim Habibov<sup>2</sup> & Yunhong Lyu<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> & <sup>2</sup>. School of Work, University of Windsor, Ontario, Canada

<sup>3</sup>. Department of Mathematics and Statistics University of Windsor, Ontario, Canada

## **Abstract**

The objective of this paper is to examine how trust in public healthcare and its predictors changed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. It addresses two research questions: (1) How has trust in public healthcare changed during the COVID-19 pandemic in comparison with the period before, and (2) How have the determinants of trust in public healthcare changed during the COVID-19 pandemic in comparison with the period before. Public healthcare is one of the most crucial areas of public provision in any society. However, previous studies on trust in public healthcare highlight that citizens significantly differ in their degree of trust in public healthcare, making it important to understand the patterns of trust in it. Weakening trust in public healthcare translates to lower public support for public healthcare. Societies with lower trust in public healthcare may move to a two-tier private/public healthcare system or, in the extreme case, completely abandon public provision of healthcare in favor of a private one. In the less extreme case, weakening trust in public healthcare also translates to lower funding for public healthcare, which leads to underfunding, shortages, longer waiting times, and lower quality of public provision of healthcare goods and services. That is why understanding the factors that increase or reduce trust in public healthcare has become an important focus of studies in contemporary health research literature. Against this background, the unique contribution of this study is that it is time-comparative and allows us to compare the COVID-19 period with the period before. The focus on changes caused by COVID-19 is important since the pandemic overburdened healthcare systems, disrupted curative and preventive services, delayed providing essential services, including acute care, and posed challenges to the medical supply chain and human resource management. Focusing on the pandemic period allows us to add to the existing body of literature on trust in public healthcare in two main ways. First, our study will directly reveal how trust in public healthcare changed during the pandemic. Second, our study will test how the determinants of transition changed during COVID-19 by comparing the determinants of trust in public healthcare in the period of COVID-19 and before it. The findings of this study will examine the effects of these determinants trust in public healthcare across the 2011 and 2021 samples to find out how they changed during the COVID-19 pandemic in comparison with the period before.

# **30 Years of Environmental Attitudes and Behaviours. A Longitudinal Study on Environmental Change and National Affluence in European Societies using ISSP Data (1993-2020)**

Matthias Penker<sup>1</sup>, Rebecca Wardana<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Center for Social Research, University of Graz

<sup>2</sup> Department of Sociology, University of Graz

## **Abstract**

Previous research on developments and trends in environmental attitudes and behaviours (Franzen und Vogl 2013; Fairbrother 2013; Hadler und Haller 2013; Peisker 2023) have utilized data from various international databases (e.g., ISSP, EVS/WVS, Eurobarometer). These studies indicate different temporal dynamics for various attitudinal and behavioural dimensions, that necessitate further longitudinal investigations across multiple dimensions of attitudes and behaviours. In this research study, we aim to explore how environmental attitudes and behaviours have evolved in European countries over the past 30 years and the role that economic affluence has played in this development. Using 30 years of data from the Environment module of the International Social Survey Programme (ISSP), we provide a new longitudinal perspective on various dimensions of pro environmental attitudes and behaviours by focusing on the willingness to pay for environmental protection, climate change risk perception and public and private sphere behaviour. We discuss the longitudinal trends of the four attitudinal and behavioural measures by presenting averages across countries and over time. Second, random-effects within and between (REWB) models are used to disentangle cross-sectional relationships between countries from longitudinal trends within countries. Between and within relationships are disentangled by including GDP per capita. In summary, the analyses show that environmental attitudes and behaviours have developed dynamically over the past 30 years. While willingness to pay (WTP), climate change risk perception, and public-sphere behaviour (PSB) experienced an overall downward trend since the first survey wave (1993), data since 2010 show an upward turn in all dimensions. Trends in WTP and public sphere behaviour are more heterogeneous, but a positive trend is evident when comparing the last two waves. Recycling behaviour has exhibited a continuous upward trend across all four survey waves across all European countries, increasing monotonously over time, with the highest average values observed in the last wave. This indicates that awareness and knowledge about climate change require time to develop. Simultaneously, active climate policies and increased media attention through social movements and media can significantly contribute to raising public awareness. Despite the aftermath of the economic crisis, all observed dimensions in many European countries have shown an upward trend, supported by active climate policies, climate protests, and media attention.