



NCCR LIVES DOCTORIALES, 8TH EDITION

February 5-6, 2019

Genève (Room MR170)

For the eighth time in eight years, the PhD students of the NCCR LIVES will present their ongoing research during the “LIVES Doctoriales”. We want to express our gratitude to the colleagues and friends who have accepted to act as experts. Your contribution will make a difference!

The Doctoriales certainly imply a lot of work and stress for most PhD students, but we know that it is a very profitable exercise. We hope you will get the most out of it

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY, 5TH

8h30 - 9h00: Arrival, coffee (in front of Room MR170)

9h00 - 9h15. Welcome – Opening Session – Prof. Eric Widmer (Room MR170)

9h20 – 12h00. Session 1. Room MR170. Social norms: Misleading norms?

Chairman: Pascal Maeder

9h20 – 10h00. Leila Eisner. Perceived societal norms and support for social change in the sexual minority context.

10h00 – 10h40. François Geiser. Trends in Swiss long-term care reforms and possible consequences in homecare sector: the issue of autonomy preservation.

10h40 – 11h20. Francesco Laruffa. Freedom beyond neoliberalism. What (if anything) does the capability approach offer?

11h20 – 12h00. Rojin Sadeghi. Childlessness in Indian and Iran.

Experts: Michel Oris, Rick Settersten

12h00 – 14h00. Lunch (Cafeteria Marx Café)

14h00 – 14h40. Session 2. Room MR170. Education and life course

Chairman: Stéphane Guérard

14h00 – 14h40. Patrick McDonald. Employer preferences for vocational over general education: evidence from an employer survey experiment.

Experts: Thomas Meyer, Pellizzari Michaele

14h50 – 16h10. Session 3. Room MR170. Health: Studying trajectories for better understanding

Chairwoman: Nicola Ballhausen

14h50 – 15h30. Sabrina Roduit. Do personal networks matter in the ability to access to care among uninsured people?

15h30 – 16h10. Caroline Debnar. Trajectories of psychological adaptation after the onset of a chronic health condition

Experts: Andreas Ihle, Matthias Kliegel

16h10 – 16h30 Coffee break (in front of Room MR170)

16h30 – 17h50. Session 4. Room MR170. Migration in a life course perspective

Chairwoman: Sabine Kradolfer

16h30 – 17h10. Minja Leko. Scar without a wound? War trauma transmission in Bosnia families living in Switzerland.

17h10 – 17h50. Siboney Minko. Studying religion in the life elderly of Spanish origin in Geneva: Analysis chapter religious socialization in the Francoist regime.

Experts: Oana Ciabanu, Mihaela Nedelcu

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY, 6TH

8h30 - 9h00: Arrival, coffee (in front of Room MR170)

9h00 – 11h00. Session 5. Room MR170. The institutional shaping of life trajectories

Chairwoman: Emilie Rosenstein

9h00 – 9h40. Yann Bochsler. Social policy and vulnerability – Young adults in social assistance without vocational training.

9h40 – 10h20. Lukas Fellmann. From conflict to support? Changes in personal networks of parents during a social pedagogical family intervention.

10h20 – 11h00. Frédérique Leresche. Non take-up of rights and services of social state as a form of critique: An ethnography of political every day practices.

Experts: Elizabeth Thomson, Fenneke Reysoo

11h00 – 12h20. Session 6. Room MR170. Is divorce a turning point ?

Chairwoman: XXXX

11h00 – 11h40. Sandrine Morel. Family and work trajectories of married and unmarried parents in Switzerland before union dissolution. A sequence history analysis approach.

11h40 – 12h20. Charikleia Lampraki. Predictors of self-continuity after divorce in later life.

Experts: Martin Kohli, Laura Bernardi

12h30 – 14h00. Lunch (Cafeteria Marx Café)

14h00 – 15h10. Session 7. Room MR170. Social capital and vulnerability

Chairman: Eric Widmer

14h00 – 14h40. Julia Sauter. The impact of changing social capital on cognitive decline in old age.

14h40 – 15h10. Annahita Ehsan. Social capital and health: A systematic review of systematic reviews.

Experts: Anik de Ribaupierre, Olivier Desrichard.

15h10 – 16h30. Session 8. Room MR170. Social identities and life transitions

Chairwoman: Oana Ciabanu

15h10 – 15h50. Adar Hoffman. Social identification and schoolwork engagement as a social cure pathway in the post-school transition.

15h50 – 16h30. Dan Orsholits. Transitions to vulnerable employment and unemployment in the great recession: The case of the UK and Switzerland.

Experts: Daniel Oesch, Marlis Buchmann

16h30 – 17h00 Coffee break (in front of Room MR170)

17h00 – 18h30 Closing Session (Room MR170).

Chairwoman: Prof.

**Conference given by Prof. Rick Settersten, member of the
LIVES Advisory Committee**

Title

19H00 DINNER ALTOGETHER AT XXXXX

ABSTRACT

Session 1

Léila Eisner. Perceived Societal Norms and Support for Social Change in the Sexual Minority Context

While today's society is becoming more diverse as a result of raising visibility of sexual minorities (i.e., lesbians, gays, and bisexuals), inequality between social groups is still a major challenge. Members of disadvantaged groups are still struggling with legal discrimination. In Switzerland, for example, sexual minorities are not legally allowed to marry, make use of assisted procreation, or adopt children (with the exception of step-child adoption). Hence, it is essential to understand under which conditions lesbian, gay, and bisexual individuals, as well as cis-heterosexuals, engage in collective action to increase the rights of sexual minorities. Previous research has shown that group-based anger (e.g., feeling angry about the legal situation), perceived efficacy of a social movement, and identification (e.g., politicized identification) impact collective action tendencies (see Social Identity Model of Collective Action; Van Zomeren, Postmes, & Spears, 2008). Yet, people are not only potential members of social movements, they are also embedded in larger societal groups (i.e., Swiss population), which have been shown to impact their attitudes and behaviors. Hence, perceptions of whether people in the society (e.g., most people in Switzerland) are supportive or not of sexual minorities might highly impact willingness to strive for legal changes. This might be particularly the case in a direct-democracy context such as Switzerland. Yet, we know currently very little on the impact of larger societal contexts on collective action tendencies. Moreover, there are to our knowledge no studies that have investigated the impact of perceived societal norm on collective action tendencies. In the present research, we suggest that perceived societal norms about sexual minorities (i.e., what most people approve or disapprove of in a society) might impact collective action tendencies among allies (i.e., people who support sexual minorities) and among sexual minorities themselves. Particularly people's perception that most people in a society are in favor of different sexual minority rights might increase perceived efficacy of a social movement, as well as anger about legal injustices. However, perception of positive climate might also evoke the perception that social change towards greater equality might happen without the active contribution of a social movement. This might discourage individuals to engage in potential costly collective action. Hence, it remains unclear whether positive perceived societal norms positively or negatively impact collective action tendencies. We address these questions in two studies in the context of Switzerland. The first study was conducted among allies (i.e., students at the University of Zurich; N = 384). The second study is planned for the end of 2018 and will consist of a sample of sexual minorities in Switzerland. At the LIVES Doctoriales, I aim to present the theoretical grounds of this research, as well as results of the first study.

François Geiser. Trends in Swiss long-term care reforms and possible consequences in homecare sector: the issue of autonomy preservation.

The wave of health care reforms in Europe during the 1990's can be characterised by a move towards costs limitation. The expansion of coverage and care access turned into measures aiming at balancing the budgets and limiting the spending. In Switzerland, this trend appears to be a little different. The 1994 health care reform includes both costs limitation measures with health care coverage expansion. Indeed, the basic health care coverage becomes compulsory and expands, among other things, to homecare and nursing home care benefits. However, concerns soon emerged as the volume - so the costs - of services provided in these sectors were increasing. The issue of long-term care financing began to undermine the principle of pooling the risk of illness and its consequences in old age. Thus, a partial withdrawal of long-term care coverage in the basic insurance started which did end up in the first decade of the 2000's with a limited participation of health care insurance to the benefits provided by home care organisations and nursing homes. In this presentation, we propose to trace this move assuming it has been made possible or at least facilitated by a particular frame of reference distinguishing old age from disability and dependence on care. A frame of reference that makes elders' autonomy preservation a central stake in the orientation of long-term care policies, henceforth likely to condition care entitlement and provision in the homecare sector (on which is focused the thesis project).

Francesco Laruffa. Freedom beyond neoliberalism. What (if anything) does the capability approach offer?

This paper contributes to the academic debate on the normative theories for orienting public action after neoliberalism. It is argued that overcoming neoliberalism requires rethinking the meaning of freedom, which neoliberalism constructs in negative terms (absence of obstacles) and in individual and economic terms. This understanding of freedom marginalizes the relational, social and political dimensions of freedom. Amartya Sen's capability approach is an attractive normative framework for theorizing freedom after neoliberalism since it emphasizes the positive dimension of freedom, i.e. the real – as opposed to merely formal – freedom that people have to lead a valuable life. Yet, in its hegemonic understanding, the notion of capability is often equated with individuals' capacity to actively participate in the (labour) market. In this dominant perspective, the capability approach appears to be in continuity with neoliberalism in interpreting freedom in individual and economic terms. While it is better to enjoy the real freedom to participate in the economy instead of being only formally free to do so, in order to provide an alternative framework to neoliberalism we need a different interpretation of the capability approach. Drawing from the feminist and republican streams in political theory, this paper delineates a post-neoliberal interpretation of the capability approach, which emphasizes the importance of political freedom (i.e. democracy), the non-economic uses of individual freedom and the value of relational wellbeing.

Rojin Sadeghi. Childlessness in Indian and Iran.

In my thesis, I will study fertility and reproduction behaviour, especially in India and Iran. More precisely, I will focus on women moving away from the reproductive norms of their society: those who have no children. Childlessness is an important topic from a demographic, public health, social and cultural point of view. It has long been associated to poverty, low reproductive health conditions and social opprobrium targeting childless women, much more than men. However, dynamic demographic transitions in the South, including in large countries like India and Iran, have resulted in low fertility, associated with complex social changes occurring in cultural settings that remain highly distinct from the Western world. A first step is to describe the profile of these women and study what distinguishes them from their peers, whether in terms of different socio-economic and cultural characteristics, but also according to the use of contraceptives. In a second step, this study will look at the links between autonomy and decision-making power of these women regarding reproductive and/or fertile history. Their life course will also be reviewed to highlight differential temporalities between this group of women and their counterparts in terms of contraception and fertility/reproduction. The notion of choice will be one of the main focuses of this study. In fact, it will be necessary to determine if the profile of these women suggests that they have a power of decision allowing them to negotiate the will not to have (or to have) children. If the situation is considered as being the result of a decision, it would also be interesting to analyse it from the angle of the men, to see what place they take in the negotiation; do women have to convince them or do they take the initiative? Considering men will of course depend on time and data. Finally, the question underlying all the others will be whether the so-called second demographic transition exists in some non-Western countries and if it takes a different form than in Northern countries. The main hypothesis to be tested is that of a change in the value system, especially the gender norms, associated with fertility/reproduction. This evolution will be particularly expected among elites, more educated and supposedly more influenced by Western lifestyles, that we imagine more easily in this type of transition. This will pave the way for the question of the individualisation of these societies. Is this phenomenon observed? If so, what form does this rejection of habits and traditions take? Is it a rupture or rather a compromise? A comparison between classes and countries will also be interesting. With regard to the methodology, this study will be based mainly on data from Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS). For now, I am analysing Indian data (2015-2016). To isolate the population of women affected by this transition, I am working on those who have zero or one child aged 30 and over. At this age, I consider them as having completed their fertile/reproductive life for reasons that I will explain in the paper. Moreover, I am currently in contact with Iranian demographers and we are building a future collaboration. They will provide quantitative data for Iran. I hope to complete my statistical analysis with qualitative data. Provisional results support one of our hypotheses since they show that the subpopulation of childless women recently became more heterogeneous. It seems that, even if marriage remains almost universal, becoming a mother is less and less an obligation. This reflects evolving conceptions of what a woman life course has to be in those countries.

Session 2

Soledad Fernandez. How does streaming by ability affect student education outcomes? Evidence from a natural experiment in Geneva, Switzerland

This paper evaluates the effects of streaming students by ability in Geneva lower middle school on educational outcomes. Thanks to a natural experiment, two different streaming systems co-exist in this Canton: while the first system sorts pupils in all subjects from the first year (i.e., at age 12), the second sorts them from the second year onwards (i.e., at age 13) in mathematics and German courses only. Taking advantage of the temporal variation in the implementation of the system as well as in the analysis of the results, two different indicators are used when analyzing student's educational test scores: the existence of streaming and the age at first streaming. Overall, the estimates show that while the presence of tracking has a detrimental effect on performance test scores, early tracking affects them positively. These results suggest that grouping students by ability per se does not seem favorable for student achievement. However, in a system where streaming is only a matter of time, early implementation seems to be more appropriate. Regarding students' first choice of upper secondary school, being sorted earlier does not seem to affect the two extreme routes (i.e., general academic and transition programs). Effects of ability streaming seem to be larger for students with a lower socioeconomic background.

Patrick McDonald. Employer preferences for vocational over general education: evidence from an employer survey experiment.

The merits of vocational versus general education are widely discussed in both the academic literature and political debate. Vocational education is seen as a smooth path to stable employment, while general education is valued for its adaptability and flexibility in the face of a changing labour market. We explore employers' preferences for vocational versus general education, as well as the interaction of the type of education with gender on the one hand and age on the other. We carry out our analysis using a factorial survey amongst 714 recruiters in Switzerland by asking them in an online survey to rate fictional CVs on the probability they would invite the candidate to a job interview. By targeting employers directly using such vignettes with uncorrelated dimensions, we are able to avoid unobserved heterogeneity and issues of self-selection of higher-performing students into general education. We find a preference for vocational education over general education at the tertiary level, as well as for vocational education over compulsory education only. Contrary to our expectations, we find no difference in outcomes for education based on gender or age.

Session 3

Sabrina Roduit. Do personal networks matter in the ability to access to care among uninsured people?

A part of the research questions I explored, in my thesis on (non) take-up of health care among people without health insurance in Geneva, deals with the possible activation of individual support networks, whether family, friends, acquaintances or institutional (health and social professionals). I mobilize the notions of bonding, bridging and linking social capital, theorized by Szreter & Woolcock (2004). I argue that "linking" social capital is crucial in access to healthcare, more than "bonding" or "bridging" social capital. From their perspective, how do individuals see the involvement of their network in their ability to make decisions for their health and in their medical follow-up? In other words, does a person's network appear to be structuring in accessing care? Does network's typology make a real difference between the individual's ability to seek or obtain care? Starting from the lifecourse and healthcare trajectories of the 21 people without basic insurance coverage interviewed during my qualitative research, I will try to identify the support configurations (but also conflicts and ambivalences) that could have led to differences in the medical care. I will mobilize both the name generator tool used in network analysis (Van der Gaag & Snijders, 2005) and qualitative analyses from my research interviews. I will demonstrate that a majority of respondents are in relative social and family isolation here in Geneva. Personal health support networks are rather weak (break-up or distance from family, limited number of friends). Their resources in relation to health issues are often limited or non-existent, placing them in a vulnerable position. On the other hand, when the network is active, it seems to play a facilitating role in the use of care. Concerning the support of the institutional network, it is characterized by strong

ambivalence and variability. When the link is positive (strong support), it can lead to fill the lack of other forms of social capital, but conversely, can become preventing when it is negative (conflicts, discriminations).

Caroline Debnar. Trajectories of psychological adaptation after the onset of a chronic health condition

Due to a global aging population, the prevalence of Chronic Health Condition (CHC) is increasing. The onset of a CHC can have a severe impact on individuals' life and affect mental health, participation, or social integration. Nonetheless, people react differently in the face of adversity. Literature on distinct CHCs such as cancer, rheumatoid arthritis, or myocardial infarction shows that some individuals experience an increase in depressive mood after the event, whereas others can adapt well and present resilient trajectories. Similar psychological adaptation trajectories were identified in different diagnostic groups, but the factors found to predict these trajectories are more inconsistent. Studies investigating psychological adaptation trajectories across different CHCs - and not focusing on one single diagnostic - are more scarce. The present study aims to fill this gap by examining psychological adaptation following the onset of different CHCs. Its specific objectives are to identify the number and shape of longitudinal depressive mood trajectories and to test biopsychosocial factors predicting these trajectories. Thus, this study will enable the identification of common experience, vulnerability indices, and protective factors across different CHCs. The present study used data from the Swiss Household Panel collected between 2007 and 2015. The sample includes 361 individuals (204 women; 157 men) who reported the onset of a "chronic (long-standing) illness or condition (health problem)" caused by an accident, an illness, or old age between 2009 and 2011. Depressive mood ("negative feelings such as having the blues, being desperate, suffering from anxiety or depression") was measured six consecutive years: one year before the CHC onset, the onset year, and four years following the onset. Using latent growth mixture modelling, four heterogeneous trajectories of depressive mood have been identified. The resilience trajectory (64.4%) is characterized by stable low depressive mood prior to and following the onset. The vulnerable trajectory (17.8%) describes a pattern of persistently high depressive mood irrespective of CHC onset. The recovery trajectory (9.3%) displays an increase of depressive mood around the onset followed by a gradual decline. The delayed trajectory (8.5%) shows a pattern of low depressive mood at baseline followed by an increase of depressive mood starting one year after the onset. Multinomial logistic regression was then used to test biopsychosocial factors predicting the identified trajectories membership. Preliminary results show that the protective factors related to more probability to belong to the resilient trajectory are: less functioning impairment, more participation in religious services, less praying apart from religious community, less past negative life event, more emotional stability (marginally significant), more relationship satisfaction, higher education, and being male (marginally significant). Our results are comparable to previous findings focusing on one particular CHC. We indeed found similar number and shape of trajectories compared to, for instance, studies on cancer or myocardial infarction. Psychological adaptation following the onset of any kind of CHC seems thus to follow four common trajectories. Moreover, the present study identified vulnerability indices and protective factors that provide avenues for intervention to foster positive psychological adaptation after the onset of different CHCs.

Session 4

Minja Leko. Scar without a wound? War trauma transmission in Bosnia families living in Switzerland.

In this presentation of my ongoing doctoral thesis, I will present the preliminary results of my research on intergenerational war trauma transmission in Bosnian families living in Switzerland. My work explores how parents' direct exposure to war affects their offspring's mental health. During this presentation, I will offer deeper understanding of the mechanisms of transmission by looking at four embedded levels: parents' and children's wellbeing, parenting styles, family cohesion, and resilience. Furthermore, I will observe the establishment of certain family configurations regarding the mental health of both parents and their children. Moreover, by using the mixed method approach, I intend to reflect on how parents' direct war exposure is seen and understood by their children who were born and raised in Switzerland and have no direct experience of war that happened more than two decades ago in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Siboney Minko. Studying religion in the life elderly of Spanish origin in Geneva: Analysis chapter religious socialization in the Francoist regime.

This doctoral research, conducted within the framework of NCCR LIVES, started in February 2015 and is centered on the place and role of religion in the lives of elderly persons of Spanish origin in Geneva. It considers how their life course has shaped their religious beliefs, as well as their everyday experience linked to religion. Religious beliefs and practices are viewed as potential resources throughout life. This doctoral research consists of four analytical chapters: The Francoist Spain and the link between the Church and the State, The migration experience and settlement, Family and the comeback of religion, The old years. The aim of the present communication is to discuss the first analytical chapter of this study. It is focused on the religious socialization in Spain prior to the elderly's migration experience. This first chapter explores three main channels of religious socialization through the narratives of the elderly: education, family and church. It also draws up the context in which they had grown up and lived until migration, most of them having left Francoist Spain in the beginning of their twenties. A method combining elements of quantitative and qualitative research is used in order to understand the relation that the elderly have with religion. This research is based on semi-directive interviews (n=27) conducted with persons aged 70-84 who had migrated from Spain and are currently living in the canton of Geneva. They were recruited in three different ways. First, the elderly interviewed (22 out of 57) were part of the oversample "Migrants" of the database of the "Vivre-Leben-Vivere" (NCCR LIVES - IP13) poll on the life and health conditions of people over 65 in Switzerland (n=4200) conducted in 2010-2011. It was completed by snow-ball sampling as well as recommendations by the director of the Red Cross Geneva (n=5). In the meantime, their socioeconomic profile and religious tendencies evaluated by the DUREL scale used in the VLV poll are drawn to improve the understanding of their attitude toward religion.

Session 5

Yann Bochsler. Social policy and vulnerability – Young adults in social assistance without vocational training.

This dissertation deals with the policies directed at the group of young adults in social assistance without vocational training (YAS) and the perception of these policies by the young adults themselves. In Switzerland, there is currently an ongoing strategical shift in the policy field of social assistance regarding young adults without vocational training placing a renewed emphasis on educational integration as a first and primary integration step. Another notable development is the growing overall costs in the social assistance. This increases the external political pressure on the social assistance. Both, the above noted policy shift and the growing costs, have implications for the strategical scope of the cantonal administration. The renewed emphasis on "education first" as a guideline necessitates a long-term approach taking into account the vulnerable life trajectories of the YAS, whereas the second development, the growing costs, implies that the social assistance has to be as efficient as possible with limited resources and has little interest in a long-term assistance of the YAS. Therefore, YAS have become an important sociopolitical target for regulations, programmes and sometimes paradoxical expectations and constraints. The present doctoral thesis has two main objectives. The first one is to analyze the sociopolitical strategies designed for the YAS. Welfare policies and their implementation through administrative action are not value neutral. This research project thrives to reconstruct and understand what Hasenfeld (1992) calls the "moral judgements" and the behavioral expectations of the acknowledged administrative experts in this policy field. The assessment of the life trajectories of the YAS by the administrative experts conveys a statement of social worth. As the addressees of the policies absorb the moral meanings of this assessment as a reflection of their own self-identity, the perspective of the young adults themselves is also taken into account. The second objective is to reflect the findings on the basis of the vulnerability concept (Vorrink 2015, Spini et al. 2013, Becquet 2012, Soulet 2007). A comparative case study in two larger cities, Basel and Geneva, has been conducted – using a set of qualitative data collection (expert- and problem-centered interviews) and analysis instruments (grounded theory). At the LIVES Doctoriales 2019, the thesis project in general and the current ongoing process of data analysis will be presented.

Lukas Fellmann. From conflict to support? Changes in personal networks of parents during a social pedagogical family intervention.

Personal networks of parents are a complex web of interdependent relationships that go beyond the boundaries of the household. These networks vary significantly in their size, density or composition. Research has shown that personal network configurations of parents have a strong influence on the quality of parenting. Hereof, social support has been stressed as a very important factor. In fact, research suggests that the availability of social support leads to more frequent (and positive) parent-child activities, to more pleasure in the parenting role or to an increase of parental self-efficacy. Nevertheless, personal networks can also have negative effects on parenting practices. Personal relationships can be a source of frequent conflict, stress, control or ambivalence. As a matter of fact, the co-occurrence of positive and negative dimensions is a common feature of personal networks of parents. However, access to social support is not given to all parents to the same extent. Particularly, parents in disadvantaged situations have less access to social support than other parents. This lack of resources can raise the risk for vulnerability, especially when crises or challenging situations occur. Against this background, the consideration of personal networks of parents using child welfare services is very relevant to understand their embeddedness in social contexts. The existing evidence mentioned above makes clear that parenting is a socially embedded practice. Nonetheless, the current state of research shows that no study has addressed questions about personal networks of parents using child welfare services in Switzerland. I intend to address this research gap with my PhD project. I am focusing on parents using social pedagogical family work, which is the most frequently used home-based service in the Swiss child welfare system. The main goal of this service is to support parents to develop and practice new strategies for coping with challenging situations and to ensure the well-being of the child. In this paper, I will present the theoretical framework and the research design of my PhD project. The main research questions of my project are (1) how are personal networks of parents configured at the start of a social pedagogical family intervention and (2) how do they change during the intervention. I am using the Personal Network Method (Widmer 2010) to collect ego-centric network data of parents in the German speaking part of Switzerland. To measure change in the personal networks of parents, I will apply a panel design with three measurement points.

Fredérique Leresche. Non take-up of rights and services of social state as a form of critique: An ethnography of political everyday practices.

Non-take-up refers to persons/households that are not claiming the benefits to which they are entitled, for instance because they lack information about their rights, because of an inaccessible procedure, or because the stigma of being client of the social state. Existing researches examine non-take-up using two different approaches: (a) an econometric approach, based on statistics, which measures intensity and duration of non-take-up (Warin, 2010) and (b) a benefit and public services based approach, which assesses the effective access to all rights provided by legislation (Rode, 2009). The purpose of the studies on non-take-up is usually the evaluation of the efficacy of the welfare state. The mainstream research considers the non-take-up as a problem. Regardless of whether the research takes the perspective of public administration, clients or social workers, there is a marked tendency to being with an assumption that the welfare state is profitable to the potential claimants. In other words, the premise is: Who would not want a social benefit when it can be obtained? However, some researches (i.e. Duvoux, 2010; Van Oorschot, 1994; Warin, 2010) have shown that non-take-up can be a choice, or at least the result of a reflexion. That means that even when a potential claimant is aware of his entitlement, he or she can choose not to claim it. This kind of non-take-up raises the issue of social citizenship (Warin, 2010, p. 5), because it reveals a “loss of confidence in the public offer”, or a “withdrawal behaviour” (Warin, 2006, p. 107), or a resistance towards the state (Warin & Mazet, 2014). But even these studies do not really challenge the positivity of rights, which is an indication of the hegemonic character (Foucault, 1980; Sarker, 2015) of the welfare state’s representation. The starting point of my thesis is that non-take-up, when following a reasoning, is a form of critique (Boltanski, 2009) specifically directed to the assumed positivity of rights and to the symbolic and institutional state power in the sense that Bourdieu (2012) gives to this term. The non-take-up is an expression of agency, referring to Scott (1990) for whom agency is an act of resistance, and as such it cannot be reduced to the assumption of non- or misinformation, or to the assumption of wrong or ill-informed decisions. People have probably good reasons for not claiming benefits to which they are entitled. Those reasons and the way people act is depending of their position in

the social space. In order to consider non-demand as such, scholars have « to resist the temptation of considering people in precarious situation only as lowers individuals » (Mazet, 2010, p. 4). In my thesis, I will firstly show that the reasoned non-take-up is very difficult to be heard, because the reasoning behind it is a “subjugated knowledge” (Foucault, 1980, p. 82). And secondly, I will consider the political significance of non-take-up. But the difficulty is to hear their voice: the subaltern perspective gives tools for hearing it. As you probably know, one of the first goal of the subaltern perspective “was to rethink Indian colonial historiography from the perspective of the discontinuous chain of peasant insurgencies during the colonial occupation” (Spivak, 1988, p. 283). Some concepts of Gramsci and Foucault have been taken up to show that subalternity refers to a condition that “may encompass a [...] group who experience subordination/oppression in the lack of access or power to control labour, production, and capital” » (Sarker, 2015, pp. 92-93). I transpose this perspective in the Swiss context, departing from the point of view that the reasons people have for not claiming benefits are mostly not heard because disqualified (Spivak, 1988). In my perspective, non take-up, when following a reasoning, is a “subjugated knowledge” (Foucault, 1980, p. 82), “not disqualified or illegitimate by nature, but rendered or interpreted or represented as such by prevailing powers” (Sarker, 2015, p. 100). In order to hear these voices, I have made a multisituated ethnographic research in different spaces where I have met people who don’t received a part of their social rights (mainly three spaces which are a recreation centre that offers activities around the decrease movement, an association that helps people to make administrative and legal appeals for their social rights, a foundation that distributes baskets of food in different districts). My first results it that the people I met have a jerky relation with non take-up. Sometimes they use their rights, sometimes not, or just a part of them. Sometimes, this is the result of a calculation between gain and cost, but most the time it is related with their conception of what they find fair to do. The consciousness of rights is modelled on their values or, in other words, is a part of the moral economy (Fassin, 2009) which is “the production, distribution, circulation, and use of moral sentiments, emotions and values, and norms and obligations in social space » (Fassin, 2009, p. 1257). For example, in a three days immersion in human permaculture, I have met people situated in very different social spaces. Some of them where in a specific moment of a professional reorientation, and tried to find the links between their new life and the values they want to share or live with. A woman explained to me she wanted to “create another world”, made of “solidarities”. Her vision of the labour market differed totally with the one considering employment as a way to develop social links, and that was the main reason why she did not want to enter the unemployment benefit system. Some of the people I met in those different spaces had a constructed and critical speech. For other it took a long time until they realised I was interested by their point of view, their intimate, daily or ordinary experiences with social rights, in other terms on how their consciousness of rights shape their ordinary life. In this communication, I will present a part of my results and make them resound with my theoretical frame which concern mainly the conditions of knowledge production.

Session 6

Sandrine Morel. Family and work trajectories of married and unmarried parents in Switzerland before union dissolution. A sequence history analysis approach.

Divorce is regularly mentioned as an example of a non-normative event that challenges both the norms of life course development and the individuals’ social status and roles, as well as their personal and social identity. Until recently, divorce was considered as a socially deviant event; only a minority of marriages ended in divorce. Today, divorce affects more than 40% of married unions (on average), without being either fully accepted or expected/anticipated however. The increase of divorce rates in western countries is, indeed, part of a larger trend that, since the 1960s, has been affecting the family as an institution: while traditional unions are becoming more fragile, other forms of unions or families have been emerging. Unmarried cohabitation and birth outside of marriage has increased in European countries, although at different pace and with different meaning. Union dissolution is studied in different disciplines and consequently the literature on this topic is large and diversified. Until recently, this literature concentrated on divorce, i.e. legal union dissolution of married couples. Because cohabitation and childrearing outside of marriage are gaining popularity, a growing body of literature on union dissolution has begun to include also unmarried couples or parents. Research has identified economic, psycho(-socio-)logical, and demographic factors as predictors of union dissolution; but mostly with mixed results. On a demographic level, for instance, cohabiting couples are often seen as less committed to their relationships than married ones. Even if the literature seems to confirm the negative effect of this union status on the stability of the union, the relation between

the type of union and risk of union dissolution is more complex than it seems. Cohabitation can either be a temporary phase, i.e. a step to marriage or a probationary period, or it can be an alternative to marriage: Becoming a parent is no longer restricted to married couples. In addition, some countries, at least in regard to their family policies, can consider cohabitation as legally equivalent to marriage, while others would show a preference for the latter. Another limit of research on union dissolution is that predictors of transitions such as divorce often refer to "isolated", individual variables, for example female employment or union type, and fail to study the combination of these characteristics. In this presentation, I investigate family and work trajectories of parents living in Switzerland, before they separate from each other. The data stem from the Swiss Household panel, which surveys a representative sample of the Swiss resident population, from age 14, each year since 1999. First, applying sequence analysis, I describe the conjugal and occupational situations of parents before their union dissolution, with a focus on the potential differences between married and non-married couples. Based on an optimal matching analysis combined with cluster analysis, I will try to identify potential patterns of trajectories that lead to union dissolution. Second, applying sequence event analysis, I will attempt to test whether a trajectory variable explains union dissolution process better than classical individual variables.

Charikleia Lampraki. Predictors of self-continuity after divorce in later life.

Critical life events in later life, such as divorce, have been found to affect mental and physical well-being. Accumulation of resources (e.g., social, financial) in this context may help in overcoming the adverse consequences of divorce. A stable identity throughout the life-span can be considered as a psychological resource on which individuals can rely on in times of distress. Self-continuity reflects identity stability and is a psychological resource that inter-connects past and present experiences with future outlook creating a coherent whole. However, research is limited regarding the determinants of self-continuity and how a stable identity is maintained after critical life events. This study aims in investigating predictors of self-continuity for individuals having experienced a divorce in the second half of life (N = 394, Mage = 56.19), using a continuously married group as a reference (N = 453, Mage = 65.19). Data derived from the LIVES Intimate Partner Loss Study conducted in Switzerland from 2012 to 2016 in 3 waves. Multilevel hierarchical models were used. Results indicated that as divorced and married individuals grow older they experience more self-continuity. Childhood events were negatively, and valuation of life was positively associated with interindividual differences in self-continuity for both groups. More open divorcees and less neurotic married individuals experienced overall more continuity. Additionally, married individuals with low financial adequacy reported more continuity. Self-continuity in the married group increased faster as they aged. No gender differences were observed. In line with previous research, self-continuity increased with age even when critical life events occurred. Individuals having experienced a difficult childhood, which might have also shaped them as persons, were more at risk of having a less stable identity in later life. In contrast, a more positive attitude towards life enhanced self-continuity and contributed to identity stability. In sum, findings illustrated the need to strengthen positive attitudes regarding life and to address past wounds related to childhood events in order to enhance self-continuity and a more stable identity in later life.

Session 7

Julia Sauter. The impact of changing social capital on cognitive decline in old age.

This PhD thesis is undertaken with the aim to further explore the underlying factors that explain cognitive functioning in older adults. Overall, we are interested in how social relationships in family network configurations affect through different mechanisms cognitive abilities in old age. Therefore, this thesis combines elements from sociological and psychological research theories. Studies investigating the interindividual differences in cognitive functioning of older adults have found that several contextual variables, such as educational level, leisure activities, cognitive level of job, etc., have an impact on cognition in old age. Importantly, those contextual variables may also include the social context the individual is living in. While initial evidence has suggested that there is an existing link between cognition and social mechanisms (Aartsen, Smits, Van Tilburg, Knipscheer, & Deeg, 2002; Aartsen, Tilburg, Smits, & Knipscheer, 2004; Ellwardt, van Tilburg, Aartsen, Wittek, & Steverink, 2015; Fratiglioni, Paillard-Borg, & Winblad, 2004), this line of research crossing borders between cognitive psychology and family and life

course sociology is still in its infancy and there is still great need to further investigate those patterns between the social context and cognitive functioning in older adults.

More specifically, we will present in the eighth edition of the Doctoriales how family social capital changes over time. Using data from the two waves of the Vivre-Leben-Vivere (VLV) survey, an interdisciplinary study investigating the health and living conditions of older adults living in Switzerland, we differentiate between three patterns of network changes, namely family networks that get bigger, that get smaller and that stay the same over time. First, we describe the different characteristics in terms of age, gender, family composition, etc. of those three different network profiles. We then investigate if and to which extent those different patterns of change are related to divergent cognitive outcomes.

Annahita Ehsan. Social capital and health: A systematic review of systematic reviews.

Social capital is a concept that has been approached and redefined from different disciplines. Many have investigated the relationship between social capital and health through various lenses, and most agree that social capital is associated with good health¹. Existing systematic reviews have attempted to synthesize the scope of the evidence between various definitions of social capital and specific health outcomes. Some researchers have even tried to use social capital for health interventions, but evidence of such interventions remains inconclusive to date². This may be due to a lack of consistent information on how certain types of social capital may affect different health outcomes. A systematic review of these systematic reviews is needed to identify the extent of the the social capital and health literature today. The aim of this study is to give an overarching descriptive overview of the existing evidence concerning different types of social capital and health outcomes. More specifically, the objectives of this study are: (1) to systematically map and synthesize the scope of the evidence provided by existing systematic reviews concerning social capital and any health outcome; (2) to differentiate between different types of social capital, how they are mobilized and synthesized in health-related literature, and how each type can influence health outcomes; (3) to identify which health outcomes benefit most from social capital; (4) to identify which groups and populations benefit most from social capital in which contexts; and (5) to identify trends and current gaps in social capital and health research. At the moment, we are in the process of reviewing articles for the systematic review of reviews. For detailed information on the methodology, please refer to the protocol that is registered on PROSPERO: CRD42018095243.

Session 8

Adar Hoffman. Social identification and schoolwork engagement as a social cure pathway in the post-school transition.

Social identities have been shown to foster health and well-being through a wide variety of processes, referred to as social cure pathways (Jetten, Haslam, Cruwys, Greenaway, Haslam, & Steffens, 2017). We examine a new social cure pathway that is important in the transition to adulthood, and according to which social identification promotes well-being through a mediation of engagement in an educational project. We expect and show that social identification is positively related to well-being, operationalized as life satisfaction and self-esteem, as predicted by the social cure perspective (Haslam, Jetten, Postmes, & Haslam, 2009; Jetten, Haslam, & Haslam, 2012). In addition, aiming at further identifying the process through which social identification positively impacts well-being, we propose a mediation pathway that includes educational engagement. Based on research from motivational lifespan theory (Dietrich, Parker, & Salmela-Aro, 2012; Salmela-Aro, 2009) engagement in developmental tasks is adaptive, and thus engagement in education or other relevant personal goals are predictors of well-being in critical life transitions, and indicators of adaptive development. The main hypothesis is thus a mediation hypothesis; to the extent that group memberships and social identities are predictors of group-related goals, behaviors and motivations, stronger social identification as a student will be related to stronger educational engagement, which functions as a mediator to the positive impact of social identification on well-being. Using data from the LIVES Longitudinal Lausanne Youth Study (LIVES-LOLYS), this social cure pathway is investigated and discussed in the framework of multiple contexts of the post-school transition in Switzerland.

Dan Orsholits. Transitions to vulnerable employment and unemployment in the great recession: The case of the UK and Switzerland.

The 2008 Financial Crisis had a significant impact on labour markets in most of Europe and North America. There was a substantial increase in unemployment and decrease in employment that has only recently been overcome. However, there is comparatively less research on the impact of the crisis on the quality of jobs. More specifically, there is comparatively less information on whether the crisis led individuals to move to more vulnerable forms of employment, that is to less secure forms of employment. Defining vulnerable employment is not particularly simple. Vulnerable employment can be thought of as a form of employment where workers are not provided with all available labour protection and rights, and who are at risk of being exploited by their employers. Measuring this directly is not always feasible, but generally such conditions are often associated with non-standard forms of employment (e.g. part-time, limited duration contract). Here vulnerable employment is operationalized as a multidimensional latent construct measured by seven objective indicators describing an individuals' employment situation. Using latent transition analysis (LTA) and individual longitudinal panel data, the probability of individuals moving into vulnerable forms of employment following the Great Recession will be analysed for two countries: the UK and Switzerland. This lets us compare a country that was more or less unaffected by the crisis – Switzerland – to one that was much more directly affected – the UK. Moreover, within each country, different sociodemographic groups will be compared to see whether individuals are more likely to enter vulnerable unemployment in relation to their sex, level of education, or age.

