



International Research and Policy Symposium on Family Changes and Housing Transitions in the Life Course

St Andrews, UK, 18-19 May 2017

Thursday 18 May – Families and Housing

Keynote talk

The Transition to Ownership in Challenging Contexts: How are Young Adults Coping?

William A. V. Clark, University of California, Los Angeles

In the context of changing family structures, fertility decline, and rising housing costs I examine the transition to ownership of young adults, and specifically the ownership paths of the Millennial generation. There is an ongoing discussion in the cities in advanced economies of whether an ownership society is sustainable, and what levels of ownership we can expect in the coming decades. Most of this work has been at the national and aggregate level. In contrast, in this paper I examine the ownership behaviour of young adult cohorts in the United States. I disaggregate the cohort ownership trajectories over time, 2000-2015, and by region and race/ethnicity within the United States. The cohort transitions capture the strongly regional and ethnic outcomes of entry to ownership but all groups have much lower rates of ownership entry than earlier cohorts. There is likely to be a re-adjustment of the path to ownership in the long run and the outcomes may be quite different across space and by race. There are implications for federal and state housing policies and for local community plans.

Session 1: Separation and residential mobility in Europe

Residential mobility after the dissolution of a marital union in Italy

Francesca Fiori, University of St Andrews

Family formation in Italy has long been characterised by a traditional model based on life-lasting (religious) marriages. However, in the most recent decades, new family behaviours, typically associated with the SDT, have become increasingly more common. In particular, divorce rates have increased steadily and rapidly, with important implications for the lives of individuals and families involved. When a couple splits up, decisions regarding future housing arrangements constitute one of the first objects of negotiation. However, and in spite of its relevance, the study of residential mobility, housing and living arrangements following union dissolution has never been investigated with respect to Italy—mostly because of the lack of suitable data recording residential, as well as partnership, histories. This study aims at filling this research gap by exploiting the informative potential of the EU Survey on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC), for the years 2004 to 2014. EU-SILC takes the form of a rolling panel, where individuals (and their households) are interviewed for four consecutive years, and the sample is regularly refreshed with new members. For individuals experiencing union dissolution between the first waves of observation, this study investigates residential mobility in the following waves. In particular, it aims at providing an overview of who moves out of the household, as well as of the type of housing (tenure and dwelling type) and living arrangements following the move, in relation to the main demographic and socio-economic characteristics of both partners.

Housing consequences of divorce and separation in a “super home-ownership” system: the case of Hungary

Lívía Murinkó, Hungarian Demographic Research Institute

How can people adjust their housing situation and place of residence to their changing family circumstances after partnership dissolution in a housing system characterised by very high level of home-ownership, large regional differences in real estate prices, almost no public housing and high private rental prices? We use longitudinal data from four waves of the Hungarian Generations and Gender Survey to answer this question. We compare the propensity of residential and housing change among respondents who recently divorced/separated to single and partnered individuals. Tenure, size of accommodation and distance of move are taken into consideration. We study if housing pathways are gendered and whether they differ by parenthood status and level of education. We separately consider the propensity to move back to the parental household as a common strategy. The analysis is the first attempt to study the interrelationship between partnership and housing dynamics in Hungary.

Homeownership after separation and divorce in Finland

Marika Jalovaara¹ & Hill Kulu²

¹ *University of Turku*, ² *University of St Andrews*

This study investigates the relationship between separation and home-ownership. Although there is a growing body of literature on the topic in industrialised countries, little research has been conducted in Nordic countries. Our analyses are based on Finnish register data and event-history methods. We first examine how home-ownership rates vary by union status (cohabiting, married, previously partnered, never-partnered). We then study how the home-ownership levels of the previously partnered men and women change over time since separation. We study the influences of, and interactions with, other factors such as previous home-ownership, socio-economic status, the presence of children, and rural vs. urban residence. Preliminary analyses show that home ownership is strongly and positively associated with being married, being partnered, having children, older age, being employed, having high education, living in a small town or rural municipality. We expect to observe many individuals moving from home-ownership to renting after separation and frequent returning to home-ownership some time after separation. We will highlight and discuss the findings of a general nature and those related to the specific context of the Nordic welfare state.

Who stays in the house and who moves out after divorce in France? Gender and socio-economic inequalities

Carole Bonnet, Giulia Ferrari, Anne Solaz, INED

Divorce often entails residential mobility for at least one of partner or both, just the year following divorce or hereafter. If women move out the common home slight more frequently than men right after the divorce, within two years two thirds of divorced people of both genders do not live in the same accommodation anymore. This article analyses the socio-economic determinants of residential moves after divorce, and gender inequalities in France. Using a subsample of census recently matched with administrative data over the period 2010-2014, we analyse the probability to move within the three years following the couple dissolution and the distance of the move, depending on socio-economic characteristics and the presence of children. We also look at the housing conditions (rooms, surface) before and after separation.

Session 2: Partnership dynamics, housing, and residential mobility

Family dissolution, linked lives and constrained spatial mobility

Michael J. Thomas, University of Groningen

Separation and the rise of single-person and lone-parent households are often highlighted as one of the clearest articulations of instability, individualisation and weakening of the family. However, we use the compelling case of moves related to separation among families in Britain to demonstrate how links between related individuals can simultaneously trigger, shape and constrain (im)mobility. Controlling for a range of individual, family and area characteristics, we find that linked post-separation (im)mobility outcomes can intersect in important ways with social, institutional and geographical structures and often contradict individually-stated pre-separation desires for (im)mobility. While various multilevel characteristics are found to influence the strength of the pattern, we find fathers to be consistently more likely to leave the former joint home than mothers. However, beyond this initial outcome, we also observe how, through shared children, separated parents tend to maintain geographical proximity in the years following partnership dissolution. With that said, when relocations linked to new partnership formation and occupational reasons occur, mothers appear less likely to break with familial proximity than fathers. Structural factors, including housing-market geographies and population density, further shape opportunities for post-separation familial proximity.

Partnership status, housing and migration

Clara H. Mulder, University of Groningen

Partnership status and partnership transitions have important repercussions for both housing and migration. Analyses of survey data for Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom revealed that, even though the levels of home-ownership differ strongly between the three countries, home-ownership is much more common for those in co-residential partnerships than for single persons in all three countries. However, whereas marriage was an additional factor in Germany, this was much less the case in the Netherlands and the UK. Whether individuals living as a single person had a non-co-residential partner (or: were ‘living apart together’) did not seem to matter for their likelihood of being a homeowner. In another analysis we investigated the likelihood of inter-state moves in the United States among newly separated people, using the Panel Study of Income Dynamics. We found that separated parents were much less likely to move between US states than separated persons without children, but this result was only found for ex-partners with whom the children lived after the separation. The results also showed that separated women were *more* likely to migrate than separated men if they contributed a small share of the ex-couple’s income, but *less* likely to migrate if they contributed a large share of the income. These results are in line with the idea that part of women’s moves following separation could be corrective moves to undo a ‘tied move’ – a move with the less-earning wife following the husband – when the couple was intact.

Short- and long-term effects of separation on residential mobility and housing in England and Wales

Júlia Mikolai & Hill Kulu, University of St Andrews

We study the effect of separation on individuals' residential and housing trajectories. Using data from the British Household Panel Survey and Understanding Society, we apply multi-level competing-risks event history models to analyze the risk of a move of single, married, cohabiting, and separated men and women to different dwelling types and different tenure types. We distinguish between moves due to separation and moves of separated people and account for unobserved co-determinants of moving and separation risks. Our analysis shows that many individuals move due to separation, as expected, but the likelihood of moving is also relatively high among separated individuals. Separated women are most likely to move to terraced houses, whereas separated men are equally likely to move to flats and terraced houses. Moreover, separated individuals are most likely to move to private renting; however, women are also likely to move to social renting whereas men are likely to move to homeownership. These patterns persist when we account for time since separation and order of moves indicating a potential long-term effect of separation on housing tenure and housing type.

Cross-national comparisons of short- and long-term effects of separation on residential mobility and housing

Hill Kulu¹, Júlia Mikolai¹, Michael J. Thomas², Sergi Vidal³, Christine Schnor, Didier Willaert⁵, Fieke H. L. Visser², Clara H. Mulder²

¹ *University of St Andrews*, ² *University of Groningen*, ³ *University of Queensland*,
⁴ *University of Leuven*, ⁵ *Vrije Universiteit Brussel*

This study investigates the magnitude and persistence of post-separation residential instability (increased mobility) in five countries (Australia, Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands, and the UK) with similar levels of economic development, but different welfare provisions and housing markets. While there are quite a few studies examining residential changes related to separation in selected individual countries, only very few have compared patterns across countries. Using longitudinal data and applying Poisson regression models, we study the risk of a move of separated men and women in comparison with cohabiting and married individuals. We use time since separation to distinguish between moves due to separation and moves of separated individuals. Our analysis shows that separated men and women are significantly more likely to move than cohabiting and married individuals. The risk of a residential change is the highest shortly after separation and it decreases with duration since separation, as expected. However, the magnitude of this decline varies by housing context. In the most constrained and least flexible housing contexts (i.e. Belgium) mobility rates remain high even a year after separation, whereas in the least constrained and most flexible housing contexts (i.e. the Netherlands) post-separation residential instability appears brief, with mobility rates declining rapidly.

The transition to co-residence, housing characteristics and union dissolution

Sandra Krapf & Michael Wagner, University of Cologne

Most relationships start with a non-residential phase during which partners live in two separate households. We have investigated under which circumstances these so-called “living apart together” partners will start to live together. We found that housing related aspects are relevant components that are associated with the probability of moving in together. For instance, persons who still live in the parental household are less likely to start to live together with their partner. Moreover, couples in long-distance relationships are less likely to share a household than those living in close proximity particularly among couples with two employed partners. Another question that we are interested in is related to union dissolution after couples live in a joint household. We argue that a low housing standard leads to increased stress levels. Thus, couples with housing problems are more likely to separate than couples with a higher housing standard. Our analyses showed that housing affordability, measured by the couple’s remaining monthly income per person after housing costs were deducted, was negatively related to union dissolution for couples with low household income. For couples with higher household income, we did not find this association. This result underlines the relevance of housing affordability for union dissolution apart from the overall income situation. Another aspect of housing problems is household crowding, i.e. households with more than one person per room on average. Contrary to our expectations, our results indicate that crowding is not important for union dissolution.

Session 3: Intergenerational dimensions of housing trajectories

Family Background and young adults’ housing destinations in Britain, Germany, and Australia

Sait Bayrakdar¹, Philipp Lersch², Sergi. Vidal³, Rory Coulter¹

¹ *University of Cambridge*, ² *University of Cologne*, ³ *University of Queensland*

Transition from parental home to the housing system is considered to be an important step in young adults’ independent living. While parents with higher socio-economic status and more wealth are expected to support their children entering the housing market, the ways in which parental background influence young peoples’ housing transitions out of the family home is likely to vary markedly across societies. This study asks how does parental background influence the timing and housing outcomes of transitions out of the parental home in Britain, Germany and Australia? We compare and contrast these countries as there are important differences but also many similarities in their structural conditions, welfare systems, institutional arrangements and cultural contexts. Data are drawn from the BHPS, UKHLS, SOEP, and HILDA (2001-2014). The sample consists of young adults aged 18-34 living with one or two parents. We employ competing risks discrete-time event history logistic regression models for the outcomes of homeownership, social tenancy and private tenancy. The

preliminary results indicate that parental resources are linked to higher likelihood of homeownership and in certain cases renting privately. Parental education and parental income status help young adults to make a transition to homeownership. There are also some important intergenerational continuities in tenure. Although there are many cross-national similarities in the pattern of effects, the results also point to some important differences in how young people enter the housing market in our three study countries.

Parents, local house prices and leaving home in Britain

Sait Bayrakdar & Rory Coulter, University of Cambridge

Leaving the parental home is a significant step in young adults' housing careers and pathways to independence. Although a large literature examines how life course trajectories influence leaving home, much less is known about how the "linked lives" of parents and the local cost of housing shape young people's departures from the family residence. By enriching the United Kingdom Household Longitudinal Study with house price data, this study investigates how parental attributes and the geography of local housing costs influence home leaving in contemporary Britain. The results show that higher local house prices are associated with delayed departure from the parental home, although the relative magnitude of this effect is modest. By contrast, the effects of parental factors are more nuanced. Parental characteristics have little impact on the odds of leaving home to form partnerships, while the likelihood of departing to live alone or in shared accommodation is reduced by parental homeownership or living with both biological parents. Taken together, these findings suggest that young adults' residential pathways are shaped by the complex patterns of choice and constraint that are generated by disparities in family circumstances and local opportunity structures.

Make up or break up? Union histories of young adults in England and Wales

Alina Pelikh, University of Liverpool

First union formation is considered to be one of the most significant markers of the transition to adulthood, together with leaving the parental home, completing education and entry into the labour market. However, due to the increased prevalence of cohabitation and living-apart-together relationships, the traditional pattern of direct marriage followed by childbirth has been replaced by less standardised partnership trajectories. This means that among new generations of young adults, the transition to first union may not be the most appropriate marker of the transition to adulthood. Therefore, this paper focuses on studying union histories of young adults by cohort and gender, adjusting for socioeconomic characteristics and changes in other life domains. We combine data from the British Household Panel Survey and the UKHLS Understanding Society study and apply multistate event history analysis to individuals from three birth cohorts (1974-1979, 1980-1984 and 1985-1990) observed between 1991 and 2015 in England and Wales. We find that young adults from all cohorts are most likely to experience cohabitation as a first union. Direct marriage rates decline by cohort. The levels of union

formation are the lowest among the youngest cohort, whilst separation and repartnering levels are the highest. The majority of cohabitating unions among the cohorts 1980-84 and 1985-90 are more likely to separate than to marry. 70% of young people in the sample repartner after separation. We find that females form 1st unions earlier than males; however, there are no gender differences in cohabitation outcomes or rates of 2nd union formation.

Housing debt of young adults in Israel: an intergenerational comparison

Or Raviv & Noah Lewin-Epstein, Tel-Aviv University

The study investigates the rising housing debt among young adult households in Israel, in the context of a shift from social welfare to a neoliberal regime. We focus on housing debt since housing is a major source of household wealth for most families. Housing loans are the primary channel for gaining homeownership, especially among young adults (age 25-35). Using the theoretical concept of 'Generational location' (Mannheim, 1952), we explore intergenerational and intra-generational class shifts with respect to homeownership and housing debt, by comparing young adults of the present generation with young adults in the 1980s (their parents' generation). Considering generational changes in demographic trends such as longer education trajectories, rising age at marriage, and late family expansion, we investigate the 'older' young adults' group as well (age 30-40). Our findings reveal a decline in housing debt among the present generation compared to the parental generation, irrespective of social class. At the same time, the relative repayment of housing debt to income is higher among the former, for each social class. Gaps in housing debt have narrowed between the low and the middle class, while the gaps between the middle and the high class had widened. At present, the middle class has higher relative repayment than the low class, and similarity was found in the relative repayment between the middle and the higher class. Hence, reflecting the socio-economic hardships imposed by the neo-liberal policy on the present 'generational location', and the ways in which it altered class related patterns of debt.

The Moderating Effect of Higher Education on Intergenerational Spatial Inequality

Elise de Vuijst¹, Maarten van Ham^{1,2}, Reinout Kleinhans¹

¹ *Delft University of Technology*, ² *University of St Andrews*

It is well-known that socioeconomic outcomes and (dis)advantage over the life course can be transmitted from parent to child. It is increasingly suggested that these intergenerational effects also have a spatial dimension, although empirical research into this topic remains scarce. Previous research from Sweden and the United States shows that children who grow up in disadvantaged neighbourhoods experience long-term exposure to such neighbourhoods in their adult lives. This study contributes to the literature by examining to what extent educational attainment can break the link between parental neighbourhood disadvantage and the neighbourhood experiences of children as adults up to 12 years after leaving the parental home.

We use longitudinal register data from the Netherlands to study a complete cohort of parental home leavers, covering 119,167 individuals who were followed from 1999 to 2012. Using sequence analyses as a visualisation method, and multilevel logit models, we demonstrate that children who lived in deprived neighbourhoods with their parents are more likely to live in similar neighbourhoods later in life than children who grew up in more affluent neighbourhoods. We find that intergenerational neighbourhood patterns of disadvantage can be discontinued when individuals attain higher education over time. Discontinuation is however less prevalent among individuals from ethnic minority groups.

Session 4: Partnerships, housing, and fertility in Europe

Income, welfare, housing and the transition to higher order births in the UK

Juliet Stone & Ann Berrington, ESRC Centre for Population Change and University of Southampton

The UK shows relatively high levels of progression to higher order birth compared to the rest of Europe. It is often assumed that the means-tested benefits system, including family allowances and subsidised housing, has an indirect pronatalist effect for low-income families, but robust empirical evidence is lacking. We use household panel data from a large, nationally representative study to examine the relationship between household income, receipt of welfare benefits, housing, and the probability of experiencing a second, third or fourth birth. Predictors of second birth were somewhat different to third and fourth births and were dominated by demographic factors including age and partnership status, as well as economic activity status. We interpret this in terms of the strong ‘two-child norm’ in the UK. Associations with income varied by parity and women’s age. High levels of child tax credit receipt were associated with an increased risk of third birth. Social housing showed a strong, positive association with third and fourth birth. Whilst demographic factors – particularly women’s age – remain the strongest predictor of parity progression for all parity transitions, we provide new evidence to suggest that welfare receipt and housing circumstances contribute to explaining social polarisation in family size in the UK. Our findings also have significant policy relevance in view of ongoing changes to the UK welfare system that will influence both means-tested family allowances and provision of social housing.

Mobility and fertility during life course. A comparison of cohorts in three European countries

Norbert F. Schneider, Federal Institute for Population Research (BIB)

Few studies have analysed the interrelationships between spatial mobility and fertility using longitudinal data in a way that the effects of selection, adaptation and the timing of these processes can be properly assessed. Especially possible impacts of diverse forms of recurring and residential mobility on fertility decisions during life course have been largely overlooked as a factor for explaining the decline of fertility rates in most European countries. These

possible impacts of mobility on fertility are in particular relevant in times of increasing mobility demands for the labour force. In this paper I will empirically investigate the hypothesis that the rise of work-related spatial mobility has a negative effect on fertility. Using longitudinal data from the project “Job Mobilities and Family Lives in Europe” detailed retrospective partnership, fertility and migration histories, as well as rich information about job careers and characteristics of both partners of the couple are obtained from the German, French, and Spanish population samples. I apply cohort analyses for proofing the assumption that work-related mobility has increased in the respective countries up to the age of 33 years and I will present regression models in which type, duration, and timing of mobility up to the first birth respectively up to the age of 33 years are tested for their effects on fertility. Results show significant differences between cohorts and between the sexes.

Moving patterns among separated individuals. Evidence from Belgium

Christine Schnor^{1,2}, Lindsay Theunis² and Julia Mikolaj³

¹ Vrije Universiteit Brussel, ² Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, ³ University of St Andrews

This study investigates the magnitude and persistence of residential instability of separated individuals. The dynamics of family change and spatial mobility are often found to be interrelated. Partnership dissolution can mark the beginning of a period of increased residential instability. These moves are usually urgent and rely on a restricted budget. Research shows that separated individuals move more often over shorter distances and to urban areas than those in intact couple relationships. Prior studies have focused on selected aspects of moving, such as the likelihood to move or moving distance. In this study, we bring these measures together to evaluate moving patterns of individuals in the period before and after separation. We assume that moving behaviour after a separation reflects changes in preferences, opportunities, and needs in housing. Belgium is an interesting context to study as its housing market is constrained and inflexible in comparison to other European countries. Relying on Belgian population census and register, we study residential inter-municipality mobility in the period 2001-2006 among separated women (N=12,890) aged 18-49. We distinguish i) between short (<10km), average (10-30km) and longer distance (>30km) moves, and ii) moves between urban, suburban, and rural areas. Using sequence analysis and multinomial logistic regressions, we evaluate the moving patterns of women 6 months before separation to 3 years after separation. This window allows us to account for separation-induced as well as for post-separation residential changes. We ran the analyses separately by area of residence at the observation start. Just before separation, 50% of the women lived in urban areas, 30% in suburban areas and 20% in rural areas. Three years after separation, 36% of the women lived in urban areas, whereas 32% lived in suburban or rural areas. Independently of their area of residence, 50% of women stayed in their municipality. If they moved, women from urban or rural areas were most likely to remain in their areas, even if they had to move more than 30 km. Women from suburban areas were somewhat less likely to stay in their area. These preliminary results show that area

is a more important factor than distance for separation-related moves. Next steps include the consideration of women's and their ex-partners' background characteristics.

Homeownership and union instability in Germany: The role of social class

Emanuela Struffolino^{1,2} & Hannah Zigel^{2,1}

¹WZB Berlin Social Science Centre, ²Humboldt University of Berlin

This paper investigates whether couples with higher economic endowments in homeownership have more stable unions than renting couples. Specifically we consider whether this relationship varies by partnership type and across social classes. Previous research has shown that both partnership stability and homeownership are unevenly distributed across social classes. In a life course framework, we test the competing joint investment and financial pressure hypotheses of homeownership on partnership instability. We use data on couples, applying event history analysis on German Socio-economic Panel data (1984-2014). The data allow us to include perspectives on housing quality and type of acquisition, and to compare different cohorts. We expect, on the one hand, that stability of cohabitation is less affected by homeownership than marriage stability, because partners maintain more legal and financial autonomy. On the other hand, we expect that the stabilizing effect of homeownership is more pronounced among low-income couples, because they are more dependent on each other's resources.

Poster Session

Interdependence of employment patterns, partnership/family constellations and housing forms

Marie-Kristin Doebler, Friedrich Alexander Universitat Erlangen-Nurnberg

My contribution to the workshop analyses the interdependence of employment patterns, partnership/family constellations and housing forms. It compares former times, when link between relationship status or quality and the form of housing were clear, and today, when this link became ambiguous and multi-locality probable. The foundation for the contribution are qualitative interviews conducted by me with couples of varying age (27 to 63) and nationality (Dutch, German, British and American), who practice living-apart-together, have long-distance relationships or multi-local families. Abstracting from narratives of people affected, I map the status quo of intimate relationships which (at least temporarily) cross (household) borders. Second, challenges are elaborated which new (partly labour market induced housing) requirements and arrangements pose to individuals and societies. Third, areas of (policy) action are tried to be sketched in respect to the mutual influence of labour, partnership/family and housing with a focus on the short- and long-term effects of partnership changes on housing conditions of individuals and families. The focus for this lies on social support for people

affected, needs for new ways of recognising relationships and for re-thinking infrastructure of various kind.

The different spaces of representation of the home

Luany Promenzio, University of Coimbra

The house is a place of appropriations and subjective representations. The relation of individuals and societies with the home says a lot about the social processes. The overall objective of the research is to select and analyse different socio-economic profiles and life trajectories, involving different contexts, to compare proceedings related to the uses and meanings of the home. It is necessary to understand how the home influences the lifestyle and how it interferes with the individual's relationship with the home. It is necessary to combine many disciplines, including social and socioeconomic variables, to focus on the different components that explain the origins and contents of all this process. We propose a study that involves an understanding of social reality combining two methodologies: Comprehensive Methodology (Max Weber) to extract the meaning of actions and social relations as subjective elements permeated with standards and emotions; and experimental Methodology (supported by the utilization of sociological portraits of Bernard Lahire). The focus is on the individual, subject and protagonist of action and his narrative of life. The speech enables to conceive the language as mediation between the individual and the natural and social reality and furthermore, makes it possible to understand how symbolic objects that contain significance by itself can produce different meanings for the subjects between different speeches.

Living Apart Together (LAT) and Housing Conditions

Nicole Hameister, German Centre of Gerontology

In the context of changing partnerships, the phenomenon of couples who 'live apart together' (LAT), i.e. who are in a romantic and committed relationship with two separate homes, receives increasing scientific attention. Conditions and preferences to be in a LAT versus non-LAT relationship vary considerably with a number of macro factors, one of which is affordability and availability of housing. My study uses quantitative data from eight European countries to identify a LAT typology mainly based on relationship characteristics. In a second step, individual predictors for each LAT subtype are analysed and country effects are accounted for. Housing conditions are included in two different ways: on the individual level, co-residence with respondents' parents is one of the main predictors for LAT subtypes; and on a societal level, country dummies as a proxy variable for housing markets in terms of availability of suitable residence uncover that macro conditions play a significant role in the prevalence of LAT. Using Latent Class Analysis, the data reveal five distinct LAT subtypes which vary markedly with their intention to cohabit with their partner in the near future, which in turn partly depends on housing conditions (among other factors), either directly or indirectly. The

majority of LAT would rather cohabit with their partner but for various reasons is not free to choose so. Creating sufficient housing opportunities might reduce the prevalence of couples who involuntarily live in separate homes.

Domestic Violence and Women's Residential Relocations in England

Janet C. Bowstead, Royal Holloway, University of London

Some intimate partnerships do not quietly dissolve, but are broken apart by violence and abuse. This research uses administrative data to explore the residential relocations of women (often accompanied by children) escaping domestic violence and accessing services in England. Women's domestic violence journeys have been under-researched, not least because of the ongoing risk of abuse that many women face if their new location became known to the abuser. However, analysis of de-identified monitoring data generated by an England-wide funding programme of housing-related support services which ran 2003-2010 has provided evidence of some stages out of often complex segmented journeys. There were over 100,000 relocation journeys by women to access services in England over six years (not including women who used services but did not relocate), and the presentation will cover demographic characteristics of the women and children who moved, as well as characteristics of the places of leaving and arrival. The presentation will also highlight some of the policy and practice implications of these forced relocations. The immediate partnership trajectories are ones of escaping a violent partner, whilst the residential trajectories include changes of housing tenure, periods in temporary accommodation, and potential further stages of relocation and re-partnership which are beyond the scope of the administrative data. However, the research provides an important insight into the patterns and processes of forced relocation journeys that often remain unexplored in surveys of more settled populations and longitudinal studies which rely on maintaining contact with participants.

Family formation in Scotland: the role of social attitudes and their gendered dimensions on fertility intentions

Annemarie Ernten, University of St Andrews

This paper argues that studies of fertility intentions need to place intentions within a longitudinal framework, which recognises the importance of gender differences and attitudes regarding family formation. It examines the role of various determinants of fertility intentions, including social attitudes (relating to children, employment and housing) and housing characteristics. Previous studies have noted how factors impacting fertility decisions (for example, education and labour force status) have different effects for men and women. However, there has been little research into the impact of social attitudes, and their gendered dimensions, on fertility intentions. The present study addresses this research gap. The analyses use data from the British Household Panel Survey to address the following research question: Do socio-economic differences and shared social attitudes regarding family formation impact

the fertility intentions of men and women in similar ways? The analytical sample comprises childless respondents of reproductive ages. First, latent class analysis is used to generate groups with shared social attitudes. Next, these attitudinal groups, along with other potential determinants, are entered in a multinomial logistic regression model predicting fertility intentions. The results show a significant impact of shared social attitudes on fertility intentions for both men and women. Gender differences in the impact of socio-economic variables on fertility intentions are confirmed, with women's intentions being more sensitive to education and men's to employment status. The paper concludes by discussing the wider implications of the findings for the understanding of gender differences in the relationships between social attitudes and family formation.

Friday 19 May – Policies

Keynote talk

Family policies and fertility: What do we know about their connection?

Gerda Neyer, Stockholm University

Over the past half century there has been remarkable differences in the total fertility rates of advanced industrialized societies. Seeking explanations for the persistence of such differences, demographers have increasingly studied welfare regimes and family policies to determine their influence on fertility behavior at the micro-level and fertility outcomes at the macro-level. In this contribution I discuss some of the potential connections between welfare regimes, family policies, and fertility. In particular, I address issues of classifying, measuring, and analysing family policies and their association with fertility. I present some empirical examples, demonstrating the scope and the limitations of incorporating policy indicators in demographic research, as well as assessing the impact of family policies on fertility.