



## Family, population, gender

Prof. Martin Kohli, Dr Raya Muttarak

First Term Seminar – Autumn 2010  
**Thursdays 08:45-10:45** – Seminar room 2

(Please register with [Monika.Rzemieniecka@eui.eu](mailto:Monika.Rzemieniecka@eui.eu))

The seminar provides an introduction to the sociology of the family, with a special consideration of population and gender issues, and a focus on the contemporary changes in the developed world. It takes a broad view of the family, examining not only the co-residing (nuclear or sometimes extended) unit but kinship structures and their salience for a number of current concerns such as demographic reproduction (fertility), work/family reconciliation, social inequality, and social security (role of the family in the welfare mix).

While not neglecting the micro-level of family relationships and intimacy, the seminar goes beyond them by incorporating them into the macro-social framework of societal production and reproduction (of which demographic reproduction is an essential component). The first part of the seminar is devoted to rival theoretical approaches; the second part follows the main transitions of the family life course; and the third part concentrates on contemporary dynamics, taking up some of the current issues mentioned above.

Most sessions will be based on readings. Participants are required to prepare brief comments on the general readings. Moreover, each participant will be required to critically present the additional readings of one of the sessions and lead the discussion on how they contribute to the key questions of the seminar.

### A. THEORETICAL APPROACHES

#### Session 1 (October 7) The sociology and anthropology of kinship

##### General readings

- Parsons, Talcott. 1943. "The Kinship System of the Contemporary United States." *American Anthropologist* 45:22-38.
- Kohli, Martin, and Patrick Heady. 2010. "Implications for Policy." Pp. 395-410 in *Family, Kinship and State in Europe, Vol 3: Perspectives on Theory and Policy*, edited by Patrick Heady and Martin Kohli. Frankfurt/M: Campus.
- Segalen, Martine. 1986 [1981]. *Historical Anthropology of the Family*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chpt. 3 Kin relationships in urban society.

##### Additional readings

- Attias-Donfut, Claudine, Nicole Lapierre, and Martine Segalen. 2002. *Le nouvel esprit de famille*. Paris: Odile Jacob.
- Barbagli, Marzio. 1997. "Family and Kinship in Italy." Pp. 33-48 in *Family and Kinship in Europe*, edited by Marianne Gullestad and Martine Segalen. London, Washington: Pinter Cassel.
- Bengtson, Vern, Alan Acock, Katherine Allen, Peggye Dilworth-Anderson, and David Klein. 2004.

- Sourcebook of Family Theory and Research*. Thousand Oaks, London, New Delhi: Sage.
- Schweitzer, Peter P. (Ed.). 2000. *Dividends of Kinship. Meanings and Uses of Social Relatedness*. London: Routledge.
- White, James, and David Klein. 2002. *Family Theories (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.)*. Thousand Oaks, London, New Delhi: Sage.

## **Session 2 (October 13) – Seminar Room 3 (17:00-19:00)**

### **Evolutionary approaches**

#### *General readings*

- Colleran, Heidi, and Ruth Mace. 2010. "Evolutionary Approaches to Human Behaviour in Anthropology: A General Overview and Application to the KASS Project." Pp. 375-394 in *Family, Kinship and State in Europe, Vol 3: Perspectives on Theory and Policy*, edited by Patrick Heady and Martin Kohli. Frankfurt/M: Campus.
- Miller, Geoffrey. 1998. "How Mate Choice Shaped Human Nature: A Review of Sexual Selection and Human Evolution." Pp. 87-130 in *Handbook of Evolutionary Psychology: Ideas, issues, and applications*, edited by Charles Crawford and Dennis Krebs. Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum.

#### *Additional readings*

- Voland, Eckart, Athanasios Chasiotis, and Wulf Schiefenhövel (Eds.). 2005. *Grandmothers. The Evolutionary Significance of the Second Half of Female Life*. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press.
- Hrdy, Sarah. 1999. *Mother Nature. A History of Mothers, Infants and Natural Selection*. New York: Pantheon.

## **Session 3 (October 21) – Seminar Room 4**

### **Historical approaches**

#### *General readings*

- Kertzer, David. 2002. "Living with Kin." Pp. 40-72 in *The History of the European Family, Vol.2: Family Life in the Long Nineteenth Century 1789-1913*, edited by David Kertzer and Marzio Barbagli. New Haven, London: Yale University Press.
- Pollock, Linda. 2001. "Parent-Child Relations." Pp. 191-220 in *The History of the European Family, Vol. 1: Family Life in Early Modern Times 1500-1789*, edited by David Kertzer and Marzio Barbagli. New Haven, London: Yale University Press.

#### *Additional readings*

- Burguière, André, Christiane Klapisch-Zuber, Martine Segalen, and Françoise Zonabend (Eds.). 1996. *A History of the Family, Volume I and II*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.
- Coontz, Stephanie. 2005. *Marriage, A History: From Obedience to Intimacy, or How Love Conquered Marriage*. New York: Viking.
- Gaunt, David. 2001. "Kinship: Thin Red Lines or Thick Blue Blood." Pp. 257-287 in *The History of the European Family, Vol. 1 Family Life in Early Modern Times 1500-1789*, edited by David Kertzer and Marzio Barbagli. New Haven, London: Yale University Press.
- Kertzer, David, and Marzio Barbagli (Eds.). 2001-3. *The History of the European Family Vol. 1-3*. New Haven: Yale University Press.
- Mitterauer, Michael, and Reinhard Sieder. 1980. *The European Family: Patriarchy to Partnership from the Middle Ages to the Present*. Oxford: Blackwell.
- Shorter, Edward. 1975. *The Making of the Modern Family*. New York: Basic Books.

Therborn, Göran. 2004. *Between Sex and Power. Family in the World, 1900-2000*. London, New York: Routledge.

## **B. THE FAMILY LIFE COURSE**

### **Session 4 (October 28)**

#### **Marriage and cohabitation**

##### *General readings*

Blossfeld, Hans-Peter. 2009. "Educational Assortative Marriage in Comparative Perspective." *Annual Review of Sociology* 35:513-530.

Lewis, Jane. 2001. *The End of Marriage? Individualism and Intimate Relations*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar. Chpt. 6 Inside Relationships: The Decision to Marry or Cohabit and the Nature of Commitment and chpt. 7 Inside Relationships: Individualism and Commitment and the Investment of Time and Money

Soons, Judith P. M., and Matthijs Kalmijn. 2009. "Is Marriage More Than Cohabitation? Well-Being Differences in 30 European Countries." *Journal of Marriage and Family* 71:1141-1157

##### *Additional readings*

Beck, Ulrich, and Elisabeth Beck-Gernsheim. 1995. *The Normal Chaos of Love*. Cambridge: Polity Press/Blackwell.

Burkart, Günter, and Martin Kohli. 1992. *Liebe - Ehe - Elternschaft. Die Zukunft der Familie*. München: Piper.

Constable, Nicole. 2004. *Cross-Border Marriages. Gender and Mobility in Transnational Asia*. Philadelphia: Penn Press.

Fincham, Frank D., and Steven R. H. Beach. 2010. "Marriage in the New Millennium: A Decade in Review." *Journal of Marriage and Family* 72:630-649.

Sassler, Sharon. 2010. "Partnering Across the Life Course: Sex, Relationships, and Mate Selection." *Journal of Marriage and Family* 72:557-575.

Turner, Brian. 2004. "Religion, Romantic Love and the Family." Pp. 289-305 in *The Blackwell Companion to the Sociology of Families*, edited by Jacqueline Scott, Judith Treas, and Martin Richards. Malden, Oxford: Blackwell.

### **Session 5 (November 4)**

#### **Fertility**

##### *General readings*

Fernández Córdón, Juan Antonio. 2006. "Low Fertility and the Scope for Social Policy: Understanding the Context." Pp. 29-58 in *The New Generations of Europeans : Demography and Families in the Enlarged European Union*, edited by Wolfgang Lutz, Rudolf Richter, and Chris Wilson. London: Earthscan.

McDonald, Peter. 2000. "Gender Equity, Social Institutions and the Future of Fertility." *Journal of Population Research* 17:1-16.

Myrskylä, Mikko, Hans-Peter Kohler, and Francesco C. Billari. 2009. "Advances in Development Reverse Fertility Declines." *Nature* 460:741-743.



### *Additional readings*

- Billari, Francesco C, and Hans-Peter Kohler. 2004. "Patterns of Low and Lowest-Low Fertility in Europe." *Population Studies* 58:161-176.
- Blossfeld, Hans-Peter, and Johannes Huinink. 1991. "Human Capital Investments or Norms of Role Transition? How Women's Schooling and Career Affect the Process of Family Formation." *American Journal of Sociology* 97:143-168.
- Kohler, Hans-Peter, Francesco C. Billari, and José Antonio Ortega. 2002. "The Emergence of Lowest-Low Fertility in Europe During the 1990s." *Population and Development Review* 28:641-680.
- Lesthaeghe, Ron. 2010. "The Unfolding Story of the Second Demographic Transition." *Population and Development Review* 36:211-251.
- McDonald, Peter. 2006. "Low Fertility and the State: The Efficacy of Policy." *Population and Development Review* 32:485-510.
- Van de Kaa, D. J. 1987. "Europe's Second Demographic Transition." *Population Bulletin* 42:3-57.

## **Session 6 (November 11)**

**Parenthood** – Presentation by Prof. Frank Furstenberg (Population Studies Center, University of Pennsylvania)

### *General readings*

- Biblarz, Timothy J., and Judith Stacey. 2010. "How Does the Gender of Parents Matter?." *Journal of Marriage and Family* 72:3-22.
- Furstenberg, Frank. 2003. "Teenage Childbearing as a Public Issue and Private Concern." *Annual Review of Sociology* 29:23-39.
- Kiernan, Kath. 2004. "Changing European Families: Trends and Issues." Pp. 17-33 in *The Blackwell Companion to the Sociology of Families*, edited by Jacqueline Scott, Judith Treas, and Martin Richards. Malden, Oxford: Blackwell.

### *Additional readings*

- Alwin, Duane. 2004. "Parenting Practices." Pp. 142-157 in *The Blackwell Companion to the Sociology of Families*, edited by Jacqueline Scott, Judith Treas, and Martin Richards. Malden, Oxford: Blackwell.
- Land, Hilary. 2004. "Children, Families, States and Changing Citizenship." Pp. 54-68 in *The Blackwell Companion to the Sociology of Families*, edited by Jacqueline Scott, Judith Treas, and Martin Richards. Malden, Oxford: Blackwell.
- Richards, Martin. 2004. "Assisted Reproduction and Genetic Technologies and Family Life." Pp. 478-498 in *The Blackwell Companion to the Sociology of Families*, edited by Jacqueline Scott, Judith Treas, and Martin Richards. Malden, Oxford: Blackwell.

## **Session 7 (November 17) – Seminar Room 2 (17:00-19:00)**

### **Divorce**

### *General readings*

- Amato, Paul R. 2010. "Research on Divorce: Continuing Trends and New Developments." *Journal of Marriage and Family* 72:650-666.
- Wolfinger, Nicolas. 2005. *Understanding the Divorce Cycle. The Children of Divorce in Their Own Marriages*. New York: Cambridge University Press. Chpt. 1 Introduction and chpt. 2 Why Divorce Begets Divorce.



### *Additional readings*

- Goode, William J. 1993. *World Changes in Divorce Patterns*. New Haven, London: Yale University Press.
- Pryor, Jan, and Liz Trinder. 2004. "Children, Families and Divorce." Pp. 322-339 in *The Blackwell Companion to the Sociology of Families*, edited by Jacqueline Scott, Judith Treas, and Martin Richards. Malden, Oxford: Blackwell.
- Yu, Tianyi, Gregory S. Pettit, Jennifer E. Lansford, Kenneth A. Dodge, and John E. Bates. 2010. "The Interactive Effects of Marital Conflict and Divorce on Parent - Adult Children's Relationships." *Journal of Marriage and Family* 72:282-292.

## **Session 8 (November 25)**

### **Adult intergenerational relations and grandparenthood**

#### *General readings*

- Albertini, Marco, Martin Kohli, and Claudia Vogel. 2007. "Intergenerational Transfers of Time and Money in European Families: Common Patterns - Different Regimes?" *Journal of European Social Policy* 17:319-334.
- Silverstein, Merrill, Roseann Giarrusso, and Vern Bengtson. 2003. "Grandparents and Grandchildren in Family Systems: A Social-Developmental Perspective." Pp. 75-102 in *Global Aging and Challenges to Families*, edited by Vern Bengtson and Ariela Lowenstein. New York: Aldine de Gruyter.

#### *Additional readings*

- Allen, Katherine, Rosemary Blieszner, and Karen Roberto. 2000. "Families in the Middle and Later Years: A Review and Critique of Research in the 1990s." *Journal of Marriage and the Family* 62:911-926.
- Attias-Donfut, Claudine, and Martine Segalen. 1998. *Grands-parents. La Famille à Travers les Générations*. Paris: Éditions Odile Jacob.
- Furstenberg, Frank, and Andrew Cherlin. 1986. *The New American Grandparent: A Place in the Family, a Life Apart*. New York: Basic Books.
- Kalmijn, Matthijs, and Jannes Vries. 2008. "Change and Stability in Parent-Child Contact in Five Western Countries." *European Journal of Population / Revue européenne de Démographie* 25:257-276.
- Kohli, Martin. 1999. "Private and Public Transfers Between Generations: Linking the Family and the State." *European Societies* 1:81-104.
- Kohli, Martin, and Harald Künemund. 2003. "Intergenerational Transfers in the Family. What Motivates Giving?" Pp. 123-142 in *Global Aging and Challenges to Families*, edited by Vern Bengtson and Ariela Lowenstein. New York: Aldine de Gruyter.
- Swartz, Teresa Toguchi. 2009. "Intergenerational Family Relations in Adulthood: Patterns, Variations, and Implications in the Contemporary United States." *Annual Review of Sociology* 35:191-212.

## **C. CONTEMPORARY DYNAMICS**

### **Session 9 (December 2)**

#### **New family forms**

#### *General readings*

- Ellwood, David T., and Christopher Jencks. 2004. "The Spread of Single-Parent Families in the United States since 1960." Pp. 26-65 in *The Future of the Family*, edited by Daniel Moynihan, Timothy Smeeding, and Lee Rainwater. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.



- Fisher, Allen. 2003. "Still 'Not Quite as Good as Having Your Own'? Toward a Sociology of Adoption." *Annual Review of Sociology* 29:335-361.
- Muttarak, Raya, and Anthony Heath. 2010. "Who Intermarries in Britain? Explaining Ethnic Diversity in Intermarriage Patterns." *British Journal of Sociology* 61:275-305.

#### *Additional readings*

- Biblarz, Timothy J., and Evren Savci. 2010. "Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Families." *Journal of Marriage and Family* 72:480-497.
- Beck-Gernsheim, Elisabeth. 2002. *Reinventing the Family. In Search of New Lifestyles*. Malden: Polity Press.
- Pflegerl, Johannes. 2006. "Migration, Migrants and Their Families in the EU15 Member States." Pp. 191-221 in *The New Generations of Europeans : Demography and Families in the Enlarged European Union*, edited by Wolfgang Lutz, Rudolf Richter, and Chris Wilson. London: Earthscan.
- Pyke, Karen. 2004. "Immigrant Families in the U.S." Pp. 253-269 in *The Blackwell Companion to the Sociology of Families*, edited by Jacqueline Scott, Judith Treas, and Martin Richards. Malden, Oxford: Blackwell.
- Sweeney, Megan M. 2010. "Remarriage and Stepfamilies: Strategic Sites for Family Scholarship in the 21st Century." *Journal of Marriage and Family* 72:667-684.

## **Session 10 (December 9)**

### **The changing gender contract**

#### *General readings*

- Ferree, Myra Marx. 2010. "Filling the Glass: Gender Perspectives on Families." *Journal of Marriage and Family* 72:420-439.
- Lewis, Jane. 2001. "The Decline of the Male Breadwinner Model: Implications for Work and Care." *Social Politics* 8:152-169.
- West, Candace, and Don H. Zimmerman. 1987. "Doing Gender." *Gender & Society* 1:125 -151.

#### *Additional readings*

- Blossfeld, Hans-Peter, and Sonja Drobnic. 2001. "Theoretical Perspectives on Couples' Careers." Pp. 16-50 in *Careers of Couples in Contemporary Societies. From Male Breadwinner to Dual Earner Families*, edited by Hans-Peter Blossfeld and Sonja Drobnic. Oxford, New York: Oxford University Press.
- Budig, Michelle. 2004. "Feminism and the Family." Pp. 416-434 in *The Blackwell Companion to the Sociology of Families*, edited by Jacqueline Scott, Judith Treas, and Martin Richards. Malden, Oxford: Blackwell.
- Cooke, Lynn Prince. 2006. "'Doing' Gender in Context: Household Bargaining and Risk of Divorce in Germany and the United States." *American Journal of Sociology* 112:442-472.
- Esping-Andersen, Gøsta. 2002. "A New Gender Contract." Pp. 68-95 in *Why We Need a New Welfare State*, edited by Gøsta Esping-Andersen, Duncan Gallie, Anton Hemerijck, and John Myles. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- González López, M.J., and M. Solsona Pairó. 2000. "Households and Families. Changing Living Arrangements and Gender Relations." Pp. 49-86 in *Gender, Economy and Culture in the European Union*, edited by Simon Duncan and Birgit Pfau-Effinger. London, New York: Routledge.
- Meyerowitz, Joanne. 2008. "A History of 'Gender'." *The American Historical Review* 113:1346-1356.
- Scott, Joan W. 1986. "Gender: A Useful Category of Historical Analysis." *The American Historical Review* 91:1053-1075.