

## « Au nom du père ».

## Une sociologie comparative du militantisme paternel en France et au Québec

Aurélie Fillod-Chabaud Ph.D. thesis defence on 13 November 2014

## **Abstract**

In the last two decades, separated fathers' groups regularly publicise their discontent in many countries of the world. Often armed with banners, perched atop a monument, or going on hunger strike, these fathers say they have been betrayed by the Family Justice, regarding the custody of their children. This phenomenon is to be linked with the increasing of marital separation since the 1970's and more generally with the changing of traditional family model.

The present study aims at providing a sociological analysis of fathers' mobilizations in light of the comparison of two geographic areas, both near and distinct in their French and legal traditions: France and Quebec. The field survey has been realised in fathers' rights groups in each country, but also with actors family movements, family justice institutions and politicians.

The comparative approach, adopted linearly throughout the thesis, allows us to question several dimensions: the nature of the interests defended by these fathers, how their claims are publicized and enter the political arena, social recruitment and trajectories of members and activists, the effects of law socialization on members and finally the redefinition of fatherhood caused by the dissolution of the family unit.

More generally, this thesis questions different issues raised by new family configurations after marital breakdowns among a specific category of fathers in the global population of separated fathers.



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## Bio

Aurélie Fillod-Chabaud defended her Ph.D thesis in sociology at the European University Institute (EUI) of Florence in November 2014.

Before the thesis, Aurélie studied political sciences at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques (Aix-en-Provence, France), from 2004 to 2007, and social sciences at the Ecole Normale Supérieure (Paris, France), from 2007 to 2009. She was a visiting Ph.D student at the Université Laval (Département de Sciences Politiques) in Quebec City from May to December 2011.

Since 2008, Aurélie belongs to a Research group on divorce located both in France and in Québec (www.ruptures.ulaval.ca) that has led to a book untitled *Au tribunal des couples*. Enquête sur des affaires familiales, published in 2013. She also published her thesis researches in different scientific reviews, such as *Lien social et politique*, *Informations sociales* and *Savoir/Agir*.

Since 2009, Aurélie has regularly taught in different universities as l'Ecole Normale Supérieure, l'Université Paris-Nord XIII, l'Institut Catholique de Paris. She currently holds a teaching position at the Université de Bourgogne, in Dijon (France).