

Bettina Hünteler

Research Group Kinship Inequalities, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research

Institute of Sociology and Social Psychology, University of Cologne

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Research interests:

Life course – Intergenerational family – Kinship demography – Social inequality – Migration

Current Positions

Research group 'Kinship Inequalities', Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research, DE 2023 – present
Post-doctoral Research Scientist

Institute of Sociology and Social Psychology, University of Cologne, DE 2023 – present
Post-doctoral Research Scientist

Education

Ph.D. in Social Sciences (summa cum laude), University of Cologne, DE 2023

M.Sc. in Population Studies (with distinction), University of Groningen, NL 2018

M.Sc. in Sociology and Social Research, University of Cologne, DE 2018

B.Sc. in Social Sciences, University of Cologne, DE 2016

Previous Positions

Institute of Sociology and Social Psychology, University of Cologne, DE
Research assistant and lecturer 2018 – 2023

Student research assistant, German Family Panel pairfam 2016 – 2018

Student teaching assistant, Introduction to Statistics for Social Scientists 2014 – 2017

Affiliations & Visits

[ECONtribute](#): Markets & Public Policy, DFG Cluster of Excellence (Universities of Bonn and Cologne, DE) 2024 – present
Associated Member

Norwegian Institute of Public Health, Centre for Fertility and Health, Oslo, NO 2022
Research stay (May–June)

Awards and Grants

3 rd place in the ECSR Thesis Prize 2024 for PhD thesis	2024
Best Poster Award at the Population Association of America 2024 (PAA) Annual Meeting for “Generational Placement Trajectories in Norway: Combining Empirical and Simulated Data” (with Diego Alburez-Gutiérrez)	2024
Best Paper Award of German Demographic Society (DGD) for journal article “A new perspective on the generational structures of families – Generational placements over the life course” (€250)	2024
Advances in Life Course Research Young Scholar Award for journal article “A new perspective on the generational structures of families – Generational placements over the life course” (\$500)	2023
DAAD research grant for doctoral students for research stay at the Norwegian Institute of Public Health, NO (~ €3,000)	2022
Cologne Graduate School doctoral scholarship at University of Cologne (~ €50,000)	2019 – 2023
Master Thesis Award from the Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI) and the Netherlands Demographic Society (NVD) (€500)	2018
Best Poster Award at the German Demographic Society (DGD) 2018 Annual Meeting for “Mismatch between public childcare-related attitude and behavior – A comparative analysis between eleven Central Eastern and Western European countries”	2018
DAAD scholarship for studying in Master programme at University of Groningen, NL (~ €7,500)	2017
Dean’s Award (top 5% of study cohort) in Master program Sociology and Social Research, University of Cologne	2017
Dean’s Award (top 10% of study cohort) in Bachelor program Social Sciences, University of Cologne	2014

Peer-reviewed Publications

Hünteler, B., Cass, A. & Wetzel, M. (2025) Flexible Work Policies and the Division of Housework and Childcare in German Cohabiting Couples, *Cologne Journal of Sociology and Social Psychology [Kölner Zeitschrift für Soziologie und Sozialpsychologie]*.

Hünteler, B. Nutz, T. & Wörn, J. (2024) Intergenerational Family Life Courses and Wealth Accumulation in Norway, *Social Forces*.

Hünteler, B. & Hank, K. (2023) Life Course Generational Placements in the Family System and Individuals’ Well-being in Later Life, *Ageing & Society*

Wetzel, M. & **Hünteler, B.** (2022) The Blind Spot: Studying the Association Between Survey Non-Response and Adherence to COVID-19 Governmental Regulations in a Population-based German Web-Survey, *Survey Research Methods*.

Hünteler, B. (2022) A New Perspective on the Generational Structures of Families: Generational Placements over the Life Course, *Advances in Life Course Research*.

Wetzel, M., Wörn, J., **Hünteler, B.** & Hank, K. (2022) Heterogeneity in Trajectories of Life Satisfaction After Reunification: The Role of Individual Resources and Life Stage in Former East Germany, *Social Indicators Research*.

Hünteler, B.* & Wetzel, M.* (2020) Relationship-based Selective Participation of Secondary Respondents in a German Multi-Actor Panel Study, *Journal of Marriage and Family*. (*shared first authorship)

Hünteler, B. & Mulder, C. H. (2020) Geographic Proximity to Parents, Intergenerational Support Exchange, and Migration within Germany, *European Journal of Population*.

Other Publications

Jeesse, L., **Hünteler, B.** & Hank, K. (2024) Family as generational context for social inequality [Familie als generationaler Kontext sozialer Ungleichheiten]. In Handbook *Social Stratification* [Handbuch Sozialstrukturanalyse], Eds. Petra Böhnke & Dirk Konietzka.

Ongoing Research Projects

Hünteler, B.* , Polizzi, A.* & van Raalte, A.: Changing Kinship Structures in East and West Germany Before and After Reunification. (*shared first authorship) [available as preprint here]	Under review
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Hünteler, B. , Hank, K., Alburez-Gutiérrez, D. & Leopold, T.: A Typology of Nuclear and Extended Family Relations in the United States. [available as preprint here]	Under review
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Hünteler, B. & Alburez-Gutiérrez, D.: Generational Placement Trajectories in Norway: Combining Empirical and Simulated Data.	In preparation
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Maskileyson D., & Hünteler, B. : Examining the Wealth-Health Gradient by Migration Background, Nativity and Reason for Migration in Norway.	In preparation
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Hünteler, B. & Sauter, J.: The Associations Between Generational and Marital Placements over the Life Course and Wellbeing in Later Life.	In preparation
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Teaching and Supervision

<i>Institute of Sociology and Social Psychology, University of Cologne, DE</i>	
Changing Partnerships and Family, seminar, M.Sc. Sociology and Social Research, language: English	Winter 2021/22
Gender, Work and Family, seminar, B.Sc. Social Sciences, language: German	Winter 2021/22
Introduction to Statistics for Social Scientists (tutorials)	2014 – 2017
First and second supervisor of various Bachelor and Master theses	2023 – present

Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research, DE

PHDS mentor of Andrea Colasurdo, supervised by Diego Alburez-Gutiérrez (MPIDR) and Clara H. Mulder (University of Groningen) 2023 – present

Reviewer Activities

Demography, European Journal of Population, European Sociological Review, Social Forces, The Journal of Gerontology Series B: Psychological Sciences, The Journal of Gerontology Series B: Social Sciences, Journal of Population Ageing, Journal of Family Psychology, Sociological Research Methods, Journal of Family Relations, Advances in Life Course Research, Ageing & Society

Institutional Responsibilities

Elected board member of the section “Family Sociology” of the German Association of Sociology 2025 – present

Elected Deputy Gender Equality Officer, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research 2025 – present

Elected representative of academic pre- and postdoc staff members at the Board of Directors, Institute of Sociology and Social Psychology, University of Cologne 2020 – 2022

Active member of student association, Faculty of Economics and Social Science, University of Cologne 2013 – 2016

Memberships

European Association for Population Studies ([EPAS](#))

Family section of German Association of Sociology ([DGS](#))

German Demographic Society ([DGD](#))

Sequence Analysis Association ([SAA](#))

Science Communication & Outreach

Interview about multigenerational families and wealth in newspaper “ZEIT am Wochenende”: “[What we can learn from large families](#)” (in German) 2025

Interview about family life courses and wealth in newspaper “La Vanguardia”: “[Tu prosperidad depende del número de parientes vivos](#)”(in Spanish) 2024

Presentation at [Tuesday Dialogues](#) by Population Europe and the Einstein Centre Population Diversity: “Re-thinking Family Generations: Diverse Life Courses and how they Relate to Social Inequality” with following discussion with Germany’s Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, the Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community, and the Federal Ministry of Justice 2024

Interview about generational placement trajectories and health and well-being in later life in newspaper "Die Welt": " These family structures align well with life satisfaction and health " (in German)	2024
Publication of research results in infoletter "Demografische Forschung aus erster Hand" (2024/2): " Happy and healthy in the family system " (in German)	2024
Public presentation for non-scientific audience Salon Sophie-Charlotte , Berlin (DE), organized by Berlin-Brandenburgische Academy of Science, "What makes us older? Time and life phases in the generational system" (in German)	2024

Invited Presentations

Federal Institute for Population Research (BiB), "Racial-Ethnic Differences in Nuclear and Extended Family Relations in the United States", Wiesbaden (DE)	2024
Centre for Demographic Studies (CED) Colloquium, "Racial-Ethnic Differences in Nuclear and Extended Family Relations in the United States", Barcelona (ES)	2024
Trinity College Dublin Seminar Series (virtual, hosted by Jan Skopek), "Intergenerational Life-Course Family Structures and Social Inequality"	2024
Sequence Analysis Webinar Series (virtual, hosted by Tim Liao and Matthias Studer), "A New Perspective on the Generational Structures of Families: Generational Placements Over the Life Course"	2022

Organized Sessions & Workshops

Organization of first PhD workshop at the autumn meeting of family section of German Association of Sociology (DGS), Osnabrück (DE)	2024
European Population Conference (EPC), Edinburgh (UK), organization and moderation of Advances in Population Research Session: "Kinship Demography: An Emerging Field of Research?"	2024

Conference Participations

European Population Conference (EPC), Edinburgh (UK), "Generational Placement Trajectories in Norway: Combining Empirical and Simulated Data" (with Diego Alburez-Gutiérrez)	2024
Population Association of America Annual Meeting (PAA), "Generational Placement Trajectories in Norway: Combining Empirical and Simulated Data" (with Diego Alburez-Gutiérrez, poster)	2024

Annual Conference of the German Demographic Society (DGD), Hamburg (DE), “Generational Placement Trajectories in Norway: Combining Empirical and Simulated Data” (with Diego Alburez-Gutiérrez)	2024
Autumn meeting of family section of German Association of Sociology (DGS), Cologne (DE), “Changing Kinship Structures in East and West Germany Before and After Reunification” (with Antonino Polizzi and Alyson van Raalte)	2023
EAPS Health, Morbidity and Mortality Working Group Meeting, Budapest (HUN), “For whom does wealth matter more for health? Nativity wealth-health gradient in Norway” (with Dina Maskileyson)	2023
European Consortium for Sociological Research (ECSR) 2023 conference, Prague (CZ), “For whom does wealth matter more for health? Nativity wealth-health gradient in Norway” (with Dina Maskileyson)	2023
4 th Conference of the Academy of Sociology, Bern (CH), “For whom does wealth matter more for health? Nativity wealth-health gradient in Norway” (with Dina Maskileyson)	2023
Gender and Wealth Inequality Network (GWIN) Workshop (ECSR), Birmingham (UK), “It All Runs in the Family? The Interplay of Intergenerational Family Positions and Wealth Trajectories” (with Theresa Nutz and Jonathan Wörn)	2023
41 st Congress of the German Sociological Association (DGS), Bielefeld (DE), “The Interplay of Intergenerational Family Positions and Wealth Trajectories in Different Life Phases” (with Theresa Nutz and Jonathan Wörn)	2022
RC28 Spring Conference, London (UK), “The Interplay of Intergenerational Family Positions and Wealth Trajectories in Different Life Phases” (with Theresa Nutz and Jonathan Wörn)	2022
15 th Conference of the European Sociological Association (ESA), Barcelona (ES, virtual), “Life Course Generational Placements in the Family System and Individuals’ Well-Being and Health in Later Life” (with Karsten Hank)	2021
IV ISA Forum of Sociology, Porto Alegre (BRA, virtual), “A New Perspective on Family Demography – Changing Compositions and Individual Positions in Multigenerational Families”	2021
Annual Conference of the German Demographic Society (DGD), Cologne (DE), “Participation Patterns of Secondary Respondents: Following Mothers in the German Family Panel Study” (with Martin Wetzel)	2018
Annual Conference of the German Demographic Society (DGD), Cologne (DE), “Mismatch between public childcare-related attitude and behavior - A comparative analysis between eleven Central Eastern and Western European countries” (poster)	2018

Participations in Workshops & Trainings

Workshop “Matrix Approaches to Modelling Kinship: Theory and Applications”, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research	2023
Workshop “Superpower Resilience - confident and relaxed on the career path”, Albertus Magnus Centre, University of Cologne	2023
Workshop “Preparing courses“, Center for Advanced Teaching and Learning (ZHD), University of Cologne (via online teaching)	2021
GESIS Summer School Courses: “Mathematical Tools for Social Scientists: A Refresher Course with R” and “Applied Multiple Imputation”, GESIS Cologne (DE, via online teaching)	2020
Workshop “Scientific presentation: presenting and discussing confidently”, Albertus-Magnus-Centre, University of Cologne (DE)	2020
SLLS Summer School on Longitudinal and Life Course Research, NCCR LIVES at the University of Geneva (CH)	2019
Workshop “SOEP@Campus@DIW Berlin 2019”, German Institute for Economic Research DIW, Berlin (DE)	2019

Languages

German	Native speaker
English	Excellent, C1 (TOEFL 111 points in 5/2016)
Spanish	B2+
Dutch	A2 (beginners-course 9/2017 – 11/2017)

Computer Skills

Scientific

Advanced user of stata

Advanced user of R, specifically in sequence and cluster analysis (*TraMineR*, *WeightedCluster*), formal demographic kinship models (*DemoKin*) and microsimulation (*rsocsim*)

Basic user of SPSS with specific skills in survival analysis and structural equation modelling with Amos

Other

Microsoft Office, Overleaf, GitHub