Family Research between scientific and social impact

Rudolf Richter
Prof. of Sociology, University of Vienna,
President of RC06-Family Research of ISA
rudolf.richter@univie.ac.at
Committee for Family Research

http://www.rc06-isa.org/

The purpose of the RC06-Family research of the International Sociological Association (ISA) (We call it shortly: Committee on Family Research (CFR)) is to encourage family research of high quality within and between countries.
To fulfill the purpose the committee ...

- organizes the sessions on family at the meetings of the ISA.
- sponsors international seminars (at least one between ISA congresses) on topics of theoretical, methodological or substantive importance as well as international training seminars to add to the skills of family researchers.
- arranges for the publication of matters of importance in the research area of family.
- provides an international roster of family sociologists for individuals and organizations seeking consultation or research associates.
- provides a newsletter to the membership at least twice annually.
- New!!! Blog and Twitter: http://www.rc06-isa.org/
Family Research at the Department of Sociology at the University of Vienna
Key researchers:
Univ. Prof. Dr. Rudolf Richter
Dr. Ulrike Zartler
Mission

We want to promote sociological research for the benefit of the public. Our aim is to perform research along social problems occurring. This is not merely applied research. We want to base it in different aspects of sociological theory, moreover we generally aim at multimethods research, implementing also new and holistic approaches.
Vision

The sociological studies are distributed in research reports as well as in high standard peer reviewed journals. Research should contribute to new developments in sociology as well as inspire society.
Recent Studies

- Research on fathers
- Transition to parenthood
- Social reporting on family issues
- Family and children
- Single parent families
- Divorce and separation: Children’s perceptions
Research on Fathers

Men create identity as fathers. Family Policy.


Transition to Parenthood

Ethnographic posthumanist/neomaterialist study about the process of becoming parents and parents’ practices at transition to parenthood

PhD study by Cornelia Schadler. Supervisor: Rudolf Richter. Funded by a DOC-sholarship of the Austrian Academy of Sciences
Contributions to reports of local and national governments

Single Parent Families

Living conditions, socio-economic situation, challenges and coping strategies

Publications:
### „Single parents in Austria“

#### Topics
- Living conditions in single parent families
- Risks of poverty and deprivation

#### Methodical approach

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quantitative</th>
<th>Secondary Analysis and Special evaluation (EU-SILC, Generations and Gender Survey, Census data, Statistics on households, families and living arrangements)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Qualitative</td>
<td>Interviews with Single mothers and workshop with experts</td>
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Focus on Families. Children and parents in urban and rural areas.

Key researchers: Rudolf Richter, Ulrike Zartler

Publications

### Focus on Families“

**Topics**
- Family forms
- Family time
- Participation

**Methodical approach**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Children (age 10)</th>
<th>Essays n = 96</th>
<th>Photo interviews n = 50</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Parents</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Problem-Centred interviews</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>n = 71</td>
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</tbody>
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Zartler Ulrike, Marhali Andrea, Starkbaum Johannes, Richter Rudolf (2009): “Focus on Families. Children and parents in urban and rural areas.” funded by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Economy, Family and Youth
Some Results

- Family forms: The normative power of the core family.
- Family time: The importance of ritual.
- Participation. Relevance matters.
Family Sociology between scientific and social impact
• Scientific impact
  peer reviewed journals, Web of Science, SSCI.

• Social impact
  The Sociological Imagination