Spotlight Series: The educational diffusion of divorce

Dr. Bram Hogendoorn and Dr. Lonneke van den Berg recently published a paper using GGS data on **The educational diffusion of divorce: The role of gender and context**. As divorce becomes more accessible, the divorce rates of less-educated women increase in many societies. Theoretically, this is expected to be explained by a decrease in the barriers to divorce among women. However, no previous study has tested whether this is indeed caused by less-educated women increasingly taking the initiative to divorce or by less-educated women increasingly being left by their husbands.

The GGS is uniquely suited to this question, as it contains information on wife-initiated, husband-initiated, and jointly-initiated divorces. Using the GGS, the
authors found a large cohort-country variation (see figure above). Further analyses showed that the educational diffusion of divorce is driven by wife-initiated divorces. For example, the increased approval of divorce weakened the positive effect of women’s education on wife-initiated divorce, but not on husband/joint-initiated divorce. This indicates that more permissive family norms and greater economic autonomy enable less-educated women to leave a dissatisfying marriage. If you would like to read the paper in full, click here!

The Spotlight Series is a new feature in the newsletter where we will take a closer look at the publications using GGS and Harmonised Histories data. If you would like to get involved please reach out to us using the GGP email.

Submission deadline for the FReDA User Conference

The Second International User Conference of the German Family Demography Panel Study FReDA 2024 will take place on October 7 and 8, 2024, at the GESIS – Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences in Mannheim, Germany. The proposal submission deadline has been extended until May 12, 2024.

FReDA welcomes submissions from researchers worldwide on topics from all disciplines utilising data from FReDA, Pairfam, or the GGS. Abstracts for presentations should be emailed to support.freda@gesis.org by the deadline, including essential details such as research questions, methodology, and results. For more information on the conference and submission guidelines click here.
The recent GGP-Connect Insight and Impact webinar was held on April 25th at 13:00. It featured the Swedish national team’s exploration of GGS Sweden: Not only Birth but Intentions, New Pathways to Childbearing. During the webinar, Gerda Neyer discussed how fertility rates and intentions to have children are changing in Sweden and globally. Gerda emphasized that the current global trends lack a comprehensive structural explanation, highlighting the importance of analysing subjective insights such as intentions to have children, global uncertainties and intensive parenting.

The presentation highlighted research findings that explore these subjective insights. For example, the Swedish team found that individuals with heightened uncertainties regarding issues such as climate change, economic crises, and political extremism are less likely to intend to have children within the next three years. Additionally, it highlighted the reception of these findings within the public sphere, political arenas, and scientific discourse. To explore further insights gathered from GGS Sweden, click [here](#).

### Updates from the GGP Central Hub

**Fieldwork** progress in GGS-II Taiwan Wave 1 is on track, with over 4,900 completed CAWI interviews and a response rate of approximately 17%. In April,
Taiwan also began CAPI mode for data collection with 380 CAPI interviews having been conducted so far.

As for **GGS-II Wave 2, Norway** fieldwork is drawing to a close with 3,600 completed surveys and a response rate of 68%, exclusively using CAWI as the data collection mode.

📢 GGS-II wave 1 datasets released. 📢 These data releases are from the GGS in Austria and in the UK. Access the data by logging in or signing up to the GGP User Space.

### Upcoming Events

- **FReDA User Conference** | Mannheim | 7-8 October 2024 | Deadline for abstracts extended to 12th May 2024
- **European Population Conference 2024** | Edinburgh | 12 -15 June 2024

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