

# THOMAS LEOPOLD

Chair for Methods of Empirical Social Research  
Department of Sociology and Social Psychology  
University of Cologne

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Married to Liliya Leopold, 3 children



<b>Academic Positions</b>	2020–	<b>Full Professor (W3)</b> Chair of Methods of Empirical Social Research Department of Sociology and Social Psychology University of Cologne
	2016–2020	<b>Associate Professor (tenured)</b> Department of Sociology, University of Amsterdam
	2014–2016	<b>Assistant Professor</b> Department of Sociology, University of Amsterdam
	2012–2013	<b>Max Weber Postdoctoral Fellow</b> European University Institute
	2009–2014	<b>Research and Teaching Associate</b> Department of Sociology, University of Bamberg
	2008–2011	<b>Research Assistant</b> National Educational Panel Study, University of Bamberg
	<b>Education</b>	2012
2002–2008		<b>MA in Sociology</b> , University of Bamberg
<b>Grants</b>	2022–2025	<b>Co-PI</b> (with Jan Skopek & Gordey Yastrebov): Demographic and Social Pathways of Educational Reproduction: A Cross-National Study. <i>German Research Foundation Grant</i> , <b>406.000 €</b>
	2020–2025	<b>PI</b> : Uncovering the Kinship Matrix: A New Study of Solidarity and Transmission in European Families (KINMATRIX). <i>ERC Starting Grant 2019</i> , <b>1.487.000 €</b>
	2017–2020	<b>PI</b> : Critical Life Events and the Dynamics of Inequality: Risk, Vulnerability and Cumulative Disadvantage (CRITEVENTS). <i>NORFACE ERA-NET Cofund Grant</i> , <b>1.500.000 €</b>
	2017–2020	<b>Co-Applicant</b> : Inequality, Early Adult Life Courses and Economic Outcomes at Mid-Life in Comparative Context (EQUALLIVES) PI: S. Harkness. <i>NORFACE ERA-NET Cofund Grant</i> , <b>1.430.000 €</b>

- 2017–2020 **Co-Applicant** (with > 50 others): Inclusive Education and Social Support to Tackle Inequalities in Society (ISOTIS). PI: P. Lesemann, *Horizon 2020*, **5.000.000 €**
- 2016–2018 **Co-PI** (with Henriette Engelhardt): Network Effects on Fertility: The Social Contagion of Childbearing in Three Interaction Domains. *German Research Foundation Grant*, **110.000 €**
- 2015–2017 **Co-PI** (with Jan Skopek & Florian Schulz): The Late Divide: Gender and the Division of Labor in Older Couples. *German Research Foundation Grant*, **180.000 €**
- 2012–2014 **Co-PI** (with Marcel Raab & Henriette Engelhardt): Reciprocity in Parent-Child Relationships. *German Research Foundation Grant*, **210.000 €**
- 2012–2013 **Max Weber Fellow**: *European Commission Grant* for Postdoctoral Studies, **24.000 €**

- Publications** 2025 Zilincikova, Z., Yastrebov, G., & Leopold, T. (2025). How Many Children Are Affected by Parental Breakup? Educational Stratification in Parity at Separation. *Population Studies*.
- De Bel, V., Hank, K., & Leopold, T. (2025). A Parallel Kinship Universe? A Replication of Kolk et al. (2023) with Dutch Register Data. *Demographic Research*.
- Leopold, T., Raab, M., Becker, C., Buyukkececi, Z., & Çineli, B. (2025). [Mapping Modern Kinship Networks: First Results From the KINMATRIX Survey](#). *Journal of Marriage and Family*. [[replication files](#)]
- 2024 Leopold, T., Becker, C., Buyukkececi, Z., Çineli, B., & Raab, M. (2024). [KINMATRIX: A new data resource for studies of families and kinship](#). *Demographic Research*, 51. [[replication files](#)]
- Van Scheppingen, M. A., Oлару, G., & Leopold, T. (2024). [Personality Trait Similarity in Recently Cohabiting Couples: Partner Choice, Convergence, or Selective Breakup?](#) *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*. [[replication files](#)]
- Leopold, T., & Kalmijn, M. (2024). [Re-Assessing Chronic Strain: A Research Note on Women's Income Dynamics After Divorce and Separation](#). *Demography*, 61, 597–613. [[replication files](#)]
- Büyükkeçeci, Z., & Leopold, T. (2024). [Parent-Child Relationships Following Grey Divorce: Stronger Ties with Mothers, Weaker Ties with Fathers](#). *The Journals of Gerontology, Series B: Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences*, 79, gbae004. [[replication files](#)]
- 2023 Zilincikova, Z., Skopek, J., & Leopold, T. (2023). [Children of Separation: An International Profile](#). *Population and Development Review*, 49, 859–878. [[replication files](#)]

- 2022 Hogendoorn, B., Kalmijn, M., & Leopold, T. (2022): [Why Do Lower Educated People Separate More Often? Life Strains and the Gradient in Union Dissolution](#). *European Sociological Review*, 38, 88–102. [[replication files](#)]
- 2021 Van den Berg, L., Kalmijn, M., & Leopold, T. (2021): [Explaining Cross-National Differences in Leaving Home](#). *Population, Space and Place*, 27, e2476.
- Forster, A., van de Werfhorst, H., & Leopold, T. (2021): [Who Benefits Most from College? Dimensions of Selection and Heterogeneous Returns to Higher Education in the United States and the Netherlands](#). *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility*, 73. [[replication files](#)]
- Turek, K., Kalmijn, M., & Leopold, T. (2021): [The Comparative Panel File: Harmonized Household Panel Surveys from Seven Countries](#). *European Sociological Review*, 37, 505–523. [[OSF](#)] [[github](#)] [[project website](#)]
- Van Winkle, Z., & Leopold, T. (2021): [Family Size and Economic Wellbeing Following Divorce: The United States in Comparative Perspective](#). *Social Science Research*, 96, 102541. [[replication files](#)]
- Kalmijn, M., & Leopold, T. (2021): [A New Look at the Separation Surge in Europe: Contrasting Adult and Child Perspectives](#). *American Sociological Review*, 86, 1–34. [[replication files](#)]
- 2020 Skopek, J., & Leopold, T. (2020): [Educational Reproduction in Germany: A Prospective Study Based on Retrospective Data](#). *Demography*, 57, 1241–1270. [[replication files](#)]
- Van den Berg, L., Kalmijn, M., & Leopold, T. (2020): [Stepfamily Effects on Early Home-Leaving: The Role of Conflict and Closeness](#). *Journal of Marriage and Family*. [[replication files](#)]
- Büyükkeçeci, Z., Leopold, T., van Gaalen, R., & Engelhardt, H. (2020): [Family, Firms, and Fertility: A Study of Social Interaction Effects](#). *Demography*, 57, 243–266.
- Büyükkeçeci, Z., Leopold, T. (2020): [Sibling Influence on Family Formation: A Study of Social Interaction Effects on Fertility, Marriage, and Divorce](#). *Advances in Life Course Research*, 47, 100359. [[replication files](#)]
- 2019 Van Scheppingen, M., & Leopold, T. (2019): [Trajectories of Life Satisfaction Before, Upon, and After Divorce: Evidence From a New Matching Approach](#). *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 119, 1444–1458. [[replication files](#)]
- Hogendoorn, B., Leopold, T., & Bol, T. (2019): [Divorce and Diverging Poverty Rates: A Risk and Vulnerability Approach](#). *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 82, 1089–1109. [[replication files](#)]
- Leopold, T. (2019): [Diverging Trends in Satisfaction with Housework: Declines in Women, Increases in Men](#). *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 81, 133–144. [[replication files](#)]

- Stojmenovska, D., Bol, T., & Leopold, T. (2019): [Teaching Replication to Graduate Students](#). *Teaching Sociology*, 47, 303–313.
- Van den Berg, L., Kalmijn, M., & Leopold, T. (2019): [Leaving and Returning Home: A New Approach to Off-Time Transitions](#). *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 81, 679–695. [[replication files](#)]
- 2018 Skopek, J., & Leopold, T. (2018): [Explaining Gender Convergence in Housework Time: Evidence From a Cohort Sequence Design](#). *Social Forces*, 98, 578–621. [[replication files](#)]
- Leopold, T. (2018): [Gender Differences in the Consequences of Divorce: A Study of Multiple Outcomes](#). *Demography*, 55, 781–797. [[replication files](#)]
- Leopold, T., Skopek, J., & Schulz, F. (2018): [Gender Convergence in Housework Time: A Life Course and Cohort Perspective](#). *Sociological Science*, 5, 281–303. [[replication files](#)]
- Kalmijn, M., & Leopold, T. (2018): [Changing Sibling Relationships After Parents' Death: The Role of Solidarity and Kinkeeping](#). *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 81, 99–114.
- Leopold, L., & Leopold, T. (2018): [Education and Health Across Lives and Cohorts: A Study of Cumulative \(Dis\)Advantage and Its Rising Importance in Germany](#). *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, 59, 94–112. [[replication files](#)]
- Leopold, T., & Schulz, F. (2018): [Health and Housework in Later Life: A Longitudinal Study of Retired Couples](#). *The Journals of Gerontology, Series B: Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences*, 75, 184–194. [[replication files](#)]
- Van den Berg, L., Kalmijn, M., & Leopold, T. (2018): [Family Structure and Early Home Leaving: A Mediation Analysis](#). *European Journal of Population*, 34, 873–900. [[replication files](#)]
- 2017 Skopek, J., & Leopold, T. (2017): [Who Becomes a Grandparent – and When? Education and Fertility in Multigenerational Perspective](#). *Demographic Research*, 37, 917–928. [[replication files](#)]
- Stojmenovska, D., Bol, T., & Leopold, T. (2017): [Does Diversity Pay? A Replication of Herring](#). *American Sociological Review*, 82, 857–867. [[replication files](#)]
- Leopold, L., Leopold, T., & Lechner, C. (2017): [Do Immigrants Suffer More From Job Loss? Unemployment and Subjective Well-Being in Germany](#). *Demography*, 54, 231–257. [[replication files](#)]
- 2016 Leopold, T., & Skopek, J. (2016): [Retirement and Changes in Housework: A Panel Study of Dual Earner Couples](#). *Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences*, 73, 733–743. [[replication files](#)]
- Leopold, T., & Kalmijn, M. (2016): [Is Divorce More Painful When Couples Have Children? Evidence From Long-Term Panel Data](#)

- on Multiple Domains of Well-Being. *Demography*, 53, 1717–1742. [replication files]
- 2015 Leopold, T., & Skopek, J. (2015). The Demography of Grandparenthood: An International Profile. *Social Forces*, 94, 801–832.
- Leopold, T., & Skopek, J. (2015). Convergence or Continuity? The Gender Gap in Household Labor after Retirement. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 77, 819–832. [replication files]
- Leopold, T., & Lechner, C. (2015). Parents' Death and Adult Well-Being: Gender, Age and Adaptation to Filial Bereavement. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 77, 747–760. [replication files]
- Lechner, C., & Leopold T. (2015). Religious Attendance Buffers the Impact of Unemployment on Life Satisfaction: Longitudinal Evidence from Germany. *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, 54, 166–174. [replication files]
- Leopold, T., & Skopek, J. (2015). The Delay of Grandparenthood. A Cohort Comparison in East and West Germany. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 77, 441–460. [replication files]
- 2014 Leopold, T., & Skopek, J. (2014). Gender and the Division of Labor in Older Couples: How European Grandparents Share Market Work and Childcare. *Social Forces*, 93, 63–91. [replication files]
- Leopold, T., Raab, M., & Engelhardt, H. (2014). The Transition to Parent Care: Costs, Commitments and Caregiver Selection Among Children. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 76, 300–318. [replication files]
- Pink, S., Leopold, T., & Engelhardt, H. (2014). Does Childbearing Spread Among Colleagues? Fertility and Social Interaction at the Workplace. *Advances in Life Course Research*, 21, 113–122.
- 2013 Leopold, T., & Raab, M. (2013). The Temporal Structure of Intergenerational Exchange: A Within-Family Analysis of Parent-Child Reciprocity. *Journal of Aging Studies*, 27, 252–263.
- Geissler, F., Leopold, T., & Pink, S. (2013). Gender Differences in Residential Mobility: The Case of Leaving Home in East Germany. *Journal of Applied Social Science Studies*, 133, 239–248.
- 2012 Leopold, T. (2012). The Legacy of Leaving Home: Long-Term Effects of Coresidence on Parent-Child Relationships. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 74, 399–412.
- Leopold, T., Geissler, F., & Pink, S. (2012). How Far Do Children Move? Spatial Distances After Leaving the Parental Home. *Social Science Research*, 41, 991–1002.
- 2011 Leopold, T., & Schneider, T. (2011). Family Events and the Timing of Intergenerational Transfers. *Social Forces*, 90, 595–616.

Leopold, T., & Raab, M. (2011). *Short-Term Reciprocity in Late Parent-Child Relationships*. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 73, 105–119.

Leopold, T., & Schneider, T. (2011). *Gifts, Bequests, and Social Inequality in West Germany*. *Journal of Applied Social Science Studies*, 131, 263–276.

2010 Leopold, T., & Schneider, T. (2010). *Schenkungen und Erbschaften im Lebenslauf. Vergleichende Längsschnittdatenanalysen zu intergenerationalen Transfers*. *Zeitschrift für Soziologie*, 39, 258–280.

## Supervision

*PhD first supervisor:* Leonie Diffené (2023–), Vanessa Wittemann (2022–), Kateryna Sytkina (2021–), Zafer Büyükkеçeci (2017–2021)

*PhD co-supervisor:* Bettina Hünteler (2020–2023), Daria Tisch (2020–2021), Bram Hogendoorn (2017–2022), Andrea Forster (2015–2020), Lonneke van den Berg (2015–2020)

*PhD opposition:* Olga Grunwald (2022), Ana Cipric (2022), Marco Tosi (2016)

*Postdoc supervisor:* Beyda Cineli (2021–), Charlotte Becker (2021–), Alexander Trinidad (2021–), Zafer Büyükkеçeci (2021–2023), Zuzana Zilincikova (2021–2023), Mengi Chen (2020–2021), Marco Tosi (2020), Alejandra Rodriguez-Sanchez (2020–2021), Gordey Yastrebov (2020–), Dina Maskileyson (2020–2023), Manon van Scheppingen (2017–2019)

## Courses Taught

*University of Cologne*                    **Master Sociology and Social Research / Master Economic and Social Psychology**  
Advanced Quantitative Methods for the Social Sciences  
Summer 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024  
Quantitative Methods for the Social Sciences  
Fall 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024

*University of Amsterdam*           **Research Master Social Sciences**  
Replication  
Fall 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019  
Fixed and Random Effects Models  
Fall 2014–2019  
**Master Sociology**  
Analysis of Social Networks  
Spring 2015–2018  
Networks, Cohesion and Inequality  
Spring 2015  
Sociological Perspectives  
Fall 2014, 2018

**Bachelor Sociology**

Life Courses, Family, and Health

Fall 2017

Parent-Child Relationships

Spring 2016

Aging and Intergenerational Solidarity

Spring 2015

**Bachelor Interdisciplinary Social Sciences**

Introduction to Quantitative Methods

Fall 2018

Integration Practicum in Quantitative Methods

Fall 2018

*University of Bamberg*

**Master Sociology**

Negotiating Family Responsibilities

Summer 2012

Parent-Child Relationships Over the Life Course

Winter 2011

Demographic Research Using SHARE

Winter–Summer 2010 & 2011

Demographic Methods–Mortality

Summer 2010–2012

Methods of Social Network Analysis

Winter 2008–2010

**Bachelor Sociology**

Caregiving in Families

Summer 2012

Intergenerational Solidarity

Winter 2009–2011