

THOMAS LEOPOLD

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

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Married to [Liliya Leopold](#), 4 children



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

- 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

Yastrebov, G., Trinidad, A., & Leopold, T. (2025). A Bounding Approach to Age–Period–Cohort Analysis: A Demonstration Using Public Crime Concerns in Germany. *Journal of Quantitative Criminology*.

Leopold, T. (2025). Scant Evidence, Sweeping Claim: Do Romantic Relationships Matter More to Men? Invited Commentary on Wahring et al. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*.

Hünteler, B., Hank, K., Alburez-Gutierrez, D., & Leopold, T. (2025): [A Typology of Younger Adults' Nuclear and Extended Family Relations in the United States](#). *Journal of Marriage and Family*. [[replication files](#)]

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*, 52, 915–938.

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*, 87, 478–504. [[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, 789–808. [[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*, 128, 887–904. [[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 Längsschnittanalysen zu intergenerationalen Transfers](#). *Zeitschrift für Soziologie*, 39, 258–280.

Supervision

- PhD first supervisor:* Leonie Diffené (2023–), Vanessa Wittemann (2022–2025), Kateryna Sytkina (2021–), Zafer Büyükkeçeci (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 (2021–2023), Charlotte Becker (2021–2024), Alexander Trinidad (2021–), Zafer Büyükkeçeci (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
 Winter 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025
- University of Amsterdam* **Research Master Social Sciences**
 Replication

Fall 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019
 Fixed and Random Effects Models
 Fall 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019
Master Sociology
 Analysis of Social Networks
 Spring 2015, 2016, 2017, 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, 2011, 2012
 Methods of Social Network Analysis
 Winter 2008, 2009, 2010
Bachelor Sociology
 Caregiving in Families
 Summer 2012
 Intergenerational Solidarity
 Winter 2009, 2010, 2011