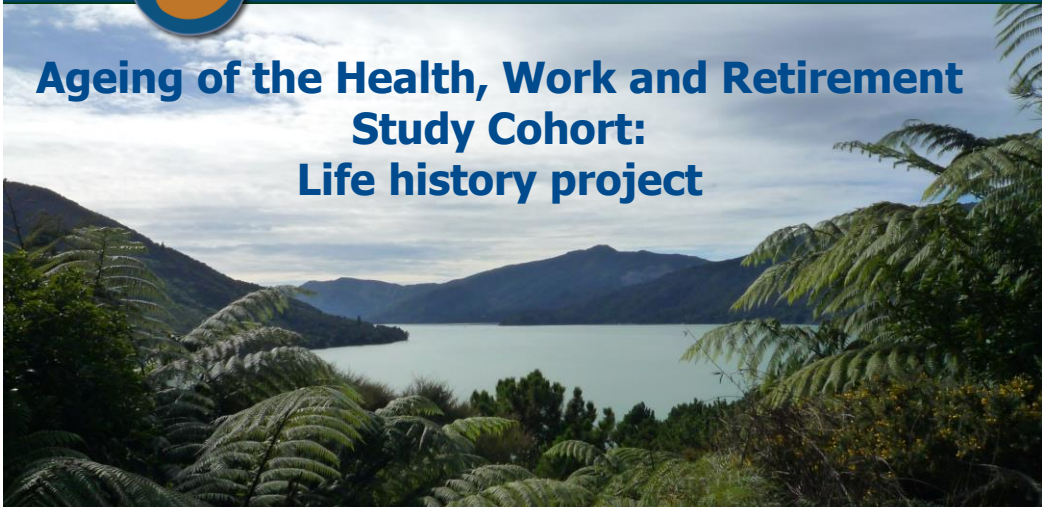




Ageing of the Health, Work and Retirement Study Cohort: Life history project



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THE ENGINE
OF THE NEW
NEW ZEALAND



Lifecourse Impacts

- Early life events influence later outcomes
 - Across time from early to later life
 - Across domains (eg from health to work)
- Cumulative advantage/disadvantage
- Events in social context
- Events in policy context



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Health and Ageing Research Team



Life History Interviews



- English Longitudinal Study of Ageing
- Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement (SHARE) in Europe
- Health Retirement Study
- Australian Life Histories Study



HEALTH AND RETIREMENT STUDY
 A Longitudinal Study of Health, Retirement, and Aging
 Sponsored by the National Institute on Aging



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Life Event Domains

- Childhood health and healthcare
- Childhood socioeconomic conditions
- Adult health and healthcare
- Adult work history
- Lifetime accommodation history
- Personal relationships
- Traumatic events and discrimination





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Life Event Questions

SHARELIFE childhood socioeconomic conditions

- Number of rooms
- Facilities (fixed bath, cold running water, hot running water, inside toilet, central heating)
- Number of books

NZ socioeconomic status historical

- Suitable clothes for school/full school uniform
- Participation in sports/lessons/activities
- Subjective assessment of childhood SES



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Life Event Analyses

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect
Economics of Education Review
 journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/econedurev

The long-lasting effects of family background: A European cross-country comparison^a
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ARTICLE INFO **ABSTRACT**

This paper investigates how and to what extent the association between family socioeconomic status (SES) during childhood and old age health, income and cognition varies across 11 European countries. It uses the Survey on Health, Aging and Retirement in Europe (SHARE) and SHARELIFE, which collect retrospective information on respondents' family background during their childhood. We also analyze which factors lead to intergenerational persistence of human capital by accounting for childhood health and school performance, education and labor market outcomes. The results show a strong relationship between family SES during childhood and old age outcomes and a large cross-country heterogeneity. Education appears as the main channel for this gradient and explains most of the estimated cross-country heterogeneity. Moreover, we show evidence of a strong correlation between income inequality and our estimates of intergenerational

- Compare social policy differences on outcomes across countries
- Compare social policy differences on outcomes across cohorts
- Compare impact of events such as recessions on later outcomes

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect
Advances in Life Course Research
 journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/alcr

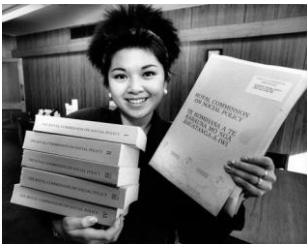
Home-ownership in Europe: How did it happen?
 Viola Angelini^{a,c}, Anne Lefebvre^{b,c}, Guglielmo Weber^{a,c}
^aUniversity of Cologne and WZL, The Netherlands
^bUCL, London
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ARTICLE INFO **ABSTRACT**

We analyze the life course of first-time homebuyers in Europe (SHARELIFE) to determine the different ways individuals in the same home-ownership cohort entered the market over the second half of the 20th century. We find that the main reason for the increase in home-ownership is the increase in the number of first-time buyers, rather than the increase in the number of repeat buyers. We also find that the increase in the number of first-time buyers is driven by the increase in the number of first-time buyers who are not in the market for housing. The paper shows that family help in acquiring home-ownership is more common in countries with a more liberal mortgage market and the state in most of continental Europe.
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Royal Commission on Social Policy 1988



“Royal Commissions are a long established feature of New Zealand political life, a way in which difficult issues can be parked for some time, and then quietly forgotten. The granddaddy of the latter was the 1988 Royal Commission on Social Policy which produced five massive volumes. Most of them famously remained in their wrapping”. (1986-1988)

[Royal Commissions – Famously Unread, Michael Field, Fairfax Media, 25/03/2009]

Family and relationships – key policy steps

- 1930s: 1936 & ext 1939- Widows’ Pension + deserted wives; 1936, Social Security Act
- 1940s: School leaving age raised to 15 yrs; Family benefit universal, 1946
- 1950s: 1954 Mazengarb Report (Moral Delinquency in Chn and Adol); 1959, Capitalisation of Family Benefit for Housing
- 1960s: Consolidation of Social Security Act 1964
- 1970s: 1973 DPB; DPB reviewed in 1976
- 1980s: Liable parent contribution scheme linked to DPB; Child Care Subsidy, 1983; Solo fathers eligible for DPB, 1987
- 1990s: CYPF Act and Commissioner for Children established
- 2000s: by 2001, DSW policy “Managing for Outputs”





Health

- 1930s: Sickness and Invalids benefits 1939/ males only.
- 1940s: Standards of fitness for houses (damp and overcrowded)
- 1950s: State resp for public hospital funding
- 1960s: Royal Commission (Woodhouse 1966, re Workers Compensation)
- 1970s: ACC Scheme (extended to non-earners) from 1.4.74; 1974: Disability Allowance
- 1980s: Era of Hospital Boards
- 1990s: "Green and White paper", 1991, Era of RHA/TFA and health market; 1992, User part-charges (w/d by 1993, for inpatient hospital) & Community Service Cards; Res Care Subsidy replaced Rest Home Subsidy and integration of asset and income tests
- 2000s: PHO introduced and CSC phased out; Office Disability Issues estab – 2002; 2005 – major adjustment to asset threshold levels for RCS; Enhanced case management for SB and IB



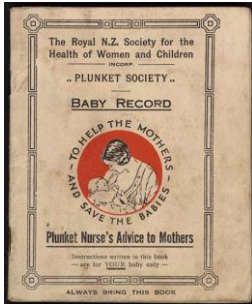
Paid Work

- 1930s: Unemployment Act, 1930/ Males
- 1940s: Minimum Wage Act
- 1950s:
- 1960s: Govt Service Equal Pay Act
- 1970s: Equal Pay Act applied to private sector, 1972; 1979, Unemployment Benefit available to married women
- 1980s:
- 1990s: Unemployment benefit tightened stand-down and thresholds for eligibility; 1992 55+ Benefit introduced
- 2000s: 2003, Removed work test and UB exemption for those aged 55-59. Working for Families, 2004-2007; KiwiSaver introduced in 2005, as Workplace scheme



Unpaid Work

- 1930s – 1950s: Policy framework “invisible”
- 1960s: 1962-1972 National Service re-introduced, all males aged 20+ yrs
- 1970s: 1975 Benefit for married male caregivers
- 1990s: 1992 – Student Allowances and Loans
- 2000s: Office for Community and Voluntary Sector established. 2001: Paid parental leave intro – 12 weeks, to 14 wks by 2005. By 2004, Transitional Retirement Benefit phased out. 2004: DPB (Care of Sick or infirm) applied to parents, previously ineligible; 2008 Carers Strategy



A tale of two sisters

- The elder, born in 1935
- Married in 1955, after 2 years at University, lived and worked on husband's family orchard
- 1st child born in 1960, 2nd in 1962
- Separated and divorced in 1966 (pre DPB & Matrimonial Property Act)
- Completed extramural degree and teacher training by 1970



A tale of two sisters

- The younger – born in 1948
- University degree completed in 1970, and teacher training in 1972
- Married in 1972, lived mostly in urban/metropolitan areas
- Three children, born in 1977, 1982 and 1988
- No paid parental leave available until 1988, based on sector agreement
- Limited career continuity



Thomson's Selfish Generations?

- NZ's big 'winners' – those born between 1920 and 1945
- Cf The "Greedy Boomer's" argument
- What are the long term effects?
- What experiences of the welfare state do individuals accumulate through life as a result of being born in one year rather than another?
- Focus on generation as birth cohort, fixed across the life course

(Thomson, 1991 and 1996).



Conclusions

- Examine long term consequences of life events
- Place these events in a social and policy context
- Effects of policy depend on cohort, gender, ethnicity etc
- Understand how policy intersects with theoretical understandings of the production of health inequalities

