

## 8. ÖSTERREICHISCHER WORKSHOP FEMINISTISCHER ÖKONOM\*INNEN (FemÖk)

5. Mai 2023

Institut für Höhere Studien (IHS)  
Josefstädter Straße 39, 1080 Wien

11:15 – 12:30

**GENDER, POVERTY & WAGES (IN ENGLISH)**

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**Franziska Dorn (University of Duisburg-Essen):** Measuring Living Standards: A Bivariate Relative Poverty Line for Extended Income and Leisure in the U.S.

A full understanding of economic deprivation requires attention to money income, the value of unpaid household services, and leisure. These concepts can be defined either in terms of subjective utility or measurable expenditures and time-use, and much depends on how they are theorized. Most analyses of time and income poverty focus on possible deficits resulting from inadequate time for unpaid household services after specifying a minimum requirement for leisure time. However, replacement cost valuation of unpaid household services can have the opposite effect, lifting some families out of poverty. This paper provides methodological approaches and estimates of thresholds, substitutability and minima for unpaid work, leisure and monetary income to construct appropriate time and income poverty measures. The application of the bivariate relative poverty line, which takes into account the joint distribution of leisure and extended income uncovers intersectional differences in bidimensional poverty. Using the 2019 U.S. Panel Study of Income Dynamics shows that fewer households are considered bidimensionally poor, highlighting the importance of considering household unpaid work in poverty measures. The implications of such efforts extend beyond issues of poverty to encompass definitions of a living wage and measures of overall inequality in living standards in the U.S.

**Anna Schwarz (WU Wien):** Flying to Mars and Venus: The Gendered Nature of In-Work Poverty in Europe

In this paper, I study the gendered nature of in-work poverty in Europe by comparing the Eurostat in-work poverty indicator to a novel individualised indicator by Knittler and Heuberger (2018). The latter relies on individual income instead of household income but still accounts for the household level via the poverty threshold. I show that men are often in-work poor due to household factors, while women are mostly individually poor, but are lifted out of poverty on the household level. Therefore, the focus on household income by the Eurostat in-work poverty indicator systematically underestimates women's in-work poverty, and, as I show, has problems capturing women's material deprivation. Further, regression and decomposition analyses provide evidence that household dynamics drive this gendered nature of in-work poverty. Living in a household with children increases Eurostat in-work poverty risk for men, but decreases it for women. However, women's risk to be individually in-work poor increases when living with children, while men's decreases. These patterns differ across countries. Austria, Ireland, Croatia, Poland, and the Southern European countries show the greatest gender difference in in-work poverty realities and also the highest influence of the household context, while Sweden and the other Eastern European countries seem to be more gender equal. The individualised indicator thus lends itself perfectly to measure (women's) financial independence of the household, also termed defamilialization in the literature, providing new insights in gender inequality across countries.

**Stella Zilian (WIIW):** ICT Use and Flexibility at Work and their Impact on Wages in Austria: Analysing Gender Differences using PIAAC 2011/2012

In this paper, I use PIAAC survey data from 2011/2012 to analyse the computer wage premium (CWP) for different types of ICT tasks within a quantile regression framework. I distinguish between "technical" ICT tasks and "operational" ICT tasks to study whether gender segregation exists regarding different types of ICT tasks. I use quantile regression to study if returns to these tasks differ along different points of the wage distribution for men and for women. Moreover, I derive an indicator to measure the degree of flexibility of work organization to investigate the role of greater flexibility for men's and women's wages and whether ICT use at work affects the penalty on work arrangements. The quantile regressions show that there is a CWP for ICT-using women but a wage penalty for operational computer users among high-income men. However, while operational men seem to benefit from greater flexibility, the CWP for operational low-wage women is reduced as flexibility increases. Finally, there seems to be no particular flexibility benefit for computer-using women with young children. Potential explanations related to devaluation theory and social role theory are discussed and future research directions are highlighted.

11:15 – 12:30

**DIVERSE TOPICS ON GENDER, SEXUAL ORIENTATION AND MIGRATION (IN ENGLISH AND GERMAN)**

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**Dovaine Buschmann (Forschungsplattform “Mobile Kulturen und Gesellschaften”):**  
Examining Mobility of Social Spheres: A Feminist Policy Analysis of Financial Literacy Education in Austria

The idea to question dichotomies and oppositional thinking, as well as ‘going beyond’ conceptualising social terrains as fixed has been central to feminist thought latest since the second wave of the feminist movement. Carole Pateman has argued that a feminist critique of the public/private dichotomy “is central to almost two centuries of feminist writing and political struggle; it is, ultimately what the feminist movement is about” (Pateman & Phillips, 1987, p. 118). Feminist theories question historically institutionalized, but arbitrary, ambivalent and always shifting separation between the public and the private spheres, and aim to reveal how, and in which way the separation functions as “an organizational and perceptual pattern of reality that regulates social relations, that allows, permits, and prohibits (...), regulates access to certain resources, forms identities and groups of actors (...), and organizes interests” (Sauer 2001: 5, translation D.B.). Recent works of feminist political economists have offered a valuable framework for advancing research on the changing public/private divide, towards an analysis of financialization of the everyday life (Elias & Roberts, 2016) and financialization of social reproduction (Fine, 2020; Roberts, 2013, 2016). These studies provide a way into thinking about how, ‘the private’ operates as a site within which global political economic change takes shape due to the actions in which individuals engage every day.

The question of how, in the context of financialization of the everyday and of social reproduction, the spheres of ‘the public’ and ‘the private’ are (re-)negotiated at the level of policy-making is in the centre of the proposed contribution. In the framework of the FemÖk workshop I would like to present and discuss my PhD project with the preliminary title “Examining Mobility of Social Spheres. A Feminist Policy Analysis of Financial Literacy Education in Austria”. The project combines theoretical concepts from feminist political economy, mobility studies and historic materialist policy analysis (HMPA) with an aim to develop an innovative analytical framework that is capable of grasping how the spheres of ‘the public’ and ‘the private’ are negotiated on the level of policy-making. In this endeavour, the project will conduct the three steps foreseen by the HMPA approach, namely, context, actor and process analysis (Buckel et al. 2012, p. 23; Buckel et al. 2014, pp. 53–59; Kannankulam and Georgi 2012, pp. 36–40; Kannankulam and Georgi 2014, pp. 63–68, Brand et al. 2021). Those steps will be based on a three-fold methodological strategy including methods of qualitative document analysis, expert interviews and qualitative content analysis.

**Viktorija Eberhardt (IKF) mit Karin Schönpflug: Queer Counts: A Closer Look at the FRA LGBTI II Survey**

The European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) is an EU body that collects and analyses data relating to the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union (CFR). In 2012, the FRA conducted the first EU-wide survey on discrimination against LGBTs. The survey is an important milestone in making visible social and economic inequalities LGBT people are facing. (FRA 2013) Seven years later, in 2019, the FRA conducted a follow-up survey, the LGBTI II, that is including intersex people to the scope of the research. (FRA 2020)

The results of the survey are the most relevant reference points on what it means to be LGBTI in the European Union, since they are the first and only large-scale data available. They carry political weight and show the need for action in various areas of life. Therefore, it is essential to pay close attention to the design of the questionnaire, as well as the implementation of the research.

Overall, the EU-LGBTI II survey reached a total of 139,799 respondents across 30 countries: the EU-28 (including the United Kingdom), Serbia and North Macedonia. The 2019 sample was considerably bigger than the 2012 sample which reached 93,079 respondents. (FRA 2020a) Despite the great outreach, the composition of the sample is problematic and at closer look is largely not representative of the LGBTI community across the considered countries.

In a nutshell, young gay men – predominantly students – living in urban areas within high income countries are overrepresented in the sample. When the Eurocentralasian Lesbian\* Community (EL\*C) asked us to analyse the FRA data regarding lesbians age 55 and above, the limitations of the sample became tangible: The number of respondents for this target group was only sufficient in three countries (Denmark, Ireland and the Netherlands) for drawing significant conclusions meeting scientific criteria.

Our paper shows that there is room for improvement, especially in the process of data collection. We tackle the following questions: (a) What can be said about the goals the FRA had set concerning the outreach of the LGBTI II survey? (b) What measures were taken to reach those goals? (c) Who was actually reached in the process and which groups are barely represented in the sample? And (d) What further measures could increase the representativity of the results?

While the intersectional approach of the FRA questionnaire is exceptional (FRA 2020b), the sample's composition is unfortunately not as representative concerning age and gender as it should be. (FRA 2020a) The "expected sample numbers" for older subgroups of the LGBTI populations as well as women, but especially trans and inter respondents seem distorted and are often not met. (FRA 2020a)

The expectations for the sample show nearly twice as many gay men compared to lesbian women. An explanation might be that these expectations reflect accessibility based on the channels of the recruiting process, which says nothing about the prevalence of these groups in the real world and raises serious questions, even when considering the recruitment channels that are predominantly online-based, and often via gay dating apps: Why should there be twice as many gay men than lesbian women? How could you expect to reach nearly as many old trans people as young ones? How could you expect to reach more inter persons older than 55 than between 15 and 34 years of age? – And all this is not considering geographic expectations that were only formed based on the size of the different age cohorts in the national populations

but are not considering migration based on adverse legal frameworks or public hostility. (FRA 2020a)

When looking at the populations 55+ years old, not only did the FRA expect relatively more older lesbians than gay men to complete the survey, but also more older trans persons than lesbian women in absolute numbers. Regarding the realized sample, it becomes clear that all numbers for older populations are largely not meeting the expectations, only a quarter of the expected populations are reached, while younger cohorts aged 15-34 exceed expectations by 2,2 times for lesbians, 2,5 times in the case of gay men, and 3,3 times for trans persons. Only 19% of the expected target is reached for older lesbians – who still see better response rates than trans or inter respondents. (FRA 2020a)

Overall, it can be concluded that the FRA LGBTI II survey cannot explain much about the situation of lesbian women 55+ with a response of 768 persons in total, which would be not even 30 women per country with equal distributions – while the data shows that for 16 countries the number of lesbian women 55+ was smaller than 5, and in most cases 0 or 1. The country that fared best was Denmark with 86% of the target value for lesbians 55+ having been reached, but in none of the countries the expectations were met. (FRA 2020a)

Consequently, the results of the survey cannot speak for some of the more marginalized and vulnerable segments of the LGBTI population. This raises interesting questions on how to conduct an LGBTI survey with an intersectional approach, as it seems insufficient to simply adapt the scientific tools (e.g., questionnaire). Additionally, it may be beneficial to discuss multi-method approaches to research the more marginalized groups of hard-to-reach populations. Otherwise, even the best research design might go to waste in the implementation.

**Stefanie Wöhl (University of Applied Sciences BFI Vienna):** Perspektiven auf Wohnen: Geschlecht, Einkommen, Migrationsbiografie im Kontext der Internationalen Feministischen Politischen Ökonomie (in German)

In diesem Working Paper wird der Zugang zu leistbarem Wohnraum aus einer intersektionalen Perspektive untersucht. Dabei werden besonders die Strukturkategorien Geschlecht und Migration analysiert und anhand aktueller verschiedener sozioökonomischer Entwicklungen aufgezeigt, inwiefern besonders Alleinerziehende und Menschen mit Migrationsbiografien von mangelndem leistbarem Wohnraum betroffen sind. Abschließend werden diese Entwicklungen aus der theoretischen Perspektive der feministischen internationalen politischen Ökonomie bewertet und in internationale Entwicklungen von Kreditvergaben und Verschuldung eingeordnet.

13:30 – 14:45

## **GENDER IN LABOR MARKETS AND CARE WORK (IN DEUTSCHER SPRACHE)**

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**Julia Bock-Schappelwein (WIFO) mit Andrea Egger, Felix Kranner und Gabriele Schmied (abif):** Frauen am österreichischen Arbeitsmarkt: Einflussfaktoren und Zugangshürden

Felix Butschek (1965, S. 21) beschrieb in einem WIFO-Monatsbericht vor fast 60 Jahren die Frauenbeschäftigung in Österreich folgendermaßen:

"Die Frau erfüllt in der modernen Gesellschaft zunehmend eine Doppelfunktion: sie wirkt im Produktionsprozeß mit und betreut gleichzeitig Haushalt und Familie. Frauenarbeit wurde zur wichtigsten Reserve des Arbeitsmarktes. Sie mildert den Arbeitskräftemangel und verhindert bisher einen Rückgang des gesamten Arbeitskräftepotenzials."

Obwohl die Frauenbeschäftigung die Pufferfunktion "als Reserve des Arbeitsmarktes" gegenwärtig zwar nicht mehr erfüllt wie noch in den 1960er Jahren (Bruegel, 1979; Rubery, 1988; Rubery & Rafferty, 2013), als sie in den konjunkturereagiblen Produktionsbereichen zur Abfederung von Auftragsschwankungen eingesetzt wurde und sich im Rückzug in die Inaktivität ausdrückte, sobald sich das wirtschaftliche Umfeld verschlechterte, so bleibt dennoch das Spannungsfeld zwischen Erwerbs- und Familienarbeit auch heute noch ungleich aktuell.

Die Einflussfaktoren, die auf die Frauenbeschäftigung einwirken, haben nichts an Aktualität eingebüßt. Butschek sprach bereits vor fast 60 Jahren von "demographischen, ökonomischen und soziologischen Faktoren" (1965, S. 25), die die Frauenbeschäftigung beeinflussen und zählte beispielsweise den "Anteil der Frauen an der Gesamtbevölkerung, [...] Anteil der Unverheirateten an der weiblichen Bevölkerung im heiratsfähigen Alter oder auch die [...] durchschnittliche[...] Kinderzahl" auf. Außerdem bezog er sich auf die Einkommenssituation im Haushalt, auf die gesellschaftliche Bewertung der Frauenarbeit, die Qualifikationsstruktur und auf die Ausstattung der Haushalte mit technischen Hilfsmitteln, die sich ebenfalls auf die Frauenbeschäftigung auswirkten.

Seit Veröffentlichung dieses Berichts haben sich zwar das Qualifikationsniveau, der Zugang in Beschäftigung sowie der Verbleib von Frauen im Erwerbssystem massiv erhöht, dennoch sind

es aber immer noch die gleichen Aspekte, die die Frauenbeschäftigung beeinflussen (Eurofound, 2016) und es sind eben großteils Frauen, die ihre Erwerbstätigkeit für die Betreuung von Kindern oder Angehörigen unterbrechen. Einzig die Dauer der Unterbrechung dürfte sich durch ihre zunehmende Höherqualifizierung oder auch durch die Bereitstellung von Betreuungseinrichtungen etwas verringert haben. Dies wird aber oftmals mit der Anpassung der Arbeitszeit kompensiert.

Vor diesem Hintergrund untersucht der Beitrag – der auf einer Studie von WIFO und abif für die AK NÖ aufbaut, die die Situation von Frauen am niederösterreichischen Arbeitsmarkt untersucht und voraussichtlich noch im Frühling 2023 veröffentlicht wird – wie sich die Beschäftigung von Frauen bzw. von Frauen mit Migrationshintergrund und der Gendergap in der Beschäftigung gestalten. Konkret wird danach gefragt, wie kulturelle Hintergründe, Herkunftsland, formales Bildungsniveau, Gründe der Migration und Prozesse beim Zuzug ebenso wie soziodemographische Faktoren die Zugangschancen zum Arbeitsmarkt beeinflussen. Hieraus werden Hemmnisse und Hürden in den Zugangschancen zum

Arbeitsmarkt für Frauen, insbesondere für Frauen mit Migrationshintergrund, identifiziert und darauf basierend Handlungsempfehlungen entwickelt, die dazu beitragen, dass Frauen die Chance erhalten, sich nachhaltig am Arbeitsmarkt zu integrieren.

Umgesetzt wurde die Analyse mit Literatur- und sekundärstatischen Datenanalysen verschiedener Quellen, ergänzt um qualitative Interviews mit ArbeitsmarktexpertInnen und BeraterInnen von Frauen-/Migrationsberatungsstellen.

## AKTUELLE MASTERARBEITEN ZU CAREARBEIT

**Julia Radlherr (WU Wien):** Formalizing Unpaid and Unrecognized Care: Experiences of Caregivers and Arising Implications

Anhand der Pilotprojekte "Förderungen der Betreuung von Pflegebedürftigen durch Angehörige" (Burgenland) und „Anstellung betreuender Angehöriger“ (Oberösterreich) soll erhoben werden 1) wie pflegende Angehörige eine Formalisierung ihrer Arbeit erleben und 2) inwieweit diese Formalisierung das Potential hat, die Situation von pflegenden Angehörigen zu verbessern. Dafür werden sechs Interviews mit pflegenden Angehörigen, die an einem der beiden Pilotprojekte teilnehmen und zwei Expert\*inneninterviews mit den Projektkoordinator\*innen geführt. Beim 8. Österreichischen Workshop Feministischer Ökonom\*innen sollen erste Ergebnisse der Arbeit präsentiert werden.

**Lukas Heck:** Limits of Time-Use Studies: Process Time as a Potential Development for Visualizing the Invisible

Time-use studies provide valuable insights into how individuals allocate their time. The analysis of time-use surveys from 23 countries by Addati et al. (2018: xxix) shows: "Around the world, without exception, women do three-quarters of unpaid care work. There is no country where women and men take on an equal share of unpaid care work." This underscores the significance of time-use studies in identifying gender-based disparities in time allocation, as well as the civic and economic value of unpaid care and domestic work. Therefore, feminist scholars recognize time-use studies as an essential metric (Bryson 2008).

However, this is only one side of the time-use studies. In time research, time is not an objective and universal concept, but rather a socially constructed and culturally specific phenomenon that varies across different societies and historical periods (Elias 1985; Thompson 1999). Although several feminist scholars have suggested that care work can be assessed using time-use studies and measured in clock time units, Folbre's (2006) distinction between 'direct care', involving personal and emotional engagement, and 'indirect care' as support of direct care expands the view on care work. Nonetheless, care responsibilities remain challenging to conceptualize in terms of modern clock time. They are not separable linear clock time units; rather, they involve messier, circular, interconnected processes that encompass fluidity and diverse temporal dimensions (Folbre 2006; Davies 1994; Adam 1990). Davies (1994) criticizes that care tasks and care responsibilities, which are shaped by clock time, also contain logics of rationalization and efficiency. It is difficult and not foreseeable how long some care tasks will take. Therefore, as another form of time contrasting linear time, Davies introduces the concept of "process time" emphasizing that time is enmeshed in social relations, where many processes can intertwine or where unexpected events frequently call for abandoning the linear clock-time regime.

This paper investigates how preliminary qualitative research can complement time-use studies to reflect the co-existing times arising from care tasks and care responsibilities. Methodologically, a mixed-method approach is being conducted. Couples are asked in a pre-questionnaire about their time use, which is then complemented by qualitative interviews as well as the "Household Portrait technique", where a couple maps gender divisions by housework and care tasks/responsibilities, indicating who does what (see: Doucet 2015)

Building upon a recent publication from Doucet (2022), this paper shows that standard measures of time use, such as time-use diaries and surveys, may not be able to capture the full range of experiences and meanings of care tasks/ responsibilities associated with time.



This ensures that, although quantitative equality of care work is established, it is not possible to determine who in couples takes on which care work tasks and, at the same time, who assumes the main burden of care responsibilities. Thus, it is important to track which tasks carry a higher mental load to pinpoint gendered time allocation, including also non-linear time.

Against the background of the Austrian time-use study that is expected to be published in 2023, on the one hand, the results give a new perspective on time-use studies and the gender time gap regarding the mental load, perception of time, and time justice. On the other hand, they are expected to have two further impacts: (1) on statistical authorities in the design of time-use studies (and possible qualitative pre-studies), (2) on the perception of care responsibilities, and appropriate methods to make these aspects visible.

13:30 – 14:45

**GENDER IN POPULATION AND PUBLIC ECONOMICS (IN ENGLISH)**

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**Martin Halla (JKU Linz) mit Alexander Ahammer, Ulrich Glogowsky und Timo Hener:**  
More Bad News for Mothers: The Child Penalty in Mental Health

It is probably beyond dispute that men and women share the costs of parenthood unequally. Childbirth has large and persistent effects on the labor-market outcomes of women but not on those of men (Angelov et al., 2016; Kleven et al., 2019a,b, 2020, 2021, 2022; Kleven, 2022). In line with this finding, descriptive work suggests that mothers spend more time on non-market activities than fathers. Examples include time invested in childcare (Guryan et al., 2008) or in other home-production activities (Borra et al., 2021). While the literature documents child-related gender inequalities in many dimensions, we know comparatively little about how these inequalities translate into actual differences in individual well-being across the sexes.

In this paper, we combine quasi-experimental research designs with administrative data from Austria and Denmark to compare the impact of parenthood on mothers' and fathers' mental well-being. Our more objective measure of mental well-being is antidepressant prescriptions, which we can observe in both countries in a comparable way. The overarching insight of our paper is that, in the medium and long run, childbirth has negative effects on the mental health of women and smaller adverse effects on men. Put differently, mothers pay a larger psychological toll of parenthood than fathers. This decline in females' mental health relative to males' (dubbed the child penalty in mental health) explains a substantial fraction of the overall gender gap in mental health problems. Notably, our effects do not simply reflect postpartum depression that may occur immediately after childbirth. Moreover, we document that mental health issues are more severe for mothers who quasi-randomly invest longer into childcare by taking longer maternal leaves. These findings are important because maximizing and equalizing mental health across genders is an important policy goal.

Our paper benefits from a dual focus on Austria and Denmark. One key benefit is that we can explore whether mental health penalties are a general phenomenon. To that end, we deliberately picked two countries with particularly diverging levels of child-related gender inequality and gender conservatism. For example, in Denmark, the arrival of children creates a long-run gender gap in earnings of around 20%. For Austria, the gap is about 50% (Kleven et al., 2019a). Moreover, Denmark is considered a low-sexist country, while Austria belongs to the group of countries with high sexism (Bertrand et al., 2021). Another benefit is that both countries are similar enough to allow a meaningful comparison of results. They are both rich and have comprehensive social security systems. Most importantly, the healthcare systems are similar with regard to the services provided, enabling clean measurement and comparability of health outcomes between the countries. Lastly, for both countries, we can draw on high-quality administrative data comprising information on labor-market outcomes and healthcare utilization, and there is ample identifying variation in childcare investment which allows us to explore channels.

## **Johanna Reuter (JKU Linz) mit Ulrich Glogowsky und Martin Halla: Son Preference and Mental Health of Fathers**

There is ample evidence that parents have preferences over the gender of their children. On average, parents have a preference for sons. This “son preference” is evident in revealed and in stated preferences. For instance, Dahl and Moretti (2008) show for the US, that a female first child raises subsequent fertility and increases the probability of single motherhood. Based on these findings, it is clear that son preference is present, however, it is impossible to infer whether it is driven by fathers or mothers. In contrast, evidence based on stated preferences is conclusive on this question. Since the 1940s, American men have consistently indicated in Gallup polls that they would rather have sons than daughters.

Given fathers' preference for sons, one would expect that fathers derive more postbirth utility and well-being from a son as compared to a daughter. So far, we lack evidence on whether this hypothesis is, indeed, true. One reason for the lack of evidence is that suitable measures of well-being are hard to find. In this paper, we propose to use mental health as a proxy for fathers' well-being. To operationalize the test of this hypothesis, we compare the likelihood of an antidepressant prescription for men with first-born sons versus first-born daughters. For our empirical investigation we use administrative data from the Austrian statutory health insurance system.

We proceed in two steps. First, we establish that Austrian fathers also have a son preference. Survey data on stated preferences confirm this and analyses of revealed preferences are also in line. In a second step, we examine the impact of the sex of the first child on fathers' mental health. In stark contrast to the hypothesis formulated above, we find that fathers of sons have poorer mental health than their counterparts with daughters. In the case of women, we find no evidence for any child's sex specific effect on mental health.

The empirical evidence that we have gathered reveals a puzzling pattern. Before birth, men have a preference for a son. However, if this ex-ante preference is materialized, they are mentally worse off. We aim to explain this previously undocumented puzzle. After comparing the behavior of men with first-born sons versus daughters in a variety of data sources, we conclude that fathers with first-born sons tend to behave more like mothers, i.e. they invest significantly more in childcare and less in market work. Fathers of first-born sons spend about 3.5 hours more per week with their children, than fathers of first-born daughters. This is a 50% increase of time spent on activities with children. The earnings of fathers of first-born sons decrease after childbirth, while the earnings of fathers with daughters remain unchanged throughout the first ten post-birth years. Taking these results together, we argue that fathers of first-born sons are more burdened by parenting, since their parenting time increases strongly while their working hours decrease only slightly. This additional stress is what we argue that causes declines in mental health for fathers of first-born sons. By contrast, child sex neither impacts mothers' time spent with children nor their working hours.

In a nutshell, the findings show that only fathers adjust their behavior depending on child gender. All the measured child-gender effects point in the direction that fathers invest more into first-born sons than in first-born daughters. We argue that, through becoming more similar to the mother and, thereby, taking on more of the burden of parenting, fathers of sons experience worse mental health.

**Klara Kinnl (WU Wien) mit Ulrich Wohak (WU Wien):** Free the Period? Evaluating Tampon Tax Reforms using Transaction-Level Scanner Data

We study price and volume effects of VAT reductions in the market for menstrual hygiene products for five European economies in a reduced-form approach. We show that in response to a one percentage point reduction in the VAT prices decrease on average by 0,6 %. The implied country-specific pass through ranges from 56% to 110% for standard VAT reductions, with a larger shift for low-income households. We find no overall effect on purchase volumes but our results suggest relatively strong intertemporal substitution effects.

**15:15 – 16:30**

**WOMEN IN ECONOMICS/FEMINIST ECONOMICS (IN ENGLISH)**

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**Theresa Hager (JKU) mit Stephan Pühringer:** Gendered Competitive Practices in Economics: A Multi-Layer Model of Women's Underrepresentation

Economics holds a unique position in terms of the severity and persistence of gender imbalances and the underrepresentation of female researchers within the social sciences. There exist various reasons for this fact, as well as a variety of channels through which these imbalances are perpetuated. To this end, there has not been a comprehensive review of the existing and well-researched levels of this underrepresentation. By systematically reviewing the literature on the facts and reasons for the low proportion of women in the profession and structuring them in our multi-level model, we not only make the multitude of channels visible but can also analyze their interplay. Moreover, we argue that efforts to address women's underrepresentation are impeded because economics as a discipline is particularly susceptible to competitive evaluation and selection practices. Men and women perceive, perform in, and make sense of competitive processes in their own ways, so that men, through their socialization as “competitive selves”, are more likely to succeed in an academic system heavily based on competition and rankings; women, in this case, are endowed with an inappropriate set of competitive strategies and interpretations that, nevertheless, ultimately inform their academic practices. Enriching our multi-level model with this perspective on gendered competitive practices in academia, allows us to offer a novel contribution to the debate on the causes of the persistent gender imbalance in the field. We use questionnaire data to substantiate our claims about the differences between male and female competitive practices in economics and the associated success rates respectively.

Drawing from feminist standpoint theory, we argue that such an endeavor is not only important, and interesting in its own right, but also highly relevant to the reproduction of gender imbalances and gender discrimination in society at large; if a diversity of views and opinions is not represented within its halls, economics runs the risk to inform policy lopsided. More precisely, we argue that our result has some nontrivial implications given the rise of competitive formats in academia (e.g. new excellence programs, Harrouche 2022) and thus is particularly alarming for science policies aiming at gender balances in academia.

**Alyssa Schneebaum (WU Wien) mit Carla Rainer:** What is “feminist” about Feminist Economics?

What is “feminist” about feminist economics? In this paper, we consider the extent to which literature in the field of feminist economics draws on and links to feminist theory. We analyze all papers published in the journal *Feminist Economics* since its inception in 1995 and assess whether those papers draw on any of three major strands of feminist theory: liberal feminist theory, Marxist feminist theory, and Black feminist theory. We then ask what feminist economics can draw from feminist theory and highlight the ways in which feminist economic analyses would benefit from a grounding in Black feminist theory. We present examples of what feminist economics could look like if it had its roots in Black feminist theory.

**Elisabeth Wurm (WU Wien) mit Karoline Lehner und Alyssa Schneebaum: Writing like a Girl: Writing Style and the Gender Publication Gap in Economics**

Women are underrepresented in Economics, in part because they are less likely to publish in Economics journals and much less likely to publish in the top journals. We study whether writing style differs by gender and if any differences contribute to explaining the gender publication gap. We find that male and female economists are equally likely to use confident and self-promoting words associated with more publication success, but women are more likely to use cautionary words that are associated with lower success. Moreover, when women use promoting words, they receive lower returns in terms of publication success for them.