

## Contents

1. Conference presentations
2. Research projects
3. Media/Newspaper articles
4. Recent Publications
5. Call for pictures for INIRC poster

### 1. Conference presentations

*Children born of war and the Compram methodology*, 23rd European conference on operational research, Bonn, July 5-8, 2009.

Ingvill C. Mochmann, GESIS – Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences, Cologne, Germany and Dorien J. DeTombe, Chair Operational Research Euro Working Group Complex Societal problems, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

*Abstract:*

During wars children are born where the father is a member of an occupational or peacekeeping force and the mother a local citizen. The children may be results of consensual relationships or sexual exploitation and rape. So far information on the children and their destinies is rather scarce as the mothers are often too ashamed or traumatised to address the issue and fear stigmatisation if the child's biological origin is revealed. Over the past decades, however, some information from grown up children born of war - particularly from World War II - has become available. The results indicate that many of these children are born with a stigma of belonging to the enemy and are, among others, often more likely to be exposed to poverty, infanticide, lack of citizenship and lack of education than other children. Also many seem to face identity problems due to the lack of information on and knowledge about their biological origin. In present days conflicts children born of war exist as well, for example, in Bosnia in the 1990s, Rwanda, Northern Uganda, D.R. Congo and research indicated children born of war in these conflict zones are exposed to many of the same risks as children fathered by occupational soldiers during and after WWII. Securing the human rights of this group is highly complex and involves researchers and practitioners from many different disciplines. In this paper the COMPRAM methodology will be applied in order to analyse the case of "children born of war". The methodology includes six basic steps: knowledge, power, negotiation, societal reaction, implementation and evaluation. Based on these steps a model will be elaborated which may be helpful in minimising the risks of children born of war independent of time and space.

Keywords: children born of war, societal complexity, COMPRAM methodology.

---

*Session: Analysing children born of war across time, nations and disciplines*, European Survey Research Association in Warsaw, June 29 - July 3 2009.

***Presentations:***

***Developing a methodology for the research field of "Children born of war"***

Ingvill C. Mochmann, GESIS – Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences, Cologne, Germany.

***A Conspiracy of Silence***

Monika Diederichs, associate researcher NIOD, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

***From gossip to knowledge. From fatherhood to paternity, from motherhood to maternity – sources to cryptic knowledge of paternity and maternity during and after the German occupation of Denmark.***

Arne Øland, Danish War Child Association (DKBF) and Research-project: Children of War – Illegitimate children and soldiers' children, Silkeborg, Denmark.

***The forgotten generation. Children of Soviet Soldiers and Austrian/German Women***

Barbara Stelzl-Marx, Ludwig Boltzmann-Institut für Kriegsfolgen-Forschung, Graz, Austria

***Case study: Children born of American soldiers and local mothers: Comparison between the UK and Germany***

Sabine Lee, Department of Modern History, University of Birmingham, UK.

***Children of the East African great lakes: War breeds***

Eunice Apio, Repu Consultancy, Lira, Uganda.

***Bringing peace and babies - Children born by relationships between peacekeepers and local women. Examining the UN strategy for assistance for acceptance.***

Kai Grieg, United Nations Association of Norway, Western Branch, Bergen, Norway.



From left: Ingvill C. Mochmann, Monika Diederichs, Barbara Stelzl-Marx, Sabine Lee, Eunice Apio and Arne Øland (Kai Grieg was connected via video conference).

---

*How to give a voice to children born of war? Experiences from an interdisciplinary research network*, World Social Science Forum, Bergen, May 10-12 2009.

Ingvill C. Mochmann, GESIS – Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences, Cologne, Germany

Abstract:

The “International Network for Interdisciplinary Research on Children Born of War” (INIRC) focuses on gathering sources relevant to increase the knowledge base on children who are fathered by soldiers of enemy, allied or peacekeeping forces and local women. These children are often forgotten during and after wars and conflicts. Information so far indicates that the human rights of this group are particularly at risk. In the first part of this paper, the scope of this problem will be introduced and data and information on children born of war across time and space will be discussed. Case studies range from the Second World War until today’s conflicts, where forced pregnancies are used as military strategy to humiliate and demoralise families, communities and societies. Thereafter, the research network will be presented with special emphasis on how this interdisciplinary network has brought together relevant sources on children born of war. The different methodological approaches, data collection methods and therapies emphasise the complexity of the topic and the need to include specialists from several disciplines in order to analyse it thoroughly. Research results and their discussion in the political sphere indicate that such an international network successfully can create visibility and awareness for voices that so far were not heard and can suggest evidence based measures that help to ease lives of the weakest victims of conflicts, in which they had nothing to say.

---

*Les viols en temps de guerre: une histoire à écrire. Rape in Wartime : A History to be Written*, Colloque international 11-13 May 2009, Paris.

---

*Kinder des Krieges – Zwischen Anpassung, Ausgrenzung und Traumatisierung*,

Deutschsprachige Gesellschaft für Psychotraumatologie, Bielefeld, Germany May 7 -10 2009.

Ingvill C. Mochmann, GESIS – Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences, Cologne, Germany

Abstract:

"Kinder des Krieges" sind Kinder, die aus einer Beziehung zwischen einer einheimischen Frau und eines fremden Soldaten während oder nach einem Krieg bzw. Bürgerkrieges hervorgehen. Obwohl immer Kinder des Krieges geboren worden sind und immer noch werden, ist dieses Thema in der Forschung bis jetzt wenig

belichtet, was sicherlich mit der generellen gesellschaftlichen Tabuisierung dieses Themas in Nachkriegszeiten zusammenhängt. Informationen und Forschungsergebnisse, soweit zugänglich, deuten darauf hin, dass diese Kinder in ihrer Gemeinschaft und Gesellschaft oft diskriminiert und stigmatisiert werden. So zeigt eine Untersuchung von Kindern mit norwegischen Müttern und deutschen Soldaten als Vätern, die während der Okkupation Norwegens im 2. Weltkrieg geboren wurden, dass diese Kinder im Vergleich zu Gleichaltrigen einen höheren Anteil von Selbstmorden und Tod durch Herzkrankheiten aufweisen. Auch ist der Anteil derjenigen, die relativ früh berufsunfähig geworden sind, höher. Einkommen und Bildung dagegen sind niedriger als bei den Gleichaltrigen. Eine weitere Umfrage unter norwegischen und dänischen Kindern des Krieges zeigt zudem, dass viele Kinder in Familienverhältnissen aufgewachsen sind, in der die wahre biologische Identität der Kinder verheimlicht und tabuisiert wurde. Oft wurden die Kinder jedoch in Nachbarschaft und Schule mit ihrer wahren Identität als „Kind des Feindes“ konfrontiert. Diese frühen Erlebnisse haben die betroffenen Kinder ein Leben lang verfolgt und häufig Traumatisierungen und Identitätskrisen ausgelöst. In dieser Präsentation sollen Forschungsergebnisse und Informationen aus vergangenen und gegenwärtigen Kriegen vorgestellt und diskutiert werden.

---

*Intended Consequences: Rwandan Children Born of Rape and exhibition* (by Jonathan Torgovnik), Panel discussion, Wednesday, April 29, 2009, New York.

## **2. Research projects**

10 video interviews and 55 recorded interviews with Dutch women who had relationship with a German soldier during WWII will be digitalised within the project ‘‘ Erfgoed van de Oorlog, Getuigen verhalen’’. The project is financed by the ‘‘Ministerium von Volksgezondheid, Welzijn en Sport (VWS).’’ For information contact: Monika Diederichs, Associate Researcher, NIOD, The Netherlands. Email: mdiederichs@planet.nl.

## **3. Media/ Newspaper articles**

*Deutsche Staatsbürgerschaft für einen "Bastard"*, Welt Online, 06.08. 2009.

*Schmerzhaftes Geschichte, späte Aufarbeitung*, Deutschlandfunk, 28.07. 2009.

*Tracing Roots Fostered by War, Severed by Shame*, New York Times, 09.07.2009.

*Barn født av krig*, På Høyden, 22.05.2009.

*Die Kinder des Genozids/ RWANDA: les enfants du génocide* von/de Ivo Brandau und/et Markus CM Schmidt, TV Report: ARTE, Saturday April 4th 7pm.

## **4. Recent Publications**

Ebba D. Drolshagen: Der freundliche Feind *Wehrmachtssoldaten im besetzten Europa*.

Erik Oluf Otto Galvit : *Inger min mor, tyskertøs eller forbudt kærlighed*.

Fabrice Virgili: *Naître ennemi: Les enfants de couples franco-allemands nés pendant la Seconde Guerre mondiale*.

## **5. Call for pictures for INIRC poster**

We are in the process of developing a poster for our network. If you have any pictures we can use please send them to [ingvill.mochmann@gesis.org](mailto:ingvill.mochmann@gesis.org). Please include a statement that we can use the picture for posters and/or pamphlets to present the network.