

Call for Papers

Special issue: Parenthood and Families beyond Heteronormativity and the Gender Binary

In addition to the heterosexual ‚nuclear‘ family, today, parenthood and families are very diverse. For example, families headed by same-sex parents live with biological and non-biological (such as adoptive or foster) children. In queer families, gay, lesbian, bi and trans* couples often have a co-parenting arrangement to care for children. Furthermore, reproductive technologies, such as sperm donation, *in vitro* fertilisation and surrogacy expand the possibilities of biological genetic parenthood. New family concepts such as shared or multiple parenthood have yet to be researched as a (new) empirical phenomena. Due to an increasing social visibility and legal recognition of same-sex couple relationships as a result of marriage equality laws and reform of parental rights, a significant expansion of the possibilities of legally recognised parenthood is to be expected. Considering traditional as well as new parenting constellations and family forms, a tension arises between empirical diversity on one hand and institutional and legal norms, as well as what is socially perceived as ‚normal‘, on the other hand.

The special issue invites scholars, especially from the fields of cultural, social, gender and legal studies, to participate in a theoretically and empirically grounded discussion of parenthood, families, and parenting beyond heteronormative kinship relations. The focus reflects on everyday family practices: How is *doing family* and *doing reproduction* realised in these families? Following from this view, accompanying ambivalences and social inequalities should be taken into consideration. New legal and political options, as well as technological possibilities, are widely used in practice. New reproductive technologies enable procreation outside of the heterosexual couple dyad and contest the idea of ‚natural conception‘. Conversely, new forms of exclusion can be observed. Usually, only forms of love and partnership are legally recognised by the state if they resemble a

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,normal nuclear family'. How affective (care) relationships, e.g., in polyamorous relationships, co-parenting, and multi-parent families or queer communities, are experienced and put into practice remains a theoretically and empirically open question.

Possible questions/research topics:

- Familial and reproductive (every day) practices beyond the heterosexual norm
- Families created by assisted reproductive technologies
- Legal and social recognition of parenthood and families
- Family constellations and norms (in the media)
- Biopolitical regulations of reproductive medicine in (trans-)national contexts
- Relationships between gender, sexuality, reproduction, and nation states

Timetable and procedure

Please submit a one- to two-page abstract by **30 June 2018**. Non-German speakers are welcome to submit their articles in English. The Editorial Department works with the online editing system OJS. We would therefore like to ask you to register as an author of the journal GENDER at www.budrich-journals.de/index.php/gender and to submit and upload your abstract there. Once your abstract has been assessed and judged suitable for this issue, you will receive an invitation to submit. Notifications of acceptance will be sent by **30 July 2018**. The deadline for submission of the final manuscript is **1 March 2019**. Manuscripts must not exceed 50,000 characters (including space characters). All submissions will be reviewed in our double-blind peer review process based on which the final selection of contributions to be published will be made. The editors may give instructions to revise the contribution, which is the rule rather than the exception. In case of a high number of positively peer-reviewed contributions, the Editorial Department reserves the right to make a final selection of articles and to publish some contributions in a later issue.

GENDER. Journal for Gender, Culture and Society

GENDER. Journal for Gender, Culture and Society was founded in 2009 as a journal on women and gender studies. The journal covers a broad range of social and cultural topics, addressing both socio-political issues on equality and justice as well as issues regarding the staging and cultural interpretation of gender. The journal aims to cover a wide range of topics and academic disciplines in which women, men and gender issues are reflected. Given the journal's multi-disciplinary setting, we welcome analyses from, for instance, sociology, educational science, political science, cultural science and history which correspond to the interdisciplinary nature of gender studies. Analyses of local, regional and global influences on gender relations are also of interest. GENDER. Journal for Gender, Culture and Society is published in three issues a year and some 480 pages per annum. Contributions to the special issues and to the free section are double-blind peer reviewed. Contributions to the free section are always welcome, irrespective of the focus of the special issue.

Do you have any questions?

For further information please contact the editorial team of the special issue: **Dr. Almut Peukert** (almut.peukert@hu-berlin.de), **Julia Teschlade, MA** (julia.teschlade@hu-berlin.de), **Prof. Dr. Christine Wimbauer** (christine.wimbauer@hu-berlin.de) und **Dr. Mona Motakef** (mona.motakef@hu-berlin.de), Humboldt-Universität Berlin or the editorial team (redaktion@gender-zeitschrift.de). A style sheet for authors and a guideline for the use of OJS is available at www.gender-zeitschrift.de/index.php?id=manuskripte.