Philipp M. Lersch

plersch@diw.de
https://pmlersch.github.io
Last updated: December 8, 2025

Education

09.2009–12.2012 **Ph.D. in Sociology**, Bremen International Graduate School of Social Sciences (BIGSSS), University of Bremen/Jacobs University Bremen, Germany

Topic:	Outcomes of Residential Relocations over the Life Course: Longitudinal Evidence from England and Germany
Committee:	Michael Windzio, Olaf Groh-Samberg, Mark Taylor

10.2004–04.2009 **Diploma in Social Science (equiv. to M.A.)**, Ruhr University Bochum, Germany

08.2006–01.2007 **Exchange student**, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

Research positions

Current positions

since 05.2024 **Research Group Leader**, German Institute for Economic Research (DIW), Berlin, Germany

since 05.2018 **Associate Professor (W2-S jointly appointed with DIW Berlin)**, Department of Social Sciences, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany

Past positions

05.2018–04.2024 **Senior Research Fellow**, German Institute for Economic Research (DIW), Berlin, Germany

04.2017–05.2018 **Junior Research Group Leader**, Institute of Sociology and Social Psychology, University of Cologne, Germany

08.2014–03.2017 **Postdoctoral Researcher**, Institute of Sociology and Social Psychology, University of Cologne, Germany

02.2013–07.2014 **Postdoctoral Researcher**, Department of Sociology, Tilburg University, Netherlands

04.2009–08.2009 **Research Associate**, Faktor Familie GmbH, Bochum, Germany

Publications

Monographs

1) **Lersch, Philipp M.** (2014): *Residential Relocations and their Consequences: Life Course Effects in England and Germany*. Wiesbaden: Springer VS. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-658-04257-8

Journal articles (SSCI)

42) Breznau, Nate, ... **Lersch, Philipp M.** ... [total of 185 authors] (2025): The Reliability of Replications: A Study in Computational Reproductions. *Royal Society Open Science* 12 (3). 241038. doi: 10.1098/rsos.241038

41) Kapelle, Nicole, Frémeaux, Nicolas, **Lersch, Philipp M.** & Leturcq, Marion (2025): A Cohabitation Wealth Premium for Women and Men: Considering the Regulatory Framework and Normative Acceptance in France and Germany. *Socio-Economic Review*. 23 (2). 591–620. doi: 10.1093/ser/mwaf013

40) **Lersch, Philipp M.** (2025): Wealth and Family Formation: Insights from First Cohabitation, Marriage, and Birth in Germany. *European Journal of Population* 41 (16). 1–24.. doi: 10.1007/s10680-025-09738-6

39) Colombarolli, Claudia & **Lersch, Philipp M.** (2023): Atypical Work, Financial Assets, and Asset Poverty in Germany. *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility*. doi: 10.1016/j.rssm.2023.100803

38) **Lersch, Philipp M.** (2023): Change in Personal Culture over the Life Course? *American Sociological Review* 88 (2). 220–251. doi: 10.1177/00031224231156456

37) **Lersch, Philipp M.** & Groh-Samberg, Olaf (2023): The Long Reach of Class Origin on Financial Investments and Net Worth. *Acta Sociologica* 66 (2). 210–230. doi: 10.1177/00016993221129792

36) **Lersch, Philipp M.** & Schunck, Reinhard (2023): Assortative Mating and Wealth Inequalities Between and Within Households. *Social Forces*. 102 (2). 454–474. doi: 10.1093/sf/soad064

35) Breznau, Nate, ... **Lersch, Philipp M.** ... [total of 166 authors] (2022): Observing Many Researchers Using the Same Data and Hypothesis Reveals a Hidden Universe of Uncertainty. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. 119 (44). e2203150119. doi: 10.1073/pnas.2203150119

34) Kapelle, Nicole, Nutz, Theresa, Tisch, Daria, Schechtl, Manuel, **Lersch, Philipp M.** & Struffolino, Emanuela (2022): My wealth, (y)our life satisfaction? Sole and joint wealth ownership and life satisfaction in marriage. *European Journal of Population* 38 (4). 811–834. doi: 10.1007/s10680-022-09630-7

33) **Lersch, Philipp M.**, Struffolino, Emanuela & Vitali, Agnese (2022): Wealth in Couples: Introduction to the Special Issue. *European Journal of Population* 38 (4). 623–641. doi: 10.1007/s10680-022-09640-5

32) Nutz, Theresa, Nelles, Anika & **Lersch, Philipp M.** (2022): Who Opts Out? The Customisation of Marriage in the German Matrimonial Property Regime. *European Journal of Population* 38 (3). 353–375. doi: 10.1007/s10680-022-09613-8

31) Boertien, Diederik & **Lersch, Philipp M.** (2021): Gender and Changes in Household Wealth after the Dissolution of Marriage and Cohabitation in Germany. *Journal of Marriage and Family* 83 (1). 228–242. DOI: 10.1111/jomf.12705

30) **Lersch, Philipp M.** & Baxter, Janeen (2021): Parental Separation during Childhood and Adult Children's Wealth. *Social Forces* 99 (3). 1176–1208. DOI: 10.1093/sf/soaa021

29) **Lersch, Philipp M.**, Grabka, Markus M., Rüß, Kilian & Schröder, Carsten (2021): Wealth of Children from Single-Parent Families: Low Levels and High Inequality in Germany. *Journal of European Social Policy* 31 (5). 565–579. doi: 10.1177/09589287211040412

28) Nutz, Theresa & **Lersch, Philipp M.** (2021): Gendered Employment Trajectories and Individual Wealth at Older Ages in Eastern and Western Germany: A Life Course Perspective. *Advances in Life Course Research* 47. 100374. DOI: 10.1016/j.alcr.2020.100374

27) Tisch, Daria & **Lersch, Philipp M.** (2021): Distributive Justice in Marriage: Experimental Evidence on Beliefs about Fair Savings Arrangements. *Journal of Marriage and Family* 83 (2). 516–533. DOI: 10.1111/jomf.12694

26) Ebner, Christian, Kühhirt, Michael & **Lersch, Philipp M.** (2020): Cohort Changes in the Level and Dispersion of Gender Ideology After German Reunification: Results from a Natural Experiment. *European Sociological Review* 36 (5). 814–828. DOI: 10.1093/esr/jcaa015

25) Kapelle, Nicole & **Lersch, Philipp M.** (2020): The Accumulation of Wealth in Marriage: Over-Time Change and Within-Couple Inequalities. *European Sociological Review* 36 (4). 580–593. DOI: 10.1093/esr/jcaa006

24) **Lersch, Philipp M.**, Schulz, Wiebke & Leckie, George (2020): The Variability of Occupational Attainment: How Prestige Trajectories Diversified within Birth Cohorts over the 20th Century. *American Sociological Review* 85 (6). 1084–1116. DOI: 10.1177/0003122420966324

23) Vidal, Sergi, **Lersch, Philipp M.**, Jacob, Marita, & Hank, Karsten (2020): Interdependencies in mothers' and daughters' work-family life course trajectories: Similar but different? *Demography* 57 (4). 1483–1511. DOI: 10.1007/s13524-020-00899-z

22) Bayrakdar, Sait, Coulter, Rory, **Lersch, Philipp M.** & Vidal, Sergi (2019): Family events, parental background and young adults' homeownership transitions in Britain and Germany. *Housing Studies*, 34 (6). 974–996. DOI: 10.1080/02673037.2018.1509949

21) **Lersch, Philipp M.** (2019): Fewer Siblings, more Wealth? Sibship Size and Wealth Attainment. *European Journal of Population* 35 (5). 959–986. DOI: 10.1007/s10680-018-09512-x

20) Perales, Francisco, **Lersch, Philipp M.** & Baxter, Janeen (2019): Birth Cohort, Ageing and Gender Ideology: Lessons from British Panel Data. *Social Science Research*, 79. 85–100. DOI: 10.1016/j.ssresearch.2018.11.003

19) Uunk, Wilfred & **Lersch, Philipp M.** (2019): The effect of regional gender-role attitudes on female employment: A longitudinal test using the BHPS, 1991-2007. *European Sociological Review* 35 (5). 669–683. DOI: 10.1093/esr/jcz026

18) Vidal, Sergi & **Lersch, Philipp M.** (2019): Changes in Gender Role Attitudes Following Couple's Residential Relocations. *Demographic Research* 40 (39). 1111–1152. DOI: 10.4054/DemRes.2019.40.39

17) Fulda, Barbara Elisabeth & **Lersch, Philipp M.** (2018): Planning Until Death Do Us Part: Partnership Status and Financial Planning Horizon. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 80 (2). 409–425. DOI: 10.1111/jomf.12458

16) **Lersch, Philipp M.** & Dewilde, Caroline (2018): Homeownership, Saving and Financial Wealth: A Comparative and Longitudinal Analysis. *Housing Studies* 33 (8), 1175–1206. DOI: 10.1080/02673037.2018.1424803

15) **Lersch, Philipp M.**, Jacob, Marita & Hank, Karsten (2018): Long-Term Health Consequences of Adverse Labor Market Conditions at Time of Leaving Education: Evidence from West German Panel Data. *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 59 (1), 151–168. DOI: 10.1177/0022146517749848

14) **Lersch, Philipp M.** & Kleiner, Sibyl (2018): Coresidential Union Entry and Changes in Commuting Times of Women and Men. *Journal of Family Issues* 39 (2). 383–405. DOI: 10.1177/0192513X16646146

13) **Lersch, Philipp M.** (2017): Individual Wealth and Subjective Financial Well-Being in Marriage: Resource Integration or Separation? *Journal of Marriage and Family* 79 (5). 1211–1223. DOI: 10.1111/jomf.12406

12) **Lersch, Philipp M.** (2017): The Marriage Wealth Premium Revisited: Gender Disparities and Within-Individual Changes in Personal Wealth in Germany. *Demography* 54 (3). 961–983. DOI: 10.1007/s13524-017-0572-4

11) **Lersch, Philipp M.**, Jacob, Marita & Hank, Karsten (2017): Parenthood, Gender and Personal Wealth. *European Sociological Review* 33 (3). 410–422. DOI: 10.1093/esr/jcx046

10) **Lersch, Philipp M.** & Uunk, Wilfred (2017): The Shadow of Future Homeownership: The Association of Wanting to Move into Homeownership with Labour Supply. *Work, Employment & Society* 31 (3). 522–541. DOI: 10.1177/0950017016631443

9) Vidal, Sergi, Perales, Francisco, **Lersch, Philipp M.** & Brandén, Maria (2017): Family Migration in a Cross-National Perspective: The Importance of Within-Couple Employment Arrangements in Australia, Britain, Germany and Sweden. *Demographic Research* 36 (10). 307–338. DOI: 10.4054/DemRes.2017.36.10

8) Wind, Barend, **Lersch, Philipp M.** & Dewilde, Caroline (2017): The distribution of housing wealth in 16 European countries: Accounting for institutional differences. *Journal of Housing and the Built Environment* 32 (4). 625–647. doi: 10.1007/s10901-016-9540-3

7) **Lersch, Philipp M.** & Vidal, Sergi (2016): My House or our Home? Transitions into Sole Homeownership in British Couples. *Demographic Research* 35 (6). 139–166. DOI: 10.4054/DemRes.2016.35.6

6) **Lersch, Philipp M.** (2016): Family Migration and Subsequent Employment: The Effect of Gender Ideology. *Journal of Marriage and Family* 78 (1). 230–245. DOI: 10.1111/jomf.12251

5) **Lersch, Philipp M.** & Dewilde, Caroline (2015): Employment Insecurity and First-Time Homeownership: Evidence from 22 European Countries. *Environment & Planning A* 47 (3). 607–624. DOI: 10.1068/a130358p

4) **Lersch, Philipp M.** & Luijkx, Ruud (2015): Intergenerational Transmission of Homeownership in Europe: Revisiting the Socialisation Hypothesis. *Social Science Research* 49. 327–342. DOI: 10.1016/j.ssresearch.2014.08.010

3) **Lersch, Philipp M.** & Vidal, Sergi (2014): Falling out of Love and down the Housing Ladder: A Longitudinal Analysis of Marital Separation and Home Ownership. *European Sociological Review* 30 (4). 512–524. DOI: 10.1093/esr/jcu055

2) **Lersch, Philipp M.** (2014): Geburten und die Wohnraumversorgung von Familien: Anpassungen der Wohnung im zeitlichen Verlauf. *Zeitschrift für Soziologie* 43 (2). 131–149. 10.1515/zfsoz-2014-0205

1) **Lersch, Philipp M.** (2013): Place Stratification or Spatial Assimilation? Neighbourhood Quality Changes after Residential Mobility for Migrants in Germany. *Urban Studies* 50 (5). 1011–1029. DOI: 10.1177/0042098012464403

Other publications

7) **Lersch, Philipp M.**, Selçuk Bedük, and Enrico Benassi. (2025). Einfluss Der Eltern Auf Das Wohneigentum Der Kinder Ist Immer Noch Hoch, Geht Aber Zurück. *DIW Wochenbericht* 92(44):299–307. DOI: 10.18723/DIW_WB:2025-44-1.

6) **Lersch, Philipp M.**, Longmuir, Maximilian, & Schnitzlein, Daniel D. (2024). Intergenerational persistence of wealth. In E. Kilpi-Jakonen, J. Blanden, J. Erola, & L. Macmillan (Eds.), *Research Handbook on Intergenerational Inequality* (pp. 86–99). Edward Elgar Publishing. DOI: 10.4337/9781800888265.00014

5) Vidal, Sergi & **Lersch, Philipp M.** (2021): Panel Data in Research on Mobility and Migration: A Review of Recent Advances. *Comparative Population Studies*. DOI: 10.12765/CPoS-2021-07

4) **Lersch, Philipp M.** (2013): Long-Distance Moves and Employment of Women in Dual-Earner Couples in Britain and Germany. *Schmollers Jahrbuch* 133 (2). 133–142. DOI: 10.3790/schm.133.2.133

3) Strohmeier, Klaus Peter, Schultz, Annett & **Lersch, Philipp M.** (2011): *Familiengerechte Kommunen: Gemeindetypisierung familienrelevanter Rahmenbedingungen in nordrhein-westfälischen Kommunen*. Bochum: Zentrum für interdisziplinäre Regionalforschung. Link

2) Strohmeier, Klaus Peter, Wunderlich, Holger & **Lersch, Philipp M.** (2009): Kindheiten in Stadt(teil) und Familie. *Aus Politik und Zeitgeschichte* 17/2009. 25–32. Link

1) Vogt, Gabriele & **Lersch, Philipp M.** (2007): Migrant Support Organizations in Japan – A Mixed-Method Approach. In: Pohl, Manfred & Wieczorek, Iris (Hg.): *Japan 2007 – Politik, Wirtschaft und Gesellschaft*. Berlin: VSJV. 265–285. Link

Grants

12.2024–11.2029 **European Research Council**, *Consolidator Grant*, "Understanding Trajectories of Wealth Accumulation and Their Variability (WEALTHTRAJECT)", EUR 1,643,511

06.2024–05.2028 **Volkswagen Foundation**, "Demographic Change and the Intergenerational Persistence in Homeownership in Europe (DECIPHE)", main applicant with Selçuk Bedük, Márton Medgyesi, Sergi Vidal, and Sabine Zinn, EUR 1,499,316 (individual funds: EUR 384,640)

04.2024–03.2030 **Einstein Foundation Berlin**, "Einstein Center for Population Diversity" with Christoph U. Correll, Andreas Edel, Anette Fasang, Paul Gellert, Andreas Heinz, Jan Paul Heisig, Ulrike Kluge, Michaela Kreyenfeld, Stefan Liebig, Melinda Mills, and Heike Solga, EUR 6,042,069 (individual funds: EUR 627,923)

11.2021–08.2025 **German Research Foundation**, *Individual Research Grant*, "The intergenerational reproduction of wealth inequality and its socio-demographic conditions in Germany (InterVerm)", with Markus Grabka and Daniel Schnitzlein (separate funding), EUR 347,275

06.2021–05.2023 **Einstein Foundation Berlin**, *Preparation module*, "Einstein Center for Population Diversity" with Andreas Edel, Anette Fasang, Paul Gellert, Jan Paul Heisig, Heike Klüver, Michaela Kreyenfeld, Adelheid Kuhlmey, Stefan Liebig, Melinda Mills, Mikko Myrsykylä, Anna Oksuzyan, Birgit Reißig, Norbert Schneider, Heike Solga, Emilio Zagheni, and Sabine Zinn, EUR 599,987 (individual funds: EUR 11,317)

01.2020–07.2021 **German Research Foundation**, *Research Network*, "Wealth-holders at the top (WATT)", with Carsten Schröder (PI), Charlotte Bartels, and Johannes König, EUR 46,463

4.2017–06.2023 **German Research Foundation**, *Emmy Noether Grant*, "Accumulation of Personal Wealth in Couples: Individual Resources and Gender Inequalities in Intimate Relationships (MyWealth)", EUR 1,206,640

01.2020–12.2021 **German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)**, *PROCOPE program*, "The Cohabitation Wealth Premium: Comparing France, East and West Germany" with Marion Leturcq, EUR 5,532