

# Philipp Dierker

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## Academic positions

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- 2026 **Visiting Postdoctoral Research Associate**, Department of Sociology, Office of Population Research, Princeton University, (April–July)
- 2025– **Postdoctoral researcher**, Department of Social Demography, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research
- 2021–2025 **Doctoral researcher**, Department of Social Demography, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research

## Education

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- 2022–2025 **Ph.D.**, Demography, University of Helsinki, Finland. Thesis: "Partnership dynamics and changes in health and well-being. A bidirectional relationship" (final grade: *pass with distinction*)  
Main supervisor: Prof. Mikko Myrskylä  
Opponent: Prof. Stefanie Möllborn  
External examiners: Prof. Matthijs Kalmijn, Prof. Thomas Leopold
- 2019–2021 **M.A.**, Sociology (final grade: 1.0/GPA: 4.0), Bielefeld University, Germany
- 2015–2019 **B.A.**, Politics and Society & History (final grade: 1.7/GPA: 3.3), University of Bonn, Germany

## Research stays

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- 11/2025 Centre for Fertility and Health, Norwegian Institute of Public Health, Norway (Host: Hans-Fredrik Sunde)
- 7/2025 Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research, University of Melbourne, Australia (Host: Beth Webster)
- 7/2025 Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute, The Hague, The Netherlands (Host: Solveig Cunningham)

## Affiliations

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- Max Planck - University of Helsinki Center for Social Inequalities in Population Health
- FLUX consortium (Family formation in Flux – Causes, Consequences and Possible Futures)
- INVEST Research Flagship Centre

## Publications

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### Peer-reviewed

- [1] Sunde, H. F., **Dierker, P.** (2026). Are Spouses Similar in Divorce? Investigating Spousal Similarity in Couple-Shared Outcomes. *Twin Research and Human Genetics*. DOI: 10.1017/thg.2026.10050.
- [2] **Dierker, P.**, Kühn, M., Van Winkle, Z. (2026). The Role of Family Complexity in Mental and Physical Health in Mid-Adulthood. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 88(2), 488–504. DOI: 10.1111/jomf.70019.
- [3] Hiilamo, A., Metsä-Simola, N., **Dierker, P.**, Martikainen, P., Myrskylä, M. (2026). Heterogeneous long-term health and social outcomes of type 1 diabetes - A full population 30-year observational cohort study of 38 modifying factors. *American Journal of Epidemiology*, 195(1), 117–125. DOI: 10.1093/aje/kwaf028.

- [4] **Dierker, P.**, Kühn, M., Myrskylä, M. (2025). Selective re-partnering? Mental health and life satisfaction among separated single mothers in Germany and the UK. *Acta Sociologica*, 68(3), 1–16. DOI: 10.1177/00016993241300435.
- [5] **Dierker, P.**, Kühn, M., Myrskylä, M. (2025). Re-partnering and single mothers' mental health and life satisfaction trajectories. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 87(1), 157–181. DOI: 10.1111/jomf.13015.
- [6] **Dierker, P.**, Diewald, M. (2025). Compensation or accentuation? How parents from different social backgrounds decide to support their children. *European Sociological Review*, 41(1), 111–126. DOI: 10.1093/esr/jcae010.
- [7] **Dierker, P.**, Kühn, M., Mönkediek, B. (2023). Does parental separation moderate the heritability of health risk behavior among adolescents?. *Social Science & Medicine*, 331, 116070. DOI: 10.1016/j.socscimed.2023.116070.
- [8] Gold, J, Störtländer, J., **Dierker, P.**, Textor, A. (2022). Segregation processes in the transition from pre-primary to elementary school. How do inter-district movements change compositions in terms of migration background? [Segregationsprozesse beim Übergang vom Elementarbereich in die Grundschule. Wie verändern Wanderungsbewegungen zwischen den Schulbezirken Kompositionen in Bezug auf Migrationshintergrund?]. *Zeitschrift für Grundschulforschung*, 15, 63–80. DOI: 10.1007/s42278-021-00128-5.

### Working Papers (under review)

- [1] **Dierker, P.**, Metsä-Simola, N., Remes, H., Kailaheimo-Lönnqvist, S., Kühn, M., Martikainen, P., Myrskylä, M. Parental separation risk before and after the diagnosis of a child physical health condition. *MPIDR Working Paper*. DOI: 10.4054/MPIDR-WP-2024-011. (R&R at *Demography*)
- [2] **Dierker, P.**, Kailaheimo-Lönnqvist, S., Kühn, M., Myrskylä, M. Enduring links: Mental health effects of ex-partner's life events among separated parents. *MPIDR Working Paper*. DOI: 10.4054/MPIDR-WP-2025-014. (R&R at *Social Forces*)
- [3] **Dierker, P.**, Gueltzow, M., Lahtinen, H., Kühn, M., Martikainen, P., Myrskylä, M. Do genetics shape mental health trajectories around partnership transitions?. *MPIDR Working Paper*. DOI: 10.4054/MPIDR-WP-2024-033. (R&R at *Journal of Marriage and Family*)
- [4] Ruks, M., Starr, A., **Dierker, P.** Investigating the heritability of school grades from age 10 to 16 using biometric growth curve models. *PsyArXiv*. DOI: 10.31234/osf.io/vecy9. (R&R at *Developmental Psychology*)
- [5] Bister, L., **Dierker, P.** Parental Separation and the Accumulation of Stress during Early Life: A Pubertal Development Marker Approach. *MPIDR Working Paper*. DOI: 10.4054/MPIDR-WP-2026-002. (Under review)
- [6] **Dierker, P.**, Ophir, A., Hiekel, N. From dating to marriage: changes in short-term fertility intentions across partnership transitions. *MPIDR Working Paper*. DOI: 10.4054/MPIDR-WP-2026-010. (Under review)

### Papers in progress/under review (selected)

- [1] Metsä-Simola, N., **Dierker, P.**, Remes, H., Goisis, A. *From pre-pregnancy to the early school years: maternal mental health and child's ADHD in Germany and the UK*. (Under review)
- [2] **Dierker, P.**, Metsä-Simola, N., Volotinen, L., Remes, H., Kühn, M., Baranowska-Rataj, A., Martikainen, P. *Mental health effects of separation and re-partnering among parents of underage children*. (In preparation)
- [3] **Dierker, P.**, Laß, I. *The link between declining health expectations and childbearing plans*. (In preparation)
- [4] Hiilamo, A., **Dierker, P.** *Heterogeneous educational consequences of chronic somatic health conditions in childhood. Systematic review of high-income countries*. (In preparation; find the study protocol here)

## Awards and Fellowships

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- 2026 **Best Paper Award** (500€)  
German Association for Demography (DGD)
- 2026 **INVEST Fellowship** (Visiting Fellow)  
University of Turku, Finland (2-month competitive visiting fellowship)
- 2023 **Best Poster Award, IMPRS-PHDS Graduate Workshop**  
Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research

## Invited talks

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- 2026 Institut national d'études démographiques (INED), Paris
- 2025 Centre for Fertility and Health, Norwegian Institute of Public Health, Oslo  
Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin  
Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research, University of Melbourne  
Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute, The Hague
- 2024 Nuffield College, University of Oxford

## Conference presentations

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- 2025 *23rd Conference of the European Divorce Network*, Barcelona, Spain  
*European Consortium for Sociological Research Annual Conference*, Cologne, Germany  
*International Population Conference*, Brisbane, Australia  
*Nordic Demographic Symposium*, Middelfart, Denmark  
*INVEST Conference*, Turku, Finland  
*Population Association of America Annual Meeting*, Washington D.C., United States
- 2024 *22nd Conference of the European Divorce Network*, Berlin, Germany  
*European Consortium for Sociological Research Annual Conference*, Barcelona, Spain  
*European Sociological Association Conference*, Porto, Portugal  
*European Population Conference*, Edinburgh, Scotland  
*Population Association of America Annual Meeting*, Columbus, United States  
*Annual Conference 2024 of the German Society for Demography*, Hamburg, Germany
- 2023 *Dutch Demography Day 2023*, Utrecht, Netherlands  
*21st Conference of the European Divorce Network*, Utrecht, Netherlands  
*SLLS Annual International Conference*, Munich, Germany  
*European Consortium for Sociological Research Annual Conference*, Prague, Czech Republic  
*Understanding Society Scientific Conference*, Colchester, United Kingdom  
*RC28 Conference*, Paris, France  
*European Social Science Genetics Network (ESSGN) Conference*, Bologna, Italy  
*Population Association of America Annual Meeting*, New Orleans, United States
- 2022 *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Soziologie Kongress*, Bielefeld, Germany  
*British Society for Population Studies Annual Conference*, Winchester, United Kingdom  
*American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*, Los Angeles, United States  
*European Consortium for Sociological Research Annual Conference*, Amsterdam, Netherlands  
*European Population Conference 2022*, Online  
*SOEP User Conference*, Berlin, Germany  
*Population Association of America Annual Meeting*, Atlanta, United States  
*Annual Conference 2022 of the German Society for Demography*, Online

## Research training

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- 3/2024 **Using genetics to understand social structures: Genetic influences across time, groups, and societies**  
University of Oslo
- 9/2023 **Sociogenomics workshop**  
Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare
- 3/2023 **Decomposition Methods in the Social Sciences**  
GESIS Spring Seminar 2023 - Modeling Group Differences (Cologne)
- 10/2022 **Sequence Analysis in the Social Sciences**  
GESIS Workshops (Online)
- 7/2022 **Advanced Methods for Causal Inference**  
International Max Planck Research School for Population, Health, and Data Science
- 3/2022 **From decomposition to causal mediation analysis: a multidisciplinary perspective**  
International Max Planck Research School for Population, Health, and Data Science
- 2/2022 **Mendelian Randomization**  
International Max Planck Research School for Population, Health, and Data Science

## Supervision

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- 2025– **PhD thesis advisory committee member**, Elena Neri, University of Oxford
- 2024– **PhD thesis advisory committee member**, Lotta Volotinen, University of Helsinki

## Teaching experience

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- 2024 **PhD Course "Family Dynamics and Health Inequalities"**  
International Max Planck Research School for Population, Health and Data Science
- 2024 **MA Seminar "Intergenerational relations and reproductions"** (Guest Lecture)  
Tilburg University
- 2024 **BA Seminar "Data Handling for Social Science"**  
University of Rostock
- 2023 **PhD Course "Genetics, Family Dynamics, and Health Inequalities"**  
International Max Planck Research School for Population, Health and Data Science
- 2020-2021 **BA Tutorials "Statistics I" & "Statistics II"**  
Bielefeld University

## Refereeing and academic service

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### Journal refereeing

Advances in Life Course Research, BMC Public Health, European Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, European Societies, European Sociological Review, Family Transitions, Journal of Family Studies, Journal of Health and Social Behavior, Journal of Marriage and Family, Population Studies, Social Forces, Social Indicators Research, Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World

### Other academic service

- 2022– **Elected member of the works council**  
Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research
- 2025 **Member of the reviewing committee for the European Doctoral School of Demography (EDSD) 2025/2026 cohort**
- 2025– **Organizer of the Lab Talk seminar series, Department of Social Demography**  
Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research
- 2025– **Organizer of the BIOSFER Scientific Talk series**  
ERC Synergy Grant BIOSFER (Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research, Norwegian Institute of Public Health, Aarhus University)

## Memberships

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Population Association of America, European Association for Population Studies, ISA RC28, Sections of Health and Medical Sociology and Family Sociology of the German Sociological Association

## References

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### **Mikko Myrskylä**

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### **Stefanie Möllborn**

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### **Martin Diewald**

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