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Leibniz-Institut für Sozialwissenschaften

Children Born of War: expanding the evidence base on hidden populations

Workshop: supporting human rights organisations to dleiver insights from data, UK Data Services, 29-30 October 2015

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Founder "International network for International Research on Children Born of War"

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Datei Bearbeiten Ansicht Chronik Lesezeichen Extras Hilfe

Children Born of War

childrenbornofwar.squarespace.com

Suchen

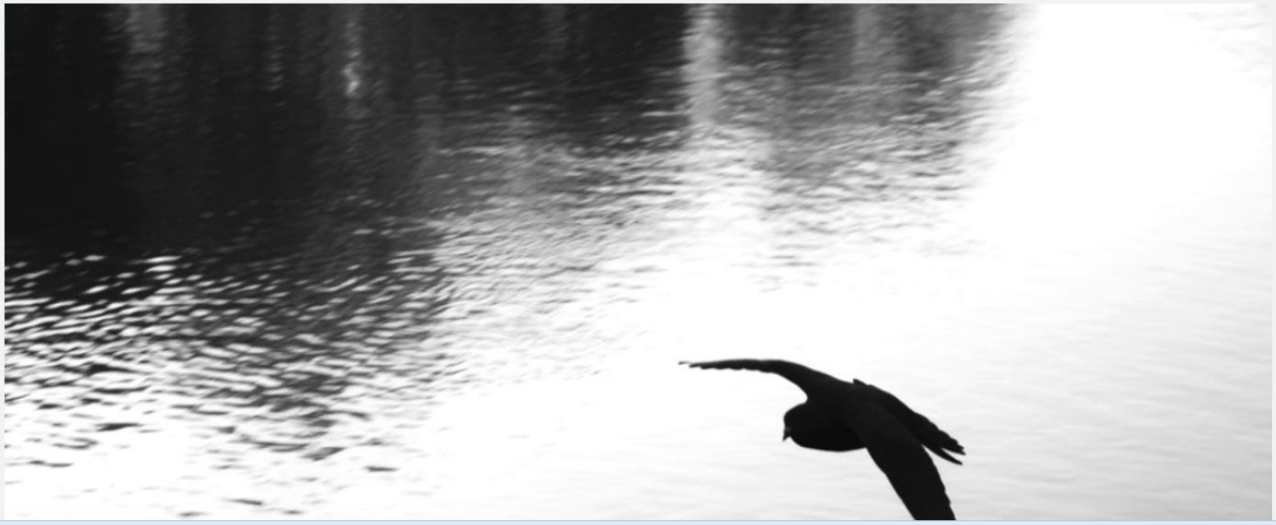
Meistbesucht Erste Schritte Web Slice-Katalog Outlook Web App Herzlich Willkommen i... Gästeliste Vortragsreih... GESIS Vortragsreihe N... DFNVC Webkonferenz... Children Born of War

INIRC at human rights workshop at UKDA presenting data collection of CBOW // Call for papers: Children's Rights and International Politics... // Newest publication: in bpb - Wehrmachts- und Besatzungskinder

CHILDREN BORN OF WAR

International Network for Interdisciplinary Research on Children Born of War (INIRC-CBOW)

HOME BACKGROUND NEWS DATA RESEARCH PROJECTS LINKS CONTACT



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Structure

1. Hidden populations –the example of CBOW
2. Data and sources on CBOW
3. Data collection using lay researchers and thier organisations
4. *Practical challenges and ethical considerations*

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1. Hidden populations – the example of CBOW

Definition Child born of war:

"a child that has one parent that was part of an army or peace keeping force and the other parent a local citizen"

→ Relationship can be consensual or exploitative
(Grieg, 2001, p.; Mochman, 2006, p. 198)

Definition Hidden population: Population groups which are difficult for researchers to access, no sampling frame exists

→example populations would be drug users, child soldiers, CBOW .....

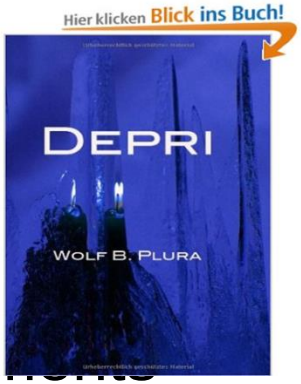
Categories of children born of war

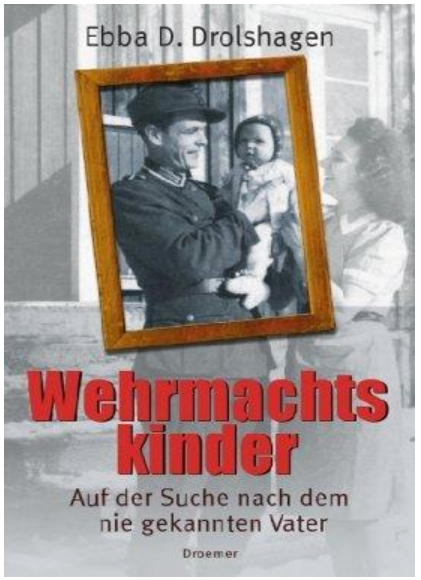
- *Children of enemy soldiers (war or civil war)*
- *Children of soldiers from occupational forces (occupation through allied or enemy forces)*
- Children of child soldiers
- Children of peacekeeping forces

(Mochmann, 2008, S. 55 – 56; Mochmann & Lee, 2010)

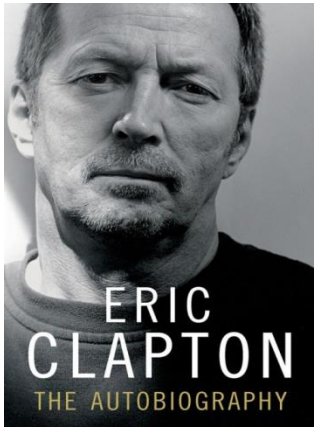
2. Data and Sources on CBOW

Examples personal sources:

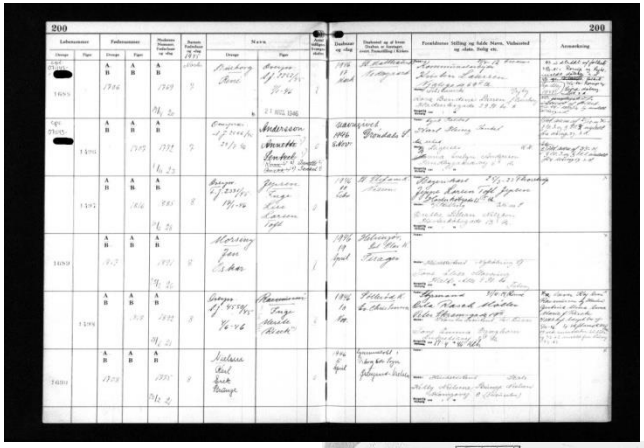


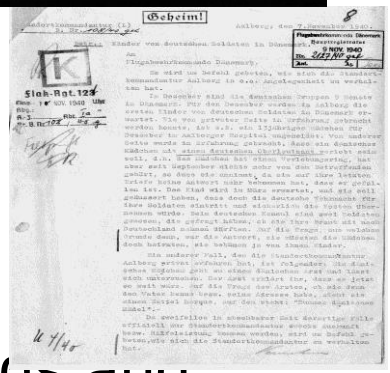


- Biographies,
- Autobiographies,
- Contemporary witnesses,
- Birth certificates, babtising documents
- Letters,
- Phototgraphs,
- Medical records



Examples public/administrative sources:





- Archival material
- Church books
- Statistical offices
- Registries (education, birth, death, education…
- Media
- Art
- Internet
- other documentation (like Court records, records and reports from Governments,humanitarian organisations and from the military, national and international declarations, resolutions etc.)

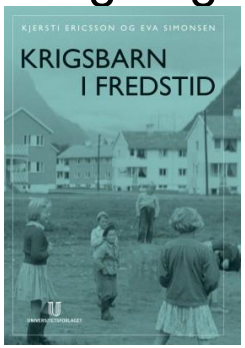
Examples interviews:

Quantitative:

- Micro data (survey data for ex. Mochmann/Larsen 2005, 2008, Glaesmer/Kuwert/Kaiser/Stelzl-Marx and Miertsch/Mochmann/Kuwert ongoing)
- Macro data (combining data from public registries for ex. Ellingsen 2005)

Qualitative:

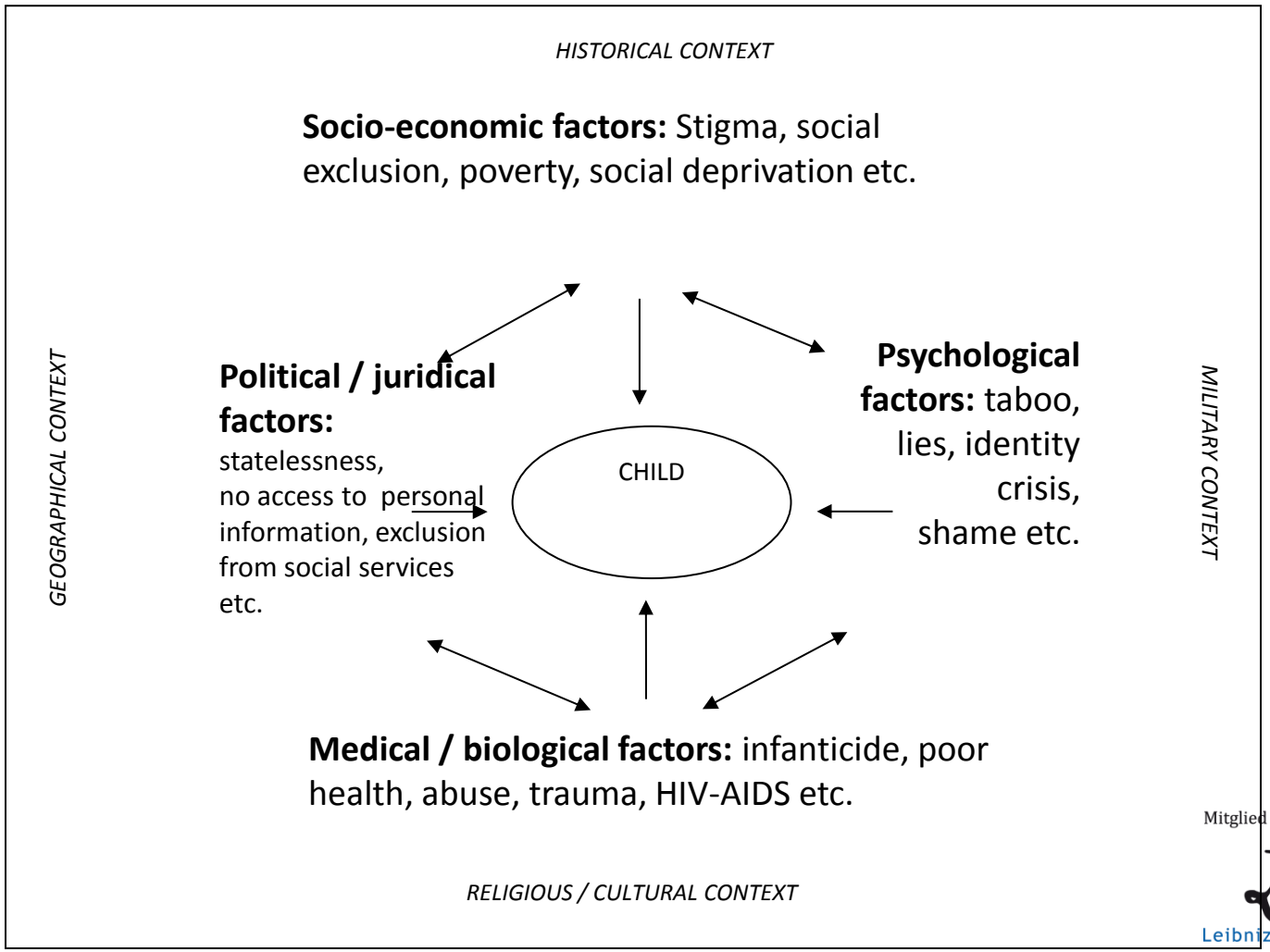
- Narrative interviews (for ex. Ericsson/Simonsen 2005)
- Mochmann/Øland 2009 analysis of open-ended questions
- Erjavec/Volcic 2010
- Kleinau/Panagiotopoulou ongoing



3. Data collection using lay researchers and thier organisations

- 1995 cooperation was initiated between the Norwegian war child Association (NKBF) und Prof. Stein Ugelvik Larsen,University of Bergen.
- Prof. Larsen wanted to carry out a survey on Norwegian CBOW and their life experieces. Elna Johnsen, CBOW herself board memeber of NKBF established contact to other CBOWs.
- With NKBF members provided questions of relevance to their group by October 1995 which were used as a basis for developing the questionnaire. After several revisions the survey was sent to 650 members of NKBF in 1997.
- Arne Öland, Danish CBOW and leader of the Danish war child association (DKBF) used an almost identical questionnaire adjusted to Danish specifications which was sent 400 members of DKBF in 2003.
- Monika Diedrichs, Dutch CBOW and Historian applied almost identitical questionnaire to Dutch CBOW (about 50 respondents).
- Although not representative and questionnaire proved to have methodological problems –this was the first attempt to systematically collect and analyse CBOW which facilitated defining relevant factors for CBOW life course analysis.
- Also other studies, not based on participatory research contributed (f.ex. Olsen 1998, Ellingsen 2004, Borgersrud 2005, Simonsen und Ericsson 2005, Picaper und Norz, Virigili 2009 u.w.)

Factors relevant to the life course of children born of war
(Mochmann 2009)



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- Experiences from the surveys in Norway, Denmark and Netherlands showed that the questionnaire was too long (250 questions) and had too many open-ended questions which resulted in misunderstandings among the respondents.
- Questions had to be more precise and different topics should be better divided.
- Furthermore, questions should be simpler and concepts applied simple.
- Also positive aspects of life development should not b left out. CBOWs
- And in general it was discussed whether CBOW had a need to talk aout i.e. participate in survey at all.
- Closer contact with and support of CBOW after the survey needs to be provided (medial assistance, psychological support etc).

→ this was feedback provided by CBOW organisations on behalf of their members

- This was partly considered in the following surveys.

Recent and ongoing surveys on Besatzungs- und Wehrmachtskinder:

- **„Besatzungskinder“: Die Kinder des Zweiten Weltkrieges in Deutschland und Österreich: Psychosoziale Konsequenzen, Stigmatisierung und Identitätsentwicklung**
  Dipl.-Psych. Marie Kaiser, PD Dr. Heide Glaesmer (Leipzig)
  PD Dr. Philipp Kuwert (Universitätsmedizin Greifswald, An dem HELIOS Hansehospital Stralsund)
  Doz. Dr. Barbara Stelzl-Marx, Ludwig Boltzmann Institut für Kriegsfolgenforschung

- **Norwegische „Wehrmachtskinder“ – psychosoziale Konsequenzen, Identitätsentwicklung und Erfahrungen mit Vorurteilen**
  Dr. med. Martin Miertsch (Helse Bergen HF, Haukeland universitetssjukehus, Divisjon psykisk helsevern, Psykiatrisk klinikk Sandviken)
  Prof. Dr. Ingvill C. Mochmann (Gesis, Leibniz-Institut für Sozialwissenschaften, Köln)
  PD Dr. Heide Glaesmer and Marie Kaiser (Leipzig)
- Ketil J. Ødegaard (Haukeland University Hospital)
  PD Dr. med. Philipp Kuwert (Universitätsmedizin Greifswald, An dem HELIOS Hansehospital Stralsund)

→ both studies included CBOW specific questions from the 1997 study but were disucssed and adjusted with CBOWs on a workshop in Cologne in 2013.

- Workshop GESIS Cologne January 2013: 18 years after the first contact to Norwegian CBOWs and in preparation of the survey on German occuppation children following questions were addressed.
- Although in the meantime information exist –how to be sure the important topics are addressed.
- How to address them, so that it is not misunderstood?
- Are the cultural and nation specific questions; which ethical issues must be considered?
- Aim of workshop: Through cooperation with CBOWs of WWII find questions relevant to both groups and elaborate them methodologically –are the questions from 1997 still relevant? Are they equally relevant for both groups?

4. Practical challenges and ethical considerations

- Developing questions and questionnaires with people that have no prior experience and methodological knowledge;
- It was exhausting to the participants;
- Retraumatisation;
- Validity of memories;
- Selectivity of important topic to own life.

- How to react if lay researchers become retraumatised thorugh active participation?
- Differnt experiences regarding trust and openess towards researchers among the lay researchers

→ i.e. aims have to be clarly communicated – researchers and lay researchers may have different expectations and interests

- How to deal with it as a researcher?

To be solved:

- Can data be stored and shared
- Interdiciplinary issues: different data management standards, publications traditions, methodological standards etc
- Diffenrent aims, needs and ideas both among members of the CBOW organisations as well as between organisations and researchers
- Different ethical regulations of data access and sharing across countries

Thank You!

Questions?