

Placing Children in Care. Child Welfare in Switzerland, 1940 to 1990 National and International Perspectives

Meeting: Research Conference, October 5th to 6th, 2017, Riggerbachstrasse 16, Olten



During the twentieth century, tens of thousands of children and adolescents in Switzerland were placed in care homes. Recent research indicates that the welfare of the children was often secondary. Placement in a care home was often associated with social isolation, compulsory work or even with sexual or physical abuse, entailing life-long consequences for those affected.

Switzerland as well as several European countries have recently undertaken efforts to reappraise this past, spurring keen research activity. The conference 'Placing Children in Care' will emphasize *synopsis and comparison* in this research area, linking various analytical approaches. The aim is to understand the issues in a comprehensive and analytically reflected way with respect to diversity, context specificity, and trajectory. The presentation of research results of the Swiss Sinergia Research Network and talks by guest speakers from universities in Australia, Sweden, the Netherlands and France will open up the discussion for national and international perspectives.

- Guest speakers** **Jeroen Dekker**, University of Groningen, Netherlands
David Niget, Angers University, France, University of Québec, Canada
Sarah-Anne Buckley, National University, Galway, Ireland
Johanna Sköld, Linköping University, Sweden
Kathie Wright, University of Melbourne, Australia
- Organizers** **Gisela Hauss**, University of Applied Sciences, Northwestern Switzerland
Joëlle Droux, University of Geneva
Thomas Gabriel, University of Applied Sciences, Zurich
Martin Lengwiler, University of Basel
Anne-Françoise Praz, University of Fribourg
Nadja Ramsauer, University of Applied Sciences, Zurich
- Research Team** Clara Bombach, Markus Bossert, Susanne Businger, Yves Collaud,
Véronique Czaka, Sara Galle, Mirjam Janett, Samuel Keller,
Christine Matter, Nadja Ramsauer
- Topics** – The Transformation of focus in investigations into historical child abuse
– The parental state and residential care
– Upbringing and state Intervention
– Legitimacy and institutionalization in child welfare
– Pedagogics in residential childcare
– Care leavers’ narratives and remembering childhood
– The child as subject of his/her own biography
- Full program** **www.placing-children-in-care.ch/conference**
- Time and venue** Thursday, October 5th, 2:00 – 6:00 pm
Friday, October 6th, 9:15 am – 6:00 pm
- FHNW University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland
School of Social Work
Riggenbachstrasse 16
4600 Olten
- The room will be indicated on the monitor screen at the entrance.
- Registration** Registration by September 20th, 2017; please send an e-mail to
markus.bossert@fhnw.ch.
Registrations will be considered in the order of their arrival.
The conference is free of charge.

The Swiss National Science Foundation supports this conference.