

Current position

Senior Research Fellow
HILDA Survey Team
Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research
The University of Melbourne

Work address

Level 5, FBE Building, 111 Barry St
Carlton
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Research Interests

Sociology of work; family sociology; life course research; demography; labour market policy; family policy; quantitative analysis of household panel data

Education

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| 2017 | PhD in Sociology
Bielefeld University
Dissertation: "The impact of employment insecurity on partnership and parenthood decisions. Evidence from couples in Germany and Australia"
Grade: Summa cum laude (with distinction) |
| 2008 | Master in International Comparative Social Sciences
University of Osnabrueck |
| 2006 | Exchange Semester in the Master of Applied Social Research
Monash University, Melbourne |
| 2005 | Bachelor in Social Sciences and English
Bielefeld University |

Academic Employment

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| Since 2024 | Senior Research Fellow, Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research, The University of Melbourne |
| 2020-2024 | Senior Researcher and head of the research group "Families", Federal Institute for Population Research (BiB), Wiesbaden |
| 2016 - 2019 | Research Fellow, Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research, The University of Melbourne |
| 2009-2015 | Research Fellow, Forschungszentrum Familienbewusste Personalpolitik (FFP), University of Muenster |

Other academic positions

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| Since 2022 | Honorary Senior Fellow of the Faculty of Arts, University of Melbourne |
| Since 2019 | Elected member on the Executive Board of the Research Network 13 "Families and Intimate Lives", European Sociological Association |

Publications

Journal Articles (Peer Reviewed)

1. Laß, I.; Vera-Toscano, E.; Wooden, M. (forthcoming): Working from home, COVID-19, and job satisfaction. *ILR Review* (Online first).
2. Yucel, D.; Laß, I. (forthcoming): Working from home and work-family conflict: The importance of role salience. *Social Indicators Research* (Online first).
3. Laß, I.; Skora, T.; Rüger, H.; Wooden, M.; Bujard, M. (forthcoming): Does temporary employment increase length of commuting? Longitudinal evidence from Australia and Germany. *Transportation* (Online first).
4. Laß, I.: Non-standard employment and partnership dissolution (2023): A comparison of nonmarital cohabitations and marriages. *Journal of Family Issues*, 44(10), 2746–2773.
5. Laß, I.; Wooden, M.: Working from home and work–family conflict (2023). *Work, Employment and Society*, 37(1), 176-195.
6. Laß, I.; Wooden, M.: Weekend work and work–family conflict (2022): Evidence from Australian panel data. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 84(1), 250-272.
7. Laß, I.; Wooden, M. (2020): Non-standard employment and wage growth in Australia. *Australian Economic Review*, 53(3), 325-342.
8. Laß, I.; Wooden, M. (2020): Trends in the prevalence of non-standard employment in Australia. *Journal of Industrial Relations*, 62(1), 3-32.
9. Laß, I.; Wooden, M. (2020): Temporary employment and work-life balance in Australia. *Journal of Family Research*, 32(2), 214-248.
10. Laß, I. (2020): The effects of non-standard employment on the transition to parenthood within couples: A comparison of Germany and Australia. *European Journal of Population*, 36(5), 843-874.
11. Laß, I.; Wooden, M. (2020): Temporary employment contracts and household income. *Social Indicators Research*, 147(1), 111-132.
12. McVicar, D.; Wooden, M.; Laß, I.; Fok, Y.-K. (2019): Contingent employment and labour market pathways. Bridge or trap? *European Sociological Review*, 35(1), 98-115.
13. Laß, I.; Wooden, M. (2019): The structure of the wage gap for temporary workers: Evidence from Australian panel data. *British Journal of Industrial Relations*, 57(3), 453-478.

Monographs

1. Laß, I. (2017): The impact of employment insecurity on partnership and parenthood decisions. Evidence from couples in Germany and Australia, Dissertation, Bielefeld University, <https://pub.uni-bielefeld.de/publication/2915798>.

Book Chapters

1. Laß, I. (2021): Eltern zwischen Homeoffice und Homeschooling: Arbeit und Familie in Zeiten von Kita- und Schulschließungen. [Parents between working from home and home schooling: Work and family in times of childcare and school closures] In: StBA/WZB/BiB (edit.), *Datenreport 2021. Ein Sozialbericht für die Bundesrepublik Deutschland*, Bonn, 484-489
2. Laß, I. (2018): Chancen und Risiken atypischer Beschäftigung am Beispiel Australiens. [Chances and risks of non-standard employment on the example of Australia] In: Baron, D./Hill, P. (edit.), *Atypische Beschäftigung und ihre sozialen Konsequenzen*, Wiesbaden, 35-73.
3. Heddendorp, H.; Laß, I. (2018): Atypische Beschäftigung = Atypische Kinderbetreuung? Auswirkungen atypischer Beschäftigungsformen auf Kinderbetreuungsarrangements [Non-standard employment = non-standard childcare arrangements?]. In: Baron, D./Hill, P., (edit.), *Atypische Beschäftigung und ihre sozialen Konsequenzen*, Wiesbaden, 123-155.
4. Laß, I.; Heddendorp, H. (2017): Nur aufgeschlossen oder wirklich überzeugt? Konzeption und Rahmenbedingungen aktiver Vaterschaft [Only open-minded or really convinced? Conceptualisation and conditions of involved fatherhood] In: Gerlach, I. (edit.), *Elternschaft. Zwischen Autonomie und Unterstützung*, Wiesbaden, 71-103.
5. Gerlach, I.; Laß, I. (2012): Gesellschaftliche Rahmenbedingungen betrieblicher Familienpolitik. [Social conditions of corporate family policy] In: Gerlach, I./ Schneider, H. (edit.), *Betriebliche Familienpolitik*, Wiesbaden, 29-44.
6. Gerlach, I.; Laß, I. (2012): Status quo des betrieblichen Familienbewusstseins in der Schweiz [Status quo of corporate family friendliness in Switzerland]. In: Gerlach, I./Schneider, H. (edit.), *Betriebliche Familienpolitik*, Wiesbaden, 153-175.
7. Gerlach, I.; Laß, I. (2012): Gesamtgesellschaftliche Effekte betrieblicher Familienpolitik. [Societal effects of corporate family policy]. In: Gerlach, I./Schneider, H. (edit.), *Betriebliche Familienpolitik*, Wiesbaden, 241-260.

Conference proceedings

1. Laß, I.; Wooden, M. (2019): *Non-standard employment and wages in Australia*. Paper prepared for presentation at the Reserve Bank of Australia Low Wage Growth Conference, Sydney, 4-5 April 2019.
2. Laß, I.; Wooden, M. (2017): *Measurement, prevalence and the socio-demographic structure of non-standard employment: The Australian case*. Paper presented at the IZA Labor Statistics Workshop: The Changing Structure of Work, Bonn, 29-30 June 2017.

Editorships

1. Guest editor of the special issue “Labor market, families and public policies shaping gender and parenting” of the *Journal of Family Research*. Introductory article:
Moreno-Mínguez, A.; Romero-Balsas, P.; Laß, I. (2022): Labour markets, families and public policies shaping gender relations and parenting: Introduction to the special issue. *Journal of Family Research*, 34(3), 847-863.

Research Reports

1. Bujard, M. et al. (2021): Belastungen von Kindern, Jugendlichen und Eltern in der Corona-Pandemie [Stressors for children, youth and parents during the COVID-19 pandemic], *Bevölkerungsstudien 2/2021*, Wiesbaden: Federal Institute for Population Research.
2. Bujard, M. et al. (2020): Eltern während der Corona-Krise: Zur Improvisation gezwungen [Parents during the COVID-19 crisis], *Bevölkerungsstudien 1/2020*, Wiesbaden: Federal Institute for Population Research.
3. Wilkins, R.; Laß, I.; Vera-Toscano, E.; Butterworth, P. (2019): The Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia Survey: Selected findings from waves 1 to 17. Melbourne: Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research.
4. Wilkins, R.; Laß, I. (2018): The Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia Survey: Selected findings from waves 1 to 16. Melbourne: Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research.
5. Laß, I.; Wooden, M. (2018): The characteristics of the underemployed and unemployed. Part II, *Fair Work Commission Research Report 2/2018*, Melbourne: Fair Work Commission.
6. Nübling, M. et al. (2015): Gewünschte und erlebte Arbeitsqualität [Desired and experienced quality of work], *Forschungsbericht 456*, Freiburg/Bonn/Muenster: Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales.
7. Gerlach, I.; Heddendorp, H.; Laß, I. (2014): Vater sein in Nordrhein-Westfalen [Fatherhood in North Rhine-Westphalia], Duesseldorf: MFKJKS.
8. Abiry, R. et al. (2014): Evaluation der Wirkung ehe- und familienbezogener Leistungen auf die Geburtenrate/Erfüllung von Kinderwünschen [Evaluation of the effects of marriage- and family-related benefits on the fertility rate/realisation of childbearing intentions], Mannheim: ZEW.
9. Boll, C. et al. (2013): Geburten und Kinderwünsche in Deutschland: Bestandsaufnahme, Einflussfaktoren und Datenquellen [Fertility and childbearing intentions in Germany: Status quo, determinants and data sources], Mannheim: ZEW.
10. Bonin, H. et al. (2013): Evaluation zentraler ehe- und familienbezogener Leistungen in Deutschland [Evaluation of important marriage- and family-related benefits in Germany], Mannheim: ZEW.

11. Gerlach, I.; Juncke, D.; Laß, I. (2011): Familienbewusstes NRW - Was tun Unternehmen? [Familie-friendly North Rhine-Westphalia: What are employers doing?], Duesseldorf: MFJKJS.
12. Gerlach, I.; Laß, I.; Dinkel, S. (2009): Ergebnisse der Studie Familienfreundlichkeit von Unternehmen in den Kantonen Basel-Stadt und Zürich [Family friendliness of employers in the Cantons Basel-City and Zurich], Muenster/Zurich: FFP.

Opinion Pieces

1. Laß, I.; Grunow, D.; Diabaté, S. (2023): Vereinbarkeit von Familie und Beruf in der Warteschleife. [The reconciliation of work and family put on hold], *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung (FAZ)*.
2. Wooden, M.; Laß, I.; Vera-Toscano, E. (2023): Working from home during COVID and women's job satisfaction, *IZA World of Labor*.
3. Wooden, M.; Vera-Toscano, E.; Laß, I. (2022): HILDA finds working from home boosts women's job satisfaction more than men's, and that has a downside, *The Conversation*.
4. Laß, I. (2019): Does casual employment reduce work-family conflict?, *Blog of the RC06 of the International Sociological Association*.
5. Laß, I. (2019): Work or family? Many Australian couples are finding it tough to balance work and family commitments, especially if they work long hours, *Pursuit*.
6. Wooden, M.; Laß, I. (2019): Is wages growth really as weak as we think?, *Pursuit*.
7. Laß, I. (2019): Language of love: a quarter of Australians are in inter-ethnic relationships, *The Conversation*, also published on *Neos Kosmos* and in Thai on *SBS Thai*.
8. Laß, I. (2018): Who is doing what on the homefront? *Pursuit*.
9. Kalb, G.; Laß, I.; Zhu, A. (2018): Who is left behind under the new child care subsidy? *Pursuit*.

Policy Briefs

1. Bujard, M.; Laß, I.; Lines, E.; Ludwig-Walz, H. (2023): Familien in der Coronapandemie: Was hat belastet, was hat geholfen und was kann man für zukünftige Krisenstrategien lernen? [Families during the COVID-19 pandemic: What has burdened them, what helped, and what can we learn for future crisis management strategies?] Wiesbaden: BiB.
2. Laß, I.; Brehm, U.; Patzwaldt, K. (2020): Arbeit in sozialen Berufen. Hohe Systemrelevanz, ungünstige Arbeitsbedingung [Work in social occupations: Essential jobs, adverse working conditions], Wiesbaden: BiB.
3. Gerlach, I.; Ahrens, R.; Laß, I.; Heddendorp, H. (2015): Die Bedeutung atypischer Beschäftigung für zentrale Lebensbereiche [The effect of non-standard employment on key areas of life], Münster: FFP.

Conference and Seminar Presentations

- 2024 Seminar of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, online
- 2023 Seminar Series of DiSIA, University of Florence, Florence
HILDA Survey Research Conference, Melbourne
BiB Turning Gold Conference, Wiesbaden
ISA World Congress of Sociology, Melbourne/online
Interim Meeting of the ESA Research Network 13, Madrid
RC 28 Spring Meeting, Paris
PAA Annual Meeting, New Orleans
- 2022 8. Hohenheimer Tage der Familienpolitik, Hohenheim
Melbourne Institute Seminar, Melbourne;
Family Life and the Changing World of Work Conference, Warsaw;
Interim Meeting of the ESA Research Network 13, Warsaw
- 2021 eaf annual meeting, Hannover;
Annual Conference of the German Society for Demography (DGD), online [Keynote]
15th Conference of the European Sociological Association, online;
ISA Forum of Sociology, online
- 2020 Seminar Series of the State Institute for Family Research (ifb), online;
Bundesakademie für öffentliche Verwaltung (BAKÖV), online;
World Demographic & Ageing Forum Executive Workshop, Ermatingen/online
- 2019 Autumn Meeting of the Family Section of the German Sociological Association, Bamberg;
14th Conference of the European Sociological Association, Manchester;
American Sociological Association Meeting, New York City;
Federal Institute for Population Research, Wiesbaden
- 2018 Work, Employment and Society Conference, Belfast;
AIFS Conference 2018, Melbourne;
XIX ISA World Congress of Sociology, Toronto;
32nd European Society for Population Economics Conference, Antwerp;
European Population Conference 2018, Brussels
ESPRIt Interdisciplinary Seminar Series, Public Policy & Women's Workforce Participation, Melbourne
- 2017 Conference of the Australian Sociological Association, Perth;
13th Conference of the European Sociological Association, Athens;
IZA Labor Statistics Workshop on the Changing Structure of Work, Bonn;
31st European Society for Population Economics Conference, Glasgow;
7th Community, Work & Family Conference, Milan
- 2016 Longitudinal Data Conference, Canberra;
Work and Family Researchers Network Conference, Washington D.C.
- 2015 12th Conference of the European Sociological Association, Prague;
Brown Bag Seminar of the Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research, Melbourne

- 2014 1st International Conference Social Boundaries of Work. Changes in the Sphere of Work in the 21st Century Capitalism, Wroclaw;
Conference „Beschäftigungsqualität im beruflichen, familiären und betrieblichen Kontext“, Institute for Employment Research, Nuremberg;
7th Congress of the European Society on Family Relations, Madrid

Grants

- 2021-2022 Project „The Fertility Consequences of Non-standard Employment“
Project-Related Personal Exchange Programme of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) (Project no. 57559807)
Own role: Sole PI for Germany

Memberships

European Association for Population Studies (EAPS)
European Sociological Association (ESA) (and RN13 Families and Intimate Lives)
German Sociological Association (DGS) (and Section Family Sociology)
International Sociological Association (ISA) (and RC06 Family Research)
Global Labor Organisation (GLO)
Population Europe (Expert)

Refereeing

Academic Journals Acta Sociologica; Australian Economic Review; Australian Journal of Labour Economics; Australian Journal of Social Issues; British Journal of Industrial Relations; Community, Work and Family; Comparative Population Studies; European Journal of Population; European Sociological Review; Feminist Economics; Gender & Society; ILR Review; Journal of Family Research; Journal of Sociology; Prävention und Gesundheitsförderung; Research in Social Stratification and Mobility; Social Inclusion; Social Sciences, Work, Employment and Society

Grants The Research Foundation - Flanders (FWO)

Teaching

- 2023, 2024 FH Münster, Master Social Management
Seminar „Social policy“
- 2022, 2023, 2024 Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz
Seminar “Academic writing for peer reviewed journals”
- 2023 University of Melbourne, Master Social Policy
Guest lecture “Social policy, redistribution and poverty: The German case”
- 2022 Akademie für freiberufliche Selbstverwaltung und Praxismanagement
Seminar „Social policy“
- 2022 Hamburg University of Applied Sciences, CCG Lecture Series
Guest lecture “COVID-19 and social position: A focus on families”
- 2021 University of Duisburg-Essen, Master Political Management
Guest lecture “Introduction to policy briefs”

2021	University of Melbourne, Master of Social Policy Guest lecture “Working from home and work-family conflict”
2021	Leipzig University of Applied Sciences, Studium Generale Lecture Series Guest lecture “The COVID-19 pandemic and its consequences for families”
2021	University of Duisburg-Essen, Master Public Policy Seminar “How to policy-brief – writing and assessing strategic papers”
2019	Kassel University, Bachelor of Political Sciences Guest lecture: “Scientific policy advice in family- and social policy”
2018	University of Melbourne, Open Day Guest lecture “Financial Literacy – How do you compare?”
2014	Hamburg University of Applied Sciences, Master of Applied Family Sciences Guest lecture “Family policy and fertility in the German welfare state”
2011	University of Muenster, Master of Political Sciences Guest lecture “Non-standard employment: Conflict between labour market and family policy?”

Media

My research was quoted in numerous articles in newspapers and online magazines, including Brookings, The Australian, The Australian Financial Review, The Daily Telegraph, The Sydney Morning Herald, The Courier Mail, Deutsches Ärzteblatt, Forschung & Lehre, Eltern.de
Examples are:

05 April 2023	Befristet Angestellte pendeln länger zur Arbeit, <i>Forschung & Lehre</i> https://www.forschung-und-lehre.de/karriere/befristet-angestellte-pendeln-laenger-zur-arbeit-5537
30 July 2019	Sydneysiders commute 71 minutes every day, <i>Financial Review</i> , https://www.afr.com/policy/economy/sydneysiders-commute-71-minutes-every-day-20190725-p52aqu
19 June 2019	What the research reveals about who does more housework, <i>Today Tonight</i> , https://www.facebook.com/TodayTonight/posts/2366678673371575
30 July 2018	Men are doing more housework. Women still do a lot more, <i>The Sydney Morning Herald</i> , https://www.smh.com.au/national/men-are-doing-more-housework-women-still-do-a-lot-more-20180730-p4zuh1.html