

## Mirjam M. Fischer

### RESEARCH POSITIONS

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- Feb 2019 – now      **Postdoctoral researcher**  
German Institute for Economic Research, Berlin  
Project: "Complementing the Data Structure of the German Socio-Economic Panel with an Oversample of Lesbians, Gay Men and Bisexuals (SOEP-LGB)". <https://www.diw.de/>
- Oct 2018 – now      **Guest researcher**  
Sociology Department, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- Oct 2014 – Sept 2018      **Doctoral researcher**  
Sociology Department, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands.  
Dissertation: "*Free to Live Their Lives as They Wish? The Social Well-Being Gap between Persons in Same-Sex and Mixed-Sex Relationships in Europe.*"  
Promotor: Prof. dr. Matthijs Kalmijn; Co-promotor: Dr. Stephanie Steinmetz
- Apr 2018 – June 2018      **Guest researcher**  
Health Equity Institute, San Francisco State University, CA, United States  
Analysis of psychological well-being of same-sex couples using actor partner interdependence modeling with Prof. dr. Allen LeBlanc and Dr. David Frost  
<http://www.projectshare.sfsu.edu/>
- Jan 2014 - Jul 2014      **Research intern**  
Amsterdam Centre for Inequality Studies (AMCIS), University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Main duties: survey data cleaning, data analysis and writing a literature review (see Elffers, Van de Werfhorst & Fischer, 2015)
- Oct 2013 - Jun 2014      **Research assistant**  
Research group Institutions, Inequalities and Life course, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands.  
Various tasks like survey data cleaning, data processing, data analysis.
- Nov 2011 - May 2012      **Research intern**  
Erasmus School of History, Culture and Communication, Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands.  
Main tasks: statistical analyses for a study on social media use and political participation for Dr. Jacob Groshek

### EDUCATION

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- Oct 2014 - Sept 2018      **PhD in Sociology (rer. soc.),**  
University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands.  
Dissertation: "*Free to Live their Lives as they Wish? The Social Well-Being Gap between Persons in Same-Sex and Mixed-Sex Relationships in Europe.*"  
Promotor: Prof. dr. Matthijs Kalmijn, co-promotor: Dr. Stephanie Steinmetz

- Aug 2012 - Sept 2014 **Research Master Social Sciences (MSc)**  
University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands.  
Thesis: "*Does Tolerance Matter? A Study of Same-Sex Unions and Well-being in Nine European Countries.*" (Thesis grade: 8.7/10)  
Supervisors: Prof. dr. Matthijs Kalmijn and Dr. Stephanie Steinmetz
- Aug 2009 - Jun 2012 **International Bachelor of Communication and Media (BSc)**,  
Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands.  
Thesis: "*The Pirate Party in Germany: A Case Study of Framing and Elite Consensus in Mainstream Election Coverage*" (Thesis grade: 8.5); Focus area: Communications and Politics.  
Supervisor: Dr. Nel Ruigrok
- Aug 1999 - Jun 2008 **Abitur**, Martin-Heidegger Gymnasium, Messkirch, Germany

### FURTHER POSTGRADUATE TRAINING

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- Aug 7-19, 2017 **Advanced Quantitative Data Analysis** by Moritz Marbach, Essex Summer School; Relevant content: Weighting, Matching, Robust Inference with OLS, Functional Form Specification, Causal Graphs, Instrumental Variables, Difference in Difference, Panel Data, Limited Dependent Variables
- July 17, 2017 **Designing Questionnaires for Cross-Cultural Surveys** by Ana Villar and Dorothee Behr at ESRA conference 2017, Lisbon
- Jan 25-29, 2016 **Design and Execution of Education for Starting Teachers**, Centrum voor Nascholing, Amsterdam
- Feb 1–Mar 31, 2015 **Methodology Course Research Design** by Brian Brian Burgoon and Annette Freyberg-Inan, Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research
- Oct 31–Dec 19, 2014 **Advanced Issues in Cross-National Research** by Sofie Marien, University of Amsterdam; Relevant content: Influential Cases, Cross-National Measurement Equivalence, Collinearity and Perturbation Analysis, Cross-Level Interactions

### GRANTS AND AWARDS

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- Jun 2017 **Travel grant** Prins Bernhard Cultuurfondsbeurs (€2.500) for research visit at San Francisco State University, ref. number 40016094/HEV/ILE
- Dec 2015 **Research grant** Fonds Stimulering en Ontwikkeling Seksuologie (€4.500) to fund UNICON data collection together with Henny Bos, Matthijs Kalmijn, Stephanie Steinmetz
- Jun 2015 **Nomination** for the Pedagogische Studien-Award 2015 for best article: Elffers, Van de Werfhorst and Fischer (2015)
- Dec 2014 **ARC-GS National Prize for Best Social Science Master Thesis** in Gender and Sexuality Studies 2014

## ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

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**Fischer, M. M.**, Kalmijn, M. & Steinmetz, S. (2019). The Social Integration of Lesbians, Gay Men and Bisexuals: Exploring the Role of the Municipal Context. *Social Science Research (in press)*.

**Fischer, M.M.** (2019). Free to Live their Lives as they Wish? The Social Well-Being Gap between Persons in Same-Sex and Mixed-Sex Relationships in Europe [*Doctoral dissertation*]. University of Amsterdam: The Netherlands. ISBN 978-94-92679-72-7.

**Fischer, M. M.** & Steinmetz, S. (2018). Designing a Sampling Frame for Same-sex Couples and Families: The Unions in Context (UNICON) Study. In *SAGE Research Methods Cases*, 2018.

**Fischer, M. M.**, Kalmijn, M. & Steinmetz, S. (2017). Design, Content and Questionnaire of The UNICON Study: Lesbian, Gay and Heterosexual Couples and Families in the Netherlands. *Research report*. University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

**Fischer, M.M.**, Kalmijn, M. & Steinmetz, S. (2016). Does Tolerance Matter? A Study of Same-Sex Unions and Well-being in Nine European Countries. *European Societies*, 18(5), 514-534.

**Fischer, M.M.** (2016). Identifying Same-Sex Couples in Cross-National Survey Data: A Comparison of Same-Sex Couples' Demographic and Socio-Economic Traits in Six European Countries. In R Meuleman, G Kraaykamp & M Wittenberg (Eds.), *Nederland In Context: Verschillen en Overeenkomsten* (pp. 50-79). Den Haag: DANS.

Elffers, L., Van de Werfhorst, H. & **Fischer, M.M.** (2015). Effects of Reducing the Period of Mixed Ability Grouping in Secondary Education on Cognitive, Civic and Motivational Outcomes: A Quasi-Experimental Case Study. *Pedagogische Studien*, 92(6), 413-433.

## WORKING PAPERS

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Steinmetz, S., & **Fischer, M. M.** Surveying LGB Couples in a Probabilistic Way – An Example from The Netherlands. *Status: revise & resubmit*.

**Fischer M. M.**, The Personal Networks of Lesbian Women and Gay Men: Results from Recent Probability Sample Data in The Netherlands. *Status: under review*.

**Fischer, M. M.** & LeBlanc, A. Mental Health and Connectedness to the LGBT Community: A Dyadic Analysis of Same-Sex Couples in the United States. *Status: in progress*.

**Fischer, M. M.**, Kalmijn, M. & Steinmetz, S. Social Integration and its Link with Tolerance of Homosexuality: Evidence from a Cross-national Study in 28 European Countries and Israel. *Status: in progress*.

## REVIEWING AND EDITORIAL DUTIES

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- **Guest editor** together with Nancy Bates (U.S. Census Bureau) and Stephanie Steinmetz (University of Amsterdam), Journal of Official Statistics special issue on Measuring LGBT populations, forthcoming in 2019
- **Reviewer**, Journal of Official Statistics, 2018

## SURVEY DATA PROJECTS

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### **The SOEP-LGBT project: Supplementing the German Socio-Economic Panel with a sample of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans Persons;** <https://www.diw.de/en/>

- Project duration: Sept 2018 – anticipated ending Oct 2021
- PIs: David Richter, Martin Kroh, Mirjam Fischer
- The SOEP-LGBT project supplements the existing SOEP panel study with 1,000 LGBT households among which 250 with kids; sample based on randomized phone screening of the German population.
- My tasks involve questionnaire design, construction of weighting variables, and data analysis.
- Funding: Federal Ministry of Education and Research - BMBF.

### **The Unions in Context (UNICON) project: Lesbian, Gay and Heterosexual Couples and Families in the Netherlands;** <http://www.unionsincontext.nl/>

- Project duration: Jan 2016 - Apr 2018
- PIs: Matthijs Kalmijn, Mirjam Fischer, Stephanie Steinmetz, Henny Bos
- Web-based probability survey among cohabiting same-sex and mixed-sex couples in 22 Dutch municipalities, sampling frame from population registers, realized N = 1,400.
- I planned and executed the full project: attraction of funding, recruitment of government partners, overseeing data collection by an external agency, data processing and cleaning, construction of weighting variables, writing fieldwork report.
- Funding: Amsterdam Centre for Inequality Studies; Institutions, Inequalities and Life courses, Nederlandse Vereniging voor Seksuologie, ERC project 'Family complexity' by Matthijs Kalmijn [FP7/2007-2013 / ERC grant agreement no. 669334].

## TEACHING ACTIVITIES

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Feb, 2018	Gender and Sexuality as Sources of Social Inequality, guest lecture (60 students), BA-2 General Social Sciences, University of Amsterdam
Sept-Oct, 2017	Intersectionalities: Class, Race, Gender, and Sexuality, seminars (25 students, 12 contact hours), BA-2 Sociology, University of Amsterdam
Feb, 2017	Gender and Sexuality as Sources of Social Inequality, guest lecture (60 students), BA-2 General Social Sciences, University of Amsterdam

## TEACHING ACTIVITIES CONTINUED

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- Jan, 2017 Introduction to Statistics (50 students, 24 contact hours)  
Practical tutorials, BA-1 Sociology, University of Amsterdam
- Jan, 2016 Introduction to Statistics (25 students, 12 contact hours)  
Practical tutorials, BA-1 Sociology, University of Amsterdam

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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- Jul 17-21, 2017 **7th conference of the European Survey Research Association (ESRA)**, Lisbon, Portugal; presentation titled "Designing a Sampling Frame for Same-Sex Couples and Families: The Unions in Context (UNICON) Study."
- Mar 31, 2017 **Symposium Sexological Research**, Nederlandse Wetenschappelijke Vereniging voor Seksuologie (NWS), Amersfoort, NL; presentation titled "The Unions in Context (UNICON) Project: Gay and Lesbian Couples and Families in the Netherlands."
- Oct 27, 2016 **Congresdag LGBT Onderzoek in de Lage Landen**, Nederlands-Vlaams netwerk LGBT onderzoek, Antwerp, Belgium; presentation titled "Unions in Context (UNICON): A Web-Mode Survey among Same-Sex and Mixed-Sex Couples in the Netherlands."
- Jun 13-15, 2016 **Unequal Families and Relationships**, Centre for Research on Families and Relationships, Edinburgh, Scotland; presentation titled "Unpacking Differences in Social Integration between Heterosexuals and Non-Heterosexuals in the Netherlands: The Role of Tolerance of Homosexuality."
- Jun 9, 2016 **Dag van de Sociologie 2016**, Dutch Sociological Association (NSV), Tilburg, the Netherlands; presentation titled "Unpacking Differences in Social Integration between Heterosexuals and Non-Heterosexuals in the Netherlands: The Role of Tolerance of Homosexuality."
- Jul 13-17, 2015 **6th conference of the European Survey Research Association (ESRA)**, Reykjavik, Iceland; presentation titled "A Socio-Demographic and Socio-Economic Portrait of Same-Sex Couples in 6 European Countries: Evidence from the ESS and the GGS."
- May 27, 2015 **Dag van de Sociologie 2015**, Dutch Sociological Association (NSV), Amsterdam, the Netherlands; presentation titled "Social Integration and Tolerance of Homosexuality: Evidence from a Comparative Couple Study in 28 European Countries and Israel."

## ORGANIZING CONFERENCE PANELS

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- Jul 17-21, 2017      **Session organizer and chair**, “Analyzing the Lives of LGBTI People - Survey Approaches to LGBTI Persons, Couples and Families”, 7th conference of the European Survey Research Association, Lisbon, Portugal
- Aug 4-5, 2016      **Session organizer and chair**, “Survey Approaches to LGBTI Persons, Couples and Families”, Proud in Europe? LGBTI Emancipation in Comparative Perspective, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- Jun 9, 2016        **Session organizer and chair**, “Survey Approaches to LGB Persons, Couples and Families”, Dag van de Sociologie 2016, Tilburg, the Netherlands

## RESEARCH SKILLS & TECHNIQUES

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- **Research design:** sampling difficult to reach populations, designing surveys, designing (web mode) questionnaires, surveying sensitive populations (sexual and gender minorities)
- **Management:** planning, supervising and managing entire data collection cycle of a survey in collaboration with a fieldwork agency; recruitment of government partners/municipalities as partners in research project
- **Statistical:** multi-level regression modelling, fixed and random effects, structural equation modelling, actor partner interdependence modelling, cross-sectional comparative research, matching, difference-in-difference, regression using limited dependent variables, network analysis
- **Computational:** Stata (daily use), SPSS, IBM Amos

## VALORIZATION

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- ‘Sociaal Welzijn van LHB’s’, Radio Swammerdam, Mar 3, 2019
- ‘De beste vriend van een homo is vaak een vrouw’, NRC, Feb 22, 2019
- ‘Hoe groter de tolerantie, des te meer welzijn homo’s ervaren’, Folia, Feb 20, 2019

## LANGUAGE SKILLS

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- German: native speaker
- English: fluent
- Dutch: fluent
- French: limited working proficiency