

**Supporting Material**

**The Nexus of Childhood Family Structure and Young Adults' Civic Engagement and  
Political Participation**

**Helmut Rainer and Thomas Siedler**

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**Table A1**  
**Means of political outcome variables and within family variation (sibling sample)**

	Political interest			Party identification			Political participation			Civic engagement		
	Mean	Number of sibling pairs with differences in:		Mean	Number of sibling pairs with differences in:		Mean	Number of sibling pairs with differences in:		Mean	Number of sibling pairs with differences in:	
		Family structure <sup>a</sup>	Outcome <sup>b</sup>		Family structure <sup>a</sup>	Outcome <sup>b</sup>		Family structure <sup>a</sup>	Outcome <sup>b</sup>		Family structure <sup>a</sup>	Outcome <sup>b</sup>
All	0.29	368	1,429	0.31	370	1,492	0.10	133	252	0.32	133	634
By gender												
Women	0.23	101	299	0.29	102	332	0.08	34	64	0.29	34	149
Men	0.35	107	390	0.34	108	440	0.11	48	80	0.35	48	170
By mother's education												
Less than high school degree	0.28	304	1,175	0.31	304	1,285	0.10	108	219	0.33	108	550
High school or university degree	0.37	64	254	0.34	66	207	0.09	25	33	0.30	25	84
Ever lived in a non-intact family at ages:												
0–5	0.26	385		0.28	386		0.09	133		0.21	133	
6–10	0.25	194		0.25	197		0.06	66		0.19	66	

<sup>a</sup> The number of sibling pairs with differences in the experience of family structures during childhood, e.g. one sibling grew up in a non-intact family and the other sibling in an intact family. <sup>b</sup> The number of sibling pairs with differences in the political outcome measure.

**Table A2**  
**Summary statistics, by sample**

Explanatory variable	Individual sample		Sibling sample	
	Means	Standard deviation	Means	Standard deviation
<b>Explanatory variables</b>				
Ever lived in a non-intact family	0.24		0.18	
Ever lived in a non-intact family at ages:				
0–5	0.20		0.14	
6–10	0.04		0.04	
Age	22.59	5.10	22.92	4.64
Female	0.51		0.51	
Mother's highest educational attainment				
Secondary general school certificate or less	0.45		0.47	
Intermediate school qualification	0.34		0.34	
<i>Abitur</i> (or equivalent)	0.03		0.03	
Technical college or university degree	0.18		0.16	
Mother's age at birth	26.01	5.16	25.60	4.75
Only child	0.12			
Birth order <sup>a,b</sup>				
First child	0.42		0.40	
Second child	0.42		0.43	
Third child or more	0.17		0.17	
Average post-government household income during childhood years <sup>b</sup>	34,145	14,475	35,871	15,086
Mother's employment during childhood years:				
Number of years part-time employed	4.24	5.04	4.65	5.19
Number of years full-time employed	6.60	6.57	5.37	6.24
<i>Number of individuals</i>		1,838		758

Figures shown are sample means computed in last survey year 2001 in which all four outcome variables are observed (SOEP wave 18) with standard deviations in parentheses.

<sup>a</sup> Includes adopted and foster children.

<sup>b</sup> Computed for children with siblings only

<sup>c</sup> Average computed using all positive household annual income values available for years 0–16.

Household income was deflated using the Consumer Price Index and is expressed in Euros (year 2000 prices).

**Table A3**  
**Childhood family structure and political behavior**  
**(Marginal effects from logit regressions, individual sample)**

	Political interest	Party identification	Political participation	Civic engagement
Age 22-25	0.081** (0.010)	0.105** (0.011)	0.008 (0.007)	-0.005 (0.014)
Age > 25	0.131** (0.017)	0.177** (0.019)	0.016 (0.011)	-0.026 (0.021)
Female	-0.133** (0.012)	-0.069** (0.013)	-0.022** (0.007)	-0.077** (0.015)
Mother's highest educational attainment				
Intermediate school qualification	0.092** (0.017)	0.057** (0.018)	0.012 (0.009)	0.029 (0.019)
<i>Abitur</i> (or equivalent)	0.162** (0.042)	0.118** (0.044)	0.061+ (0.036)	0.115* (0.055)
Technical college or university degree	0.183** (0.023)	0.150** (0.024)	0.020 (0.015)	0.063* (0.028)
Mother's age at birth	0.003* (0.001)	0.005** (0.002)	-0.002+ (0.001)	-0.000 (0.002)
Only child	-0.004 (0.020)	-0.010 (0.022)	-0.013 (0.012)	-0.010 (0.026)
Birth order				
Second child	-0.050** (0.015)	-0.042** (0.016)	-0.007 (0.009)	-0.024 (0.019)
Third child or more	-0.050* (0.021)	-0.070** (0.021)	0.015 (0.014)	-0.034 (0.026)
Average post-government household income during childhood years	0.001** (0.000)	0.002** (0.000)	0.001* (0.000)	0.001 (0.001)
Mother's employment during childhood years:				
Number of years part-time employed	0.001 (0.001)	0.001 (0.001)	0.001 (0.001)	-0.001 (0.002)
Number of years full-time employed	-0.002 (0.001)	-0.000 (0.001)	-0.001 (0.001)	-0.005** (0.002)
Ever lived in a non-intact family	-0.009 (0.015)	-0.034* (0.016)	-0.026** (0.008)	-0.073** (0.017)
<i>N</i>	21,357	23,335	9,021	9,021

Figures are marginal effects from logit regressions. Robust standard errors in parentheses. Standard errors are clustered on individuals' identification number, as there are multiple observation per person over time. Childhood years refer to ages 0–16. Regressions also control for federal state dummy variable, an East German residence dummy variable and a linear time trend. The information about political interest and party identification is derived from questions asked in the survey years 1985-2004 and 1984-2004, respectively. For political participation and civic engagement, we use information derived from questions asked in the survey years 1985, 1986, 1988, 1992, 1994, 1996, 1997, 1999 and 2001. + significant at 10%; \* significant at 5%; \*\* significant at 1% level. *N* is the number of person-year observations.

**Table A4**  
**Childhood family structure and political behavior**  
**(Estimates from ordered probit regressions, individual sample)**

	Political interest	Political participation	Civic engagement
Age 22-25	0.268** (0.023)	0.055 (0.056)	-0.028 (0.039)
Age > 25	0.441** (0.039)	0.113 (0.080)	-0.057 (0.060)
Female	-0.316** (0.029)	-0.191** (0.055)	-0.248** (0.042)
Mother's highest educational attainment			
Intermediate school qualification	0.236** (0.039)	0.076 (0.070)	0.081 (0.054)
<i>Abitur</i> (or equivalent)	0.388** (0.091)	0.387* (0.195)	0.294* (0.138)
Technical college or university degree	0.447** (0.050)	0.140 (0.105)	0.150* (0.072)
Mother's age at birth	0.015** (0.004)	-0.009 (0.008)	0.004 (0.005)
Only child	0.008 (0.051)	-0.090 (0.116)	-0.044 (0.077)
Birth order			
Second child	-0.149** (0.038)	-0.079 (0.074)	-0.081 (0.055)
Third child or more	-0.241** (0.055)	0.070 (0.109)	-0.114 (0.077)
Average post-government household income during childhood years	0.005** (0.001)	0.004* (0.002)	0.001 (0.001)
Mother's employment during childhood years:			
Number of years part-time employed	0.001 (0.004)	0.009 (0.006)	0.002 (0.005)
Number of years full-time employed	-0.005 (0.003)	-0.006 (0.006)	-0.014** (0.005)
Ever lived in a non-intact family	-0.062 (0.038)	-0.226** (0.075)	-0.199** (0.053)
<i>N</i>	21,357	9,021	9,021

Figures are coefficients from ordered probit regressions on the original 4-point scale variables political interest (1 'not at all', 2 'not much' 3 'much' 4 'very much'), political participation and civic engagement (1 'never', 2 'less frequently', 3 'every month' 4 'every week'). Robust standard errors in parentheses. Standard errors are clustered on individuals' identification number, as there are multiple observation per person over time. Childhood years refer to ages 0–16. Regressions also control for federal state dummy variables, an East German residence dummy variable and a linear time trend. The information about political interest is derived from questions asked in the survey years 1985-2004. For political participation and civic engagement, we use information derived from questions asked in the survey years 1985, 1986, 1988, 1992, 1994, 1996, 1997, 1999 and 2001. + significant at 10%; \* significant at 5%; \*\* significant at 1% level. *N* is the number of person-year observations.

**Table A5**  
**Childhood family structure and political behavior**  
**(Sibling-difference estimations, sibling sample)**

	Political interest	Party identification	Political participation	Civic engagement
Age 22-25	0.014 (0.027)	-0.017 (0.027)	-0.016 (0.032)	-0.009 (0.050)
Age > 25	-0.017 (0.050)	0.001 (0.050)	-0.035 (0.059)	-0.045 (0.090)
Female	-0.133** (0.016)	-0.059** (0.016)	0.001 (0.017)	-0.013 (0.028)
Mother's age at birth	-0.010 (0.007)	-0.009 (0.007)	0.002 (0.009)	0.011 (0.013)
Average post-government household income during childhood years	-0.002 (0.002)	0.000 (0.002)	0.003 (0.003)	0.005 (0.004)
Mother's employment during childhood years:				
Number of years part-time employed	0.007 (0.006)	0.007 (0.006)	-0.002 (0.007)	-0.008 (0.012)
Number of years full-time employed	-0.001 (0.006)	0.009 (0.006)	-0.000 (0.008)	-0.014 (0.013)
Ever lived in a non-intact family	-0.068+ (0.037)	-0.136** (0.035)	-0.063 (0.045)	-0.124+ (0.069)
<i>Person-year observations</i>	8,677	9,102	3,414	3,414
<i>Number of sibling pairs</i>	4,109	4,314	1,641	1,641

Sibling-difference estimates at same survey time. Estimates from linear probability models. Robust standard errors in parentheses. Standard errors are clustered on a sibling pair identification number, as there are multiple observations for some sibling pairs. Childhood years refer to ages 0–16. The information about political interest and party identification is derived from questions asked in the survey years 1985-2004 and 1984-2004, respectively. For political participation and civic engagement, we use information derived from questions asked in the survey years 1985, 1986, 1988, 1992, 1994, 1996, 1997, 1999 and 2001. + significant at 10%; \* significant at 5%; \*\* significant at 1% level. *N* is the number of person-year observations.