Kilian J. Steigner

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Objective

I am interested in the processes unfolding to social inequality. During my studies and work I developed strong interest and experience in family sociology, social-inequality, loneliness, life-course trajectories and quantitative data analysis. Currently working on diversifying family forms and life courses after parental separation as a PhD Candidate.

Experience

- **University of Groningen, Population Research Centre [🌐]** *January 2026 - Current*
  PhD Candidate Groningen, The Netherlands
  - Literature research
  - Quantitative data analysis
- **Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung [🌐]** *April 2024 - October 2025*
  Freelance Employee Bonn/Berlin, Germany
  - Literature research
  - Organisation and administration of conferences
- **University of Groningen, Population Research Centre [🌐]** *February 2025 - August 2025*
  Student assistant Groningen, The Netherlands
  - Contribution to academic articles
  - Quantitative data analysis
  - Literature research
  - Organisation and administration of team meetings
- **University of Cologne, Cologne Center for Comparative Politics [🌐]** *April 2021 - September 2023*
  Student assistant Cologne, Germany
  - Teaching as tutor for the lecture "The system of the European Union"
  - Administrational tasks for the lecture "The system of the European Union"
  - Literature research

Education

- **University of Groningen** *September 2024 - August 2025*
  MSc Population Studies Groningen, The Netherlands
  - Average grade: 8.7/10.0 Cum laude
  - Thesis title: Lonely parents? The role of becoming a parent, gender and childcare support for loneliness (9.1/10.0)
  - Double masters degree "Demography and Social Inequality"
- **University of Cologne** *October 2023 - September 2025*
  MSc Sociology and Social Research Cologne, Germany
  - Average grade: 1.3/1.0
  - Thesis title: Lonely parents? The role of becoming a parent, gender and childcare support for loneliness (1.0/1.0)
  - Double masters degree "Demography and Social Inequality"
- **University of Cologne** *October 2019 - May 2023*
  BSc Social Science Cologne, Germany
  - Average grade 1.4/1.0
  - Thesis title: Clips for politics: European populist party communication on TikTok (1.3/1.0)
  - Erasmus stay Università degli Studi di Roma Tor Vergata (Global Governance)

Scholarships

- **University of Oxford - University of Cologne** *October 2025*
  Research visit at Nuffield College
- **Friedrich-Ebert-Foundation** *October 2023 - September 2025*
  Double masters programme "Demography and Social Inequality"

Publications

- Mulder, C. H., B. J. Gillespie, T.Haartsen, E. T. Jansma, K. J. Steigner, and J. A. K. Thomassen (2026). **Self-reported motives for immobility or constraints to moving: A review and assessment of eight survey measures**. *Population, Space and Place 32: e70240.* https://doi.org/10.1002/psp.70240.
- Mulder, C. H., Y. C. Her, Z. Zilincikova, K. J. Steigner (2026). **The roles of siblings and peers in young adults' life course events: A review and a research agenda**. Preprint. https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/zbgs7
- Steigner, K., Ellwardt, L. (2025). **The role of transitioning to parenthood, gender, and childcare support in loneliness: A longitudinal study**. Working paper submitted for publication to *Journal of Family Studies*.

Talks & Presentations

- *The role of transitioning to parenthood, gender, and childcare support in loneliness: A longitudinal study*. Presented at KNE Forschungskolloquium, German Federal Ministry for Education, Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, Hannover, Germany, November 2026.
- *Spatial proximity between separated parents: The role of physical custody arrangements and new partnerships*. Presented at European Divorce Conference, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark, October 2026.
- *Bringing families into focus: Future directions in loneliness research across the life-course*. Presented at a research visit to Nuffield College, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK, October 2025.
- *Parteienkommunikation auf TikTok in Köln - Erkenntnisse aus einer Netzwerkstudie und Anwendung im lokalpolitischen Kontext*. Presented at the district council of the city centre of Cologne, Cologne, Germany, May 2024.

Language skills

- **German:** Mother tongue
- **English:** C1
- **Dutch:** B1
- **Italian:** B1

Skills

- **Statistical software:** STATA, R, Rmarkdown
- **Microsoft office:** Word, Excel, PowerPoint
- **Other:** LaTeX, Atlas.ti

Specific courses

- **Causal inference with survey data** *August 2026*
  GESIS Leibniz institute for social research
  - Understanding of the potential outcome framework, causal diagrams (directed acyclic graphs), and the counterfactual way of thinking
  - Derive causal estimates in observational settings
  - Apply five families of methods: fixed effects models, matching, difference-in-differences, instrumental variables, and regression discontinuity design
- **Qualitative data analysis with Atlas.ti** *June 2026*
  QDA Services London
  - Working with different qualitative data formats in Atlas.ti
  - Inductive coding, deductive coding, literature reviewing, qualitative data management