Post-separation families: Residential arrangements and everyday life of separated parents and their children

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I. Overview articles dissertation

This dissertation is based on four articles with the following references:


The majority of the work for all chapters was done by the first author, who was responsible for conducting the quantitative and qualitative research and writing the articles. The co-authors guided the conducted research and provided comments, additional ideas, small text fragments and text editing.
II. Topic list interviews separated parents

A. Current household situation

Opening question: Can you describe your household, who belongs to it and where do they live?

- Description household: who belongs to it
- Where do the members of the household live; distance in between
- Division of stays: days/nights children
- Other moments of parent-child contact: telephone, email etc.
- Division of child-related stuff; bedroom, school-items, toys
- Where is home for the children and why
- Division of costs
- How are agreements formalized

Follow up question: How did you decide on the residential arrangement?

- What concerns or aspects played a role
- Who moved after separation
- Consequences of moving
- What alternatives were discussed
- Arrangement of first choice; respondent, child(ren) and ex-partner
- Why not arrangement of first choice

Follow up question: Did the child(ren) have a say in the decisions that were made?

- Who initiated it
- When did they have a say and on what topics

B. Weekly time-budget and task division

Opening question: Can you describe what a normal weeks look like, for you, your child(ren) and how the parental tasks are divided.

Schedule child(ren): Residential: □ commuting patterns; when □ travel time and means of travel □ stuff being moved
### School/day-care
- Schedule and location
- Travel time, means of travel, with whom
- School-related activities: who’s involved
- Help from others

### Household tasks
- Schedule household tasks

### Leisure
- Schedule hobby’s, sports, friends etc.
- Travel time, means of travel, with whom
- Help from others

### (Ex-)family contact
- When, how and with whom
- Travel time, means of travel, with whom
- Help from others

- Description day with father and day with mother
- Description day at school and weekend day
- Division parental tasks
- Holidays and birthdays

### Schedule respondent

#### Work
- Schedule and location
- Travel time and means of travel
- Experience and contentment

#### Leisure
- Schedule and location
- Travel time and means of travel
- Experience and contentment

#### Household tasks
- Schedule household tasks
- Help from others
- Experience and contentment

#### Parenting tasks
- Schedule tasks and division
- Help from others
- Experience and contentment

#### (Ex-)family contact
- When, how and with whom
- Travel time and means of travel

- Description day with or without the child(ren)
- Description working day and weekend day
Follow up question: What changes occurred after separation (considering a normal week) and what problems or constraint did you and your family members face?

- changes in normal week
- constraints
- solutions

C. Division responsibilities ex-partners

Opening question: How are the parental responsibilities divided, who takes the decisions and how do you communicate on this?

- division parental responsibilities
- communication about well-being and upbringing child(ren)
- synchronization agenda
- synchronization rules
- contact with ex-partner; frequency and how
- obligations towards ex-partner
- changes after separation
- experience and contentment

D. Residential and working domain

Opening question: Did you consider moving (changing place of residence) after separation?

- moving an option for respondent or ex-partner
- what consequences
- changing jobs an option for respondent or ex-partner
- what consequences

E. Contentment and experience

Opening question: How do you, you children and your ex-partner experience the current residential arrangement?

- advantages and disadvantages
- how do you picture the future
- do you know others with the same type of arrangement
- problems and solutions
- changes in arrangement through time: reasons
- satisfaction
F. Personal data

Respondent:
- □ year of birth
- □ educational level
- □ year of separation
- □ duration of relationship

Child(ren) respondent:
- □ number of children
- □ gender
- □ year of birth
- □ place of residence
- □ biological father
- □ age at moment of separation

Ex-partner(s) father(s):
- □ number of children
- □ year of birth
- □ educational level
- □ job; working hours
- □ new partner/children

New partner respondent:
- □ year of birth
- □ distance
- □ educational level
- □ job: working hours
- □ duration of relationship
- □ children with respondent
- □ other children