

TransParent – Sweden: the qualitative study



The interview guide

- Based on German guide but adjusted to Swedish context
- Adjustments guided by
 - doing gender approach
 - relative resources perspective
 - concept of negotiation/bargaining

Overarching themes

1. Employment (work situation, satisfaction, leisure-time activities/hobbies)
2. Becoming a couple (how long known each other, work/studies, income/money)
3. Everyday life and housework (present and previous division of housework)
4. Plans and wishes for the period after birth (everyday life as parent, parental leave, paid work, housework, care, social environment/comparisons)
5. Ideals (division of housework, division of parental leave, gender equality)

Data collection

- 20 couples
 - heterosexual
 - couple's first child
 - live together
 - both working
- Four parts of Stockholm – different mean income
- Later more parts and three more cities
- Meetings - folder
- Add on two websites
- Snowballing

Most of the interviewees were

- Well-educated
- Well-established on the labour market, middle-class
- Reasonably well-paid
- Born in Sweden
- Interested in gender equality
- In their late 20s or early 30s (24-40)

The interviews

- Spring and early summer 2009
- Two interviewers
- Woman and man separately
- In their home or at their workplace
- Lasted 1-2 hours (often 1.5)

- Next interview: late this autumn
 - ideally they should be back from parental leave

Analyses

- Listened, read and corrected transcription
- Interviewees opportunity to read and correct
- N'Vivo
- Tree of categories and themes
 - based on theory and first empirical impressions
 - then developed during analysis

Typical descriptions or cases, example

Five typical ways to divide the parental leave

1. Share equally
2. Equal but flexible
3. Woman more, but man's leave important
4. Woman (almost) all
5. Man more, but woman's leave taken for granted