

Dr. Ingrid K. van Dijk

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Why are there such large inequalities in health and survival, and how have these changed over the last centuries? I study these questions from the perspective of the family, using population registers and survey data. I study indicators such as lifespan, cause-specific mortality, reproductive outcomes, stature, and morbidity.

Academic positions

Centre for Economic Demography, Department of Economic History, Lund University, Sweden
2022 – 2024 Biträdande Lektor (Assistant professor on the tenure track)
2021 – 2022 Researcher
2019 – 2021 Postdoctoral Researcher

Radboud Group for Family History and Historical Demography, Department of History, Radboud University, Nijmegen, Netherlands

2019 – today Affiliated researcher
2014 – 2019 PhD Researcher

Population Science, Huntsman Cancer Centre, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, US
2017 / 03-06 Visiting researcher. Mentor: Prof. Ken R. Smith

Career breaks

2023 7 months parental leave
2016 – 2018 5 months university council Radboud University Nijmegen

Academic degrees

2023 Associate Professor (*Docent*), Department of Economic History, Lund University
2019 Ph.D., History. Radboud University, Nijmegen, Netherlands. Dissertation: Death and the Family. Supervisors: Prof. Dr. Angelique Janssens & Prof. Dr. Jan Kok.
2014 M.Sc., Social & Cultural Science (Sociology). Radboud University. Cum laude (top 10%)
2012 B.Sc., Sociology. Radboud University

Research projects

My research has been funded by the European Research Council (ERC Starting Grant, 2024), Riksbankens Jubileumsfonden, and Crafoordska Stiftelse, amounting to a total of over 2.2 million euro.

2024 *Relative Health*. Long-Run Inequalities in Health and Survival Between Families and Across Generations. European Research Council Starting Grant 2023, 1.5 million EUR.
2021 *An Age-Old Advantage*. Healthy aging in two centuries of Swedish and Dutch long-lived families (1813-2021). Riksbankens Jubileumsfonden 2022-2026. 400.000EUR
2022 *Long Live the Family*. The Rise of Familial Health Advantages in Sweden 1813-2022. Research project, Crafoordska Stiftelse 2022 – 2024, 180.000EUR

Publication metrics

14 peer-reviewed publications, 2 book chapters, 354 citations, H-index 8, i10-index 8 (Google Scholar, August 2024)

Peer-reviewed publications

- 2024 **Van Dijk**, Nilsson & Quaranta. [Disease Exposure in Early Life Affects Female Reproduction: Evidence from Southern Sweden 1896 – 2015](#). *Social Science and Medicine*.
- 2023 Hedefalk, **Van Dijk** & Dribe. [Childhood neighborhoods and cause-specific adult mortality in Sweden 1939-2015](#). *Health & Place*, 84 (103137)
- 2023 Van den Berg, Rodriguez-Girondo, **Van Dijk**, Beekman & Slagboom. [Increasing levels of ancestral mortality reveal up to 13 year healthspan differences and beneficial metabolomics profiles](#). *Nature Communications*, 14 (4518)
- 2023 Quanjer, **Van Dijk** & Rosenbaum-Feldbrügge. [Short Lives. The impact of parental death on early life mortality and height in the Netherlands 1860-1940](#). *Demography*, 60 (1): 255-279
- 2022 Rijpma, **Van Dijk**, Schalk, Zijdemans & Mourits. [Unequal excess mortality during the Spanish Flu pandemic in the Netherlands](#). *Economics and Human Biology*, 47, 101179
- 2021 **Van Dijk** & Kok. [Kept in the Family. Remarriage with Kin among Widows and Widowers in the Netherlands 1812 – 1937](#). *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*. 52 (3): 313–349
- 2021 **Van Dijk**, Van den Berg, Mourits. [Maternal Age and Child Reproductive Success](#). *Historical Life Course Studies* 10(3): 112-118
- 2021 **Van Dijk**, Van den Berg, Mourits, Slagboom, Janssens, Mandemakers. [Families in Comparison: An individual-level comparison of life course and family reconstructions between population and vital event registers](#). *Population Studies*. 75 (1): 91-110
- 2019 Van den Berg, Rodriguez-Girondo, **van Dijk**, Mourits, Janssens, Mandemakers, Beekman, Smith, Slagboom. [Longevity defined as top 10% survivors and beyond is transmitted as a quantitative genetic trait](#). *Nature Communications*, 10, 35
- 2019 **Van Dijk**, Janssens, Smith. [The Long Harm of Childhood: Childhood Exposure to Mortality and Subsequent Risk of Adult Mortality in Utah and the Netherlands](#). *European Journal of Population* 35(5): 851-871
- 2019 **Van Dijk**. [Mortality Clustering in Families: A Review of the Literature](#). *Population Studies*, 73, 1, 79-99
- 2018 **Van Dijk** & Mandemakers. [Like mother, like daughter: Intergenerational transmission of infant mortality clustering in Zeeland 1833 – 1912](#). *Historical Life Course Studies*, 7(2), 28-46
- 2015 Thijs, **van Dijk**, Stoof & Notten. [Adolescent problem behaviour: The gender gap in European perspective](#). *European Journal of Criminology*, 12, 5, 598-615
- 2014 Thijs, **van Dijk**, Stoof & Notten. [Gendersverschillen en deviant gedrag](#). *Mens & Maatschappij*, 89, 3, 305-335

Book chapters, dissertation, database, data, codebooks

- 2024 **Van Dijk**, Lazuka & Quaranta. [Maternal and infant health development in southern Sweden, 1905-2015: Understanding the role of institutions and medical innovations](#). In: *Urban Lives*, edited by Dribe, Nilsson & Tegunimataka. Oxford: Oxford University Press. In press
- 2024 **Van Dijk** & Dribe. [A Healthy Marriage? Emerging Marital Status Differences in Mortality in Scania, 1815 – 2015](#). In: *Urban Lives*
- 2022 Rijpma, **Van Dijk**, Schalk, Zijdemans & Mourits. [HSNDB index: occupational exposure to infectious disease](#). IISG Amsterdam
- 2020 Mourits, **Van Dijk** & Mandemakers. [From LINKS to database](#). *Historical Life Course Studies* 9, 46-69. Database, code book and code
- 2020 Mandemakers, Hornix, Mourits, Muurling, Boter, **Van Dijk**, Maas, van de Putte, Zijdemans, Lambert, van Leeuwen, van Poppel and Miles. [HSN standardized, HISCO-coded and classified occupational titles, HSN release 2020.02](#), IISG Amsterdam
- 2019 **Van Dijk**. [Death and the family. High mortality families and the life course, The Netherlands, 1812 – 1912 \(2019\)](#). Enschede: Ipskamp. Doctoral dissertation

Coverage of research

- 2022 [Vägen framåt för unga forskare](#) [The way forward for young researchers]

- 2019 [How Death Continued to Haunt Zeeland Families](#). Radboud Recharge, 2019
- 2019 ['Lang leven wordt doorgegeven door familieleden' | Wetenschap | NU.nl](#) ["Long life passed on by relatives"]
- 2019 Bij de meeste mensen is levensverwachting niet zo erfelijk. ["for most people life expectancy is not very heritable"]. <https://www.newscientist.nl/nieuws/bij-de-meeste-mensen-is-levensverwachting-helemaal-niet-zo-erfelijk/>

Funding

As Principal Investigator

- 2024 **Relative Health: Long-Run Inequalities in Health and Survival Between Families and Across Generations.** ERC Starting Grant 2023. Funding for two postdoctoral researchers, a PhD candidate, a data manager and myself 2025-2030 (1.5 million EUR).
- 2022 **Long Live the Family: The Rise of Familial Health Advantages in Sweden 1813-2022.** Crafoord Foundation (Crafoordska Stiftelse). Funding for a PhD candidate 2022-2024 (1.8mSEK)
- 2021 **An Age-Old Advantage? Healthy aging in two centuries of Swedish and Dutch long-lived families (1813-2021).** Bank of Sweden Foundation (Riksbankens Jubileumsfonden). PI. Co-applicant: Niels van den Berg, LUMC Netherlands. Funding covers me and Niels (the co-applicant) for 3 years, 0.7 FTE (4m SEK)
- 2020-21 **Maternal and Infant Health and Their Change over Time (2021)**
Early Years: Maternal Health and Newborns' Birthweight (2020)
 Ebbe Kock Stiftelse, 2x300k SEK (55kEUR). Co-applicants: Nilsson & Quaranta. Digitization grant for obstetric records which we used for the 2024 Social Science & Medicine publication.

As co-applicant

- 2023 **The Great Leap: Multidisciplinary approaches to health inequalities, 1800-2022.** EU COST Action. PI Janssens. Role: Management Committee for Sweden
- 2020 **Maternal Health and Newborns' Birthweight.** Gyllenstiernska Krapperup Stiftelse. PI Nilsson (7.5kEUR)

Awards and honours

- 2021 Interstellar Initiative for early career researchers on healthy ageing. Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED) and the New York Academy of Sciences (NYAS). Declined
- 2021 Best Poster Award at the Conference of the PAA (with Quaranta and Nilsson)

Teaching

I have developed and taught courses on economic demography, health and historical demography. I taught substantive lectures, seminars, methodology courses and research skill seminars, and invited lectures for up to 50 students. I currently teach 2 courses per semester and participate in thesis supervision of bachelor and master students.

2019 – 2024 Lund University

- 2024 Bachelor thesis supervision (2 theses) and examination (4 theses)
- 2023 – 2024 Research Design (Bachelor Economics & Society). Instructor
- 2020 – 2024 Master thesis supervision (11 theses)
- 2021 – 2024 Master thesis examination (8 theses)
- 2023 – 2024 Advanced Topic in Economic Demography: Family and Health. Coordinating lecturer
- 2020 – 2023 Population and Living Standard
- 2022 and 2023: Coordinating lecturer
 - 2020 and 2021: Lecturer

2022 Consequences of Demographic Change, lecturer
 2020 Econometrics II, coordinating lecturer
 2020 Econometrics I, examination

Selected guest lectures

2024 Lund Summer School in Historical Demography. Social Inequalities in Health and Mortality
 2024 Docent course: Grant applications
 2022, 2024 Societal impact of epidemics. MA Biology and Infectious Disease Lund

Supervision at the PhD level

2022 – 2026 Isa Barraclough. PhD student in the project “Long Live the Family”.
 Main supervisor & PI of the research project. Assistant supervisor: Martin Dribe

Supervision at the Master level (11 theses)

2024 Oswald, Saiara, Yan, Horvath-Nemes
 2022 Bruckner (2nd year), Keegan, Lekstyte, Valentin
 2021 Bruckner (1st year)
 2020 Mancuso, Cormack (awarded Håkan Lindgren prize for best Swedish economic history thesis)

2010 – 2017 *Radboud University, Nijmegen, the Netherlands*

2016 – 2017 Basic Programming in R for early career researchers, summer school historical demography
 2015 – 2016 Beautiful Angels, Historical Demography project, BA2/3. *Department of History. Seminars and Lectures*
 2014 Sociology for Public Administration, BA-3, *Department of Public Administration, Faculty of Management Sciences: Seminars*
 2013 – 2014 Research Project, BA1. *Department of Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences: Seminars*
 2010 – 2014 Coaching and workshops for BA and MA students. *Academic Writing Center: Writing Tutor*

Presentations

Invited presentations and seminars

2024 Family similarities in health and survival. Bandim health project x Centre for Economic Demography, SDU, Copenhagen
 2023 Invited seminar “Long Run Developments in the Association between SES and survival, Sweden”. Department of Molecular Epidemiology, LUMC, Leiden, Netherlands
 2023 Invited seminar “Family Differences in Health and Mortality”, Norwegian Institute for Public Health, Oslo, Norway
 2023 “Changes in Health and Mortality from a Family Perspective”. Keynote lecture. European Society for Historical Demography Conference, Nijmegen, Netherlands.
 2021 European Society for Historical Demography digital seminar series
 2019 NWO-Most joined seminar “Life at the Extremes 2.0”, Academia Sinica & Taiwan National University, Taipei, Taiwan
 2017 Population and Health Seminar, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, US
 2016 MPI for Social Anthropology, Halle (Saale), Germany

Conference presentations

2024 German Day of Demography, Hamburg, Germany. COST-action “The Great Leap”, Nijmegen, Netherlands. European Population Conference Edinburg, Scotland, UK.
 2023 European Society for Historical Demography (ESHD), Nijmegen, Netherlands (plenary talk, paper). [Conference of the PAA \(Population Association of America\), New Orleans, US \(paper presentation, cancelled due to maternity leave\)](#). [Conference of the ESSHC, Gothenburg, Sweden \(paper presentation, discussant, cancelled due to maternity leave\)](#).

- 2022 ESHD, Madrid, Spain (session organizer, paper, discussant). Nordic Demography Symposium, Oslo, Norway (paper). Swedish Register-Based Research Summit, Stockholm, Sweden (paper).
- 2021 *All online*. European Social Science History Conference, Leiden, Netherlands. Economic History Society, Essex, UK. Sex ratios and missing girls in history seminar series, Trondheim, Norway. Conference of the Population Association of America (poster). Social Science History Association, Philadelphia, US.
- 2020 *All cancelled*. European Social Science History Conference, Leiden, Netherlands. Conference of the Population Association of America, Washington DC, US. European Population Conference, Padua, Italy (paper). Conference of the Social Science History Association, Washington DC, US
- 2019 IUSSP Seminar on lifespan extension with varying cause-of-death trajectories in European societies, Marburg, Germany. Conference of the European Society for Historical Demography, Pecs, Hungary. IUSSP Seminar on Kinship and Demographic Behavior, Minneapolis, Minnesota, US. MVE-Tagung, Delmenhorst, Oldenburg (session chair). Conference of the Social Science History Association, Chicago, US
- 2018 IUSSP Workshop on the social impact of epidemics: A workshop marking 100 years of the Great Flu Epidemic of 1918, Oslo, Norway. Conference of the SSHA, Phoenix, Arizona, USA. European Population Conference, Brussels, Belgium. ESSHC, Belfast, Northern Ireland (UK) (panel discussant “Causes of Death in Port Cities”). Posthumus Conference, Utrecht, Netherlands
- 2017 International Population Conference, Cape Town, South Africa. Conference of the Population Association of America, Chicago, USA (poster)
- 2016 Conference of the European Society for Historical Demography, Leuven, Belgium. European Social Science History Conference, Valencia, Spain (paper and panel organizer). Posthumus Conference, Wageningen, Netherlands
- 2015 Conference of the Social Science History Association, Baltimore, USA

Professional development and activities

Organization and service

- 2023 – today Management Committee of the COST Action ‘The Great Leap’
- 2022 – today Deputy Board Member, Economic History, Faculty of Economics, Lund University (Elected)
- 2024 Jury, Svensk Demografisk Förening (Swedish Demographic Association) Thesis Competition
- 2022 Posthumus Research Design Course, Lund: Senior Commentator
- 2015 – 2017 Radboud University Works Council. Elected member, 0.2 FTE

PhD opponent and thesis committee tasks

- Discussant of the final seminar of Bergvall (2022), Lund University
- Dissertation Examination Committee & Opposition of Dr. Thompson, Health Economics, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Netherlands (2022)
- Discussant of the final seminar of Debiasi (2021), Lund University
- Discussant of the midway seminar of Bergvall (2021), Lund University

Reviewing

Biodemography & Social Biology, Demography, Economics & Human Biology, Explorations in Economic History, Historical Life Course Studies, History of the Family, Journal of Interdisciplinary History, Population, Population Studies, Social Sciences and Humanities Open, Scandinavian Economic History Review, Social Science History, International Population Conference IUSSP 2021

Organization of sessions and workshops

- 2025 IUSSP International Population Conference, Brisbane, Australia. Organizer ‘Intrafamily and Intergenerational Transmission of Health’.
- 2022 ESHD Madrid: session *Healthy Mothers and Thriving Infants*, with Quaranta

- 2017 Masterclass *Evolutionary Perspectives in Historical Demography* at the Radboud Group for Historical Demography and Family History, with Riswick
- 2016 ESSHC Valencia: session *Familial Determinants of Mortality*
- 2016 Organization of Summer School *Historical Demography* for early career researchers, department of History, Radboud University. 15 participants

Membership of scientific societies

IUSSP (International Union for the Scientific Study of Population), EAPS (European Association for Population Studies), Swedish Demographic Association, Nederlandse Vereniging voor de Demografie

Pedagogical education

5 weeks pedagogical training, Lund University.

- Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (3 weeks fulltime, 2020-2021)
- Doctoral Supervision (2 weeks fulltime, 2020-2021)

1 week pedagogical training, Radboud University Nijmegen.

- Tutoring, course, academic writing center (3 days)
- Teaching Seminars, course, faculty of management science (2 days)

Languages

Dutch native

English fluent

Swedish limited professional working proficiency, CEFR B2 (certificates)

- Swedish for University Employees, Lund University: 2021-2022 SFU Level 4 (B2)

German limited professional working proficiency, CEFR B2 (without formal training)