

CALL FOR PAPERS

Antinatalism and Selection: Impossible Parenthood and Averted Children

Gender-related studies on the topic of having children and becoming parents in German-speaking contexts focus primarily on (lacking) access to assisted reproduction and 'fertility treatment'. In contrast, social dynamics and technological developments that influence which children should not be born, or whose parenting should be avoided, are dealt with to a much lesser extent. However, the analysis of disreproductive infrastructures, global social inequality, racism, ableism, and cis heteronormativity is central for an intersectional feminism. Flip sides and gaps of the current focus on individuals' desire for having a healthy and 'physically connected' child come into view.

We welcome contributions from the social sciences, history, cultural and media studies, as well as gender/queer studies, feminist STS, and disability studies that address issues of selection and the politics of 'not having children'. Three thematic areas are of particular interest to us: First, the need to reflect on population programs and the dynamics of contraceptive methods/technologies, as well as explorations of Malthusian narratives to be observed, for example, in the context of the climate crisis. Second, we call for an analysis of the dynamics of selective reproductive technologies that are directed at a preference not to give birth to children with certain (genetic) characteristics. Third, the question arises to what extent social options for kinship are marginalized when the focus is primarily on expanding access to assisted reproduction and on enabling family formation with genetically and/or biologically related children.

Possible questions/research topics in detail

- Historical and political science research on population programs and Malthusian narratives
- Feminist STS research on global sterilization programs and long-term contraception
- Ethnographic and disability studies analyses of selective prenatal, preimplantation, and preconception diagnostics
- Contemporary and future-oriented research on the intersection of selective procedures within assisted reproduction regarding their binary gender-norming, ableist and racializing effects (e.g.,

- in matching procedures)How are identity, gender and remembrance culture connected?
- Social and media studies approaches to the marginalization of social kinship and family models
 - Cultural studies perspectives on the geneticization of parenthood and kinship in the context of assisted reproduction

Procedure and timetable

- Please submit a one- to two-page abstract by **26 November 2023**. Non-German speakers are welcome to submit their articles in English.
- Please send your proposal as well as your manuscript as Word file to: manuskripte@gender-zeitschrift.de (subject: Special issue „Women’s movements and feminisms“).
- Once your abstract has been assessed and judged suitable for this issue, you will receive an invitation to submit. Notifications of acceptance will be sent by **10 December 2023**. The deadline for submission of the final manuscript is **19 May 2024**.
- Manuscripts must not exceed **50,000 characters** (including space characters). A style sheet for authors is available at www.gender-zeitschrift.de/en/manuscripts.

All submissions will be reviewed in our double-blind peer review process based on which the final selection of contributions to be published will be made. The editors may give instructions to revise the contribution, which is the rule rather than the exception. In case of a high number of positively peer-reviewed contributions, the Editorial Department reserves the right to make a final selection of articles and to publish some contributions in a later issue.

About GENDER. Journal for Gender, Culture and Society

GENDER. Journal for Gender, Culture and Society was founded in 2009 as a journal on women and gender studies. The journal aims to cover a wide range of topics and academic disciplines in which gender issues are reflected. Given the journal’s multi-disciplinary setting, we welcome analyses from, for instance, sociology, educational science, political science, cultural science and history which correspond to the interdisciplinary nature of gender studies. GENDER is published in three issues a year. Contributions to the free section are always welcome, irrespective of the focus of the special issue.

Do you have any questions?

For further topic-related information please contact the editors of the special issue: [Anthea Kyere](mailto:anthea.kyere@posteo.de) (anthea.kyere@posteo.de), [Prof. Dr. Susanne Schultz](mailto:schultz@em.uni-frankfurt.de) (schultz@em.uni-frankfurt.de), [Prof. Dr. Eva Sänger](mailto:esaenger@uni-koeln.de) (esaenger@uni-koeln.de), [Taleo Stüwe](mailto:t.stuewe@posteo.de) (t.stuewe@posteo.de).

For questions on formal issues and work flow please contact the editorial team of GENDER (redaktion@gender-zeitschrift.de).

Please note: Manuscript submissions only via manuskripte@gender-zeitschrift.de