



The Transition to Adulthood from Care

International conference

October 10th, 2013

At the Musée social- Cédias, 5 rue Las Cases, 75007 Paris

Free admission with registration



PRINTEMPS
Professions, institutions, temporalités



Presentation

INTRAC, the International Research Network on Transitions to Adulthood from Care, comprises researchers and doctoral students from 16 different countries who specialise in the study of the transitions to adulthood from care. It provides researchers with an internet forum to communicate their findings, their ideas and their understanding of the problems encountered by young people during this transition, in particular the types of support and care they find useful and the obstacles they face. This common work gives the possibility to mutually benefit from international experiences, and possibly to influence the elaboration of national policies and experiences, which in turn lead to better conditions when exiting care. Each year, the members of INTRAC meet in a different member country, so as to discuss the latest ongoing research and to initiate new projects. In 2013, the meeting will take place in France.

Oned and Ined, with additional help from PRINTEMPS, have therefore decided to organise with INTRAC an international conference, open to French researchers and professionals, to share and exchange approaches and experiences.

This conference corresponds to the first mission given to Oned (the French observatory of children in danger) by law n°2004-1 (January 2, 2004), to “further our knowledge of children in danger and of child protection through the collation and development of quantitative data on the one hand and of research and studies on the other”. Assisting French actors of child protection and promoting research on these topics is one of the fundamental missions Oned wishes to develop, particularly on issues of transition to adulthood. This is why Oned has published a report on this topic in 2009 and a French-language literature review in 2013.

The conference also corresponds to the field of social action and policies. It echoes with the research themes explored by the CNRS-UVSQ unit PRINTEMPS, and by Ined (National institute of demographic studies) who are currently and jointly carrying out a research on living conditions and the preparation for leaving care. This research involves 1500 young persons in care in 7 different French *départements* in the Nord-Pas-de-Calais and Île-de-France regions in the framework of the Élap research project (*Étude longitudinale sur l'autonomisation des jeunes après un placement*).

Detailed programme

9:00- 9:20: Reception of participants

9:20 - 9:30: Scientific and institutional opening speeches

Opening words by the French representatives of INTRAC

Isabelle Frechon, Research officer, PRINTEMPS Unit- Ined

Pierrine Robin, Lecturer in Educational Sciences, Paris Est-Créteil University

Opening words by Oned

Gilles Séraphin, PhD, HDR, Sociologist, Director, Oned

9:30-10:15: Transitioning into adulthood in France, in Europe, worldwide

Coming of age in a crisis-ridden Europe

Professor **Andreas Walther**, Francfort/Main University

Transition into adulthood of young people at risk

Professor **Martin Goyette**, Research professor, Chair holder, Canada Research Chair in Evaluating Public Actions Related to Young People and Vulnerable Population (CREVAJ)

10:15 - 11:15: From the Convention of the Rights of the Child to care policies focusing on early adulthood

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and its consequences for child protection regarding the transition to adulthood from care

Marie Derain, Children's Ombudsman, Deputy Ombudsman, France

Public policies providing assistance to the transition into adulthood of teenagers: different legal and political frameworks of protection in Europe and across the world

Professor **Harriet Ward**, Director, Centre for Child and Family Research, Loughborough University

An example: the situation in the United States

Bryan Samuels, Commissioner for Administration on Children, Youth, and Families at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

11:15-11:30 Coffee break

11:30-12:45: The insights given by existing research on « leaving care »

Overview of the most conclusive results regarding success factors upon leaving care
Professor **Mike Stein**, Research Professor, Social Policy Research Unit, University of York

Accessing the complexity of transition to adulthood situations through peer research

Pierrine Robin, Lecturer in Educational Sciences, Paris Est-Créteil University

Mariana Incarnato, Director, Doncel

Emily R. Munro, Deputy Director, Thomas Coram Research Unit, Institute of Education, University of London

Discussion

Presentation of the Élap Project- *Étude longitudinale sur l'autonomisation des jeunes après le placement* (longitudinal research on how young people reach autonomy on leaving care)

Isabelle Frechon, Research officer, PRINTEMPS Unit- Ined

Diverging pathways: Research on the transition to adulthood from care in the US

Professor **Mark E. Courtney**, School of Social Service Administration, University of Chicago

Discussion

12:30 – 14:30: Lunch break

14:30-15:40: French initiatives and structures providing care

Universal access and targeted care structures

Professor **Wolfgang Schröer**, Sociology professor, Hildesheim University

Debate led by **Isabelle Lacroix**, Sociologist, research officer, Oned

Presentation of different child protection structures that have set up specific actions to prepare for autonomous adult life

Service de Suite de la Villa Préaut: Pauline Vaillant, Educator, Association J. Cotxet

The participative approach at SOS Village d'enfants: Sylvie Delcroix, Technical advisor, SOS Village d'enfants

From the ROAD94 experiment to programme « Accompagner les Jeunes vers l'Insertion » (AJI) : Christine Buisson, Project leader, Val de Marne General council

Lieu d'accueil et d'orientation pour mineurs isolés étrangers de Taverny : Speaker to be specified

Discussion

Conclusion

Sarra Chaïeb, Doctoral candidate in Sociology, Research officer, ONED

15:40-16:00: At-risk children and the public care system

Patrica Loncle, Professor and researcher, EHESP, holder of the research Chair on youth

16:00-16:30: Conclusion

The development of INTRAC and current challenges

Professor Harriet Ward, Director, Centre for Child and Family Research, Loughborough University,

Professor Mike Stein, Research Professor, Social Policy Research Unit, University of York

Professor John Pinkerton, Professor in Social Work, Queen's University, Belfast.

Translation to and from English is provided for the whole conference