

Institute for Social Science Research - PhD Student Project

ISSR Impact Area: Education

Title: *Educational and labour market trajectories of young people from disadvantaged backgrounds*

Supervisor/s: [Associate Professor Wojtek Tomaszewski](#)

Funding:

Student Scholarship required, top-up funding may be available to suitable candidate

Project description:

Even in a highly developed country like Australia, a young person's chances in life are still largely determined by the characteristics of family they are born into and raised in. There is a wealth of international evidence showing that family background affects a range of educational and labour market outcomes in young people, which in turn have knock-on effects on a range of other outcomes later in life.

This project will feed into a broader program of work exploring Australia's educational and labour market disadvantage in young people associated with low-socioeconomic background. Key themes include the inter-relationships between disadvantaged background and educational outcomes, participation in Higher Education, and post-school and post-university destinations, including employment.

Much of the work in the program is based on quantitative analysis of large-scale secondary datasets, such as the Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) Survey, the Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia, the Longitudinal Surveys of Australian Youth (LSAY) and the Longitudinal Study of Australian Children (LSAC), or large-scale linked administrative data. The work feeds into research programme of the Australian Research Council-funded Centre of Excellence for Children and Families over the Life Course.

The candidate:

We are seeking a candidate who has an excellent academic record and a particular interest and commitment in conducting high quality research in the field of education with a strong empirical (quantitative) focus. Strong methodological background is required, including statistical methods for large-scale longitudinal data and proficiency in the use of Stata.

Achievable Outcomes:

- A PhD from The University of Queensland in a relevant field
- Experience working within an interdisciplinary team of researchers
- Experience with oral/written presentations at national/international conferences
- Scientific papers in high impact research journals