

KEYNOTE LECTURES

Aleksandra Derra (Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń, Poland) “Fatherhood as a Feminist Issue. Concepts, Theories and Controversies”

When we look at the cultural Western history and accept philosophical assumption that masculinity and femininity, fatherhood and motherhood have been constructed by means of certain ideas, theories, material resources and practices, we can problematize the contemporary forms of parenthood and feminism approach to fatherhood as such. Feminism as an influential theoretical shift in Western thinking and powerful political movement, directly and indirectly has changed our understanding of masculinity therefore it has also transformed modes of fatherhood which our time is able to offer. I want to reflect upon difficult relationship between (some versions of) feminism and (lack of) focus on fatherhood in feminist theories. I will show a bit of conceptual history of the phenomena under discussion and its broad philosophical understanding. I also point out its complicated meanings and entanglement with the concept of masculinity of certain time, the form of family, class differences, the shape of the private/public domain, processes of industrialization and professionalization of Western culture. I hope that using conceptual philosophical tools will help us to understand which form of fatherhood we would like to promote after feminist intervention.

Iva Šmídová (Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic) “Nurturing Fathers and Gender Relations in the Family: Anxiety, Equality and Hegemony”

State social policies often welcome and praise, sometimes even stimulate, fathers’ involvement in caring and nurturing status in the family. So do most women. The paper elaborates several sociological qualitative empirical studies exploring nurturing fathers’ practices in families with small children in the Czech Republic, namely men on parental leave, fathers at childbirth and couples with firstborn babies. The research findings offer some critical considerations of their practices for gender equality in the family pointing out the double-sidedness or multi-layered context in which fathers get involved in nurturing and care. Issues such as men’s anxiety or dominance act together to challenge the status quo in gender relations as well as reproduce it. Thus, focus on fathers in this paper opens up questions of enhancing gender equality and anxiety towards dismantling masculine hegemony.

Svend Aage Madsen (The Juliane Marie Centre, Copenhagen University Hospital, Denmark) “Contemporary Fatherhood Between Attachment and Autonomy – Fatherhood and Childbirth Through History and Dilemmas in Modern Men’s Parenthood”

In public life as well as in science the interest in fatherhood has been growing in the past decades. Issues such as custody, paternal leave, gender equality in child care, importance of early contact between fathers and their infants, the consequences of father absence etc. have been studied and discussed. Many questions still remain unanswered. The emergence of these questions is linked to the remarkable changes in fathers’ behavior towards infants and family life in the last decades.

While it has been unusual earlier in human civilization for fathers to attend the births of their children and be in contact with their infants, we now see that fathers attend deliveries and have much more contact with, and responsibility for, their small children. The Danish Fatherhood Research Program has shown that fathers now are present at 95% of the deliveries, and that most of the fathers also participate in pre-natal courses and preparatory childbirth consultations. And moreover that the fathers consider that having a child is a family experience they want to be part of. At least in the Nordic countries, it has been common for fathers to take parental leave; with Icelandic men taking the lead with an average of 12 weeks parental leave.

These remarkable changes in men’s lives and in the images of masculinity have also opened our eyes for the fact that men, too, can experience great psychological challenges and difficulties in connection with becoming a father. Results from The Danish Fatherhood Research Program show that between 7 and 10 % of all men becoming fathers develop postnatal depression. And furthermore that the fathers often show these states of mind when having such mental difficulties:

- Withdrawal from their close relationships
- Anger toward themselves and their close relationships
- Seeking autonomy

These states are often intertwined with reflections on how to be a nurturer and masculine at the same time, and not the least how to cope with the conflicts between work and family lives. The lecture will present and discuss these results.



Uniwersytet
Wrocławski

FOCUS ON FATHERS

Conference Programme

4th - 5th September 2015
Institute of English Studies
Kuźnicza 22, Wrocław



Polish Association
for American Studies



SEPTEMBER 4TH		
9:00 – 9:15 Opening Address: Room 208		
<p align="center">9:15 – 10:30 Keynote Lecture – Aleksandra Derra “Fatherhood as a Feminist Issue. Concepts, Theories and Controversies” Room 208</p>		
10:30 – 11:00 COFFEE BREAK: Room 209		
<p align="center">Session 1A 11:00 – 12:20 Room: 207 Chair: Jakub Krogulec</p>	<p align="center">Session 1B 11:00 – 12:20 Room: 208 Chair: Dominika Ferens</p>	
<p>Anna Mezyk (University of Wrocław, Poland) Literary Creations of the Father Figure of a Child with Intellectual Disabilities and Autism Ewa Kaczmarek (University of Lower Silesia, Poland) Fathers of Children with Autism Facing the Contemporary Model of Fatherhood Lukasz Koperski (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland) The Father of a Disabled Child. Social Context, Problems, Counteracting</p>	<p>Magdalena Cieślak (University of Łódź, Poland) When Prospero Becomes Prospera: Disappearing Fathers in Adaptations of Shakespeare’s Plays Zdenka Đerd (University of Zagreb, Croatia) Fathers and Children in Miro Gavran’s Plays Mengmeng Jiang (Sichuan International Studies University, China) Troubled “Real Man” in the Mirror of Other: On the Masculine Identity in Sam Shepard’s Family Plays</p>	
12:30 – 13:30 LUNCH BREAK – <i>Bazyli</i> a, Kuźnicza 42		
<p align="center">Session 2A 13:40 – 15:20 Room: 207 Chair: Mateusz Świątlicki</p>	<p align="center">Session 2B 13:40 – 15:20 Room: 208 Chair: Wojciech Drag</p>	<p align="center">Session 2C 13:40 – 15:20 Room: 212 Chair: Jakub Krogulec</p>
<p>Justyna Wierzchowska (Warsaw University, Poland) In the Name of the Father: The Paternal Riddling out of Batman’s Subjectivity Formation Grzegorz Malecki (University of Wrocław, Poland) Different Notions of Fatherhood in Anime Series <i>Naruto</i> and in the First Part of Karl Ove Knausgård’s Autobiographical Novel <i>My Struggle</i> Tomasz Gadzina (Opole University, Poland) Fatherhood in Tim Winton’s Fiction Yumin Zhang (Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany) Masculinity and Fatherhood in <i>Pushing Hands</i></p>	<p>Mario Liong (Centennial College, Hongkong) Public Fathers: Representations of Stay-At-Home Fathers in the Intersection of Masculinity and Class in Hongkong Desi Dwi Prianti (Utrecht University, The Netherlands) Fatherhood: How Does It Fit With the Contemporary Masculinity? Case Study on Men’s Lifestyle Magazine Available in Indonesia Keiko Kaizuma (Iwate University, Japan) The Lack of Father Role Models in Japanese Lower Middle Class during the First Half of the 20th Century Emilia Kangas, Anna-Maija Lämsä, Suvi Heikkilä (Jyväskylä University School of Business and Economics, Finland) Finnish male leaders fatherhood discourses</p>	<p>Anna Pilińska (University of Wrocław, Poland) The One Who Knocks: The Appeal (and Fatherhood) of Walter White Martina Martausová (Pavol Jozef Šafárik University, Slovakia) Re-Construction of American Manhood in Contemporary Hollywood Katie Barnett (University of Worcester, UK) “We’re his goddamn kids, too”: The On-Screen Fatherhood of Robin Williams Lukasz Salski (University of Łódź) “My son has reached that age when he wants to do the driving” – on fathers and cars</p>
15:20 – 15:40 COFFEE BREAK: Room 209		
<p align="center">Session 3A 15:40 – 17:20 Room: 208 Chair: Anna Pilińska</p>	<p align="center">Session 3B 15:40 – 17:20 Room: 207 Chair: Dominika Ferens</p>	
<p>Dominik Borowski (Jagiellonian University, Poland) Not Every Father Is The Same! The Images of Fathers in Literature For Young People Mateusz Świątlicki (University of Wrocław, Poland) Soviet Fathers and Post-Soviet Sons in Serhiy Zhadan’s Prose Agnieszka Jarosz (University of Wrocław, Poland) Portrayal of Homosexual Fathers in American Children’s Literature since 1990’s - an Overview Taraneh Houshyar (Shiraz University, Iran) Displays of Father-Apparition in Contemporary Context of Iranian Young Adult Fiction</p>	<p>Jakub Krogulec (University of Wrocław, Poland) How Gamers Became Fathers. The Walking Dead, The Last of Us, and Banner Saga as Fatherhood-centred Games Adam Flamma (University of Wrocław, Poland) Fatherhood in Video Games – Case of <i>The Witcher: Wild Hunt</i> Murat Göç (Pamukkale University, Turkey) Luke, I Am Your Father: On the Inevitability of Castration of Fathers</p>	
<p align="center">Session 4A 17:30 – 19:10 Room: 208 Chair: Aleksandra Hołubowicz</p>	<p align="center">Session 4B 17:30 – 19:10 Room: 207 Chair: Jakub Krogulec</p>	
<p>Aleksandra Wójcik and Agata Weżyk (Nofer Institute of Occupational Medicine in Łódź, Poland) Fatherhood From Fathers’ Own Perspective Chris Hickey (Admired Man Leadership Institute, USA) Admired Man Why?: The Making of an Admired Man Lina Sumskaitė (Vilnius University, Lithuania) Visions of Fatherhood of Young Homosexual and Bisexual Men in Lithuania Stephen Baskerville (Patrick Henry College/Jagiellonian University, USA/Poland) Images of Fathers in the Political Literature of both the Left and Right</p>	<p>Thomas Cobb (University of Birmingham, UK) American Paternalism and Iraq War Allegory in <i>Boyhood</i> and <i>American Sniper</i> Barbara Butrymowska (University of Szczecin, Poland) From Role Model to Guardian to Failure to Monster – Representations of Fathers in Recent Scottish-Canadian Fiction Reyhan Özer Taniyan (Pamukkale University, Turkey) The Importance of Father Figure in V.S. Naipaul: Constructive or Destructive?</p>	

SEPTEMBER 5TH	
<p align="center">9:00 – 10:15 Keynote Lecture – Svend Aage Madsen “Contemporary Fatherhood Between Attachment and Autonomy – Fatherhood and Childbirth Through History and Dilemmas in Modern Men’s Parenthood” Room 208</p>	
10:15 – 10:30 COFFEE BREAK: Room 209	
<p align="center">Session 5A 10:30 – 11:50 Room: 207 Chair: Anna Pilińska</p>	<p align="center">Session 5B 10:30 – 11:50 Room: 208 Chair: Julia Szoltysek</p>
<p>Tomasz Piasecki (University of Wrocław, Poland) Horned, Emperor, Pope. Fathers and Fatherhood in Divination and Tarot Handbooks Aleksandra Holubowicz (University of Gdańsk, Poland) Fathers of Nation: US Latina and Polish Experience Andrzej Postawa (Wrocław University of Technology, Poland) Parental Identity in Italian Culture</p>	<p>Özlem Özgür (Anadolu University, Turkey) Representations of Fatherhood in Turkish Cinema Mehmet Ali Çelikel (Pamukkale University, Turkey) Fathers in Nuri Bilge Ceylan’s Films Eithan Orkibi (Ariel University, Israel) “Missing Dad”: Fatherhood and Cultural Orphanhood in Israeli Mizrahi Cinema</p>
11:50 – 12:10 COFFEE BREAK: Room 209	
<p align="center">Session 6A 12:10 – 13:30 Room: 207 Chair: Agata Zarzycka</p>	<p align="center">Session 6B 12:10 – 13:30 Room: 208 Chair: Jakub Krogulec</p>
<p>Karina Sembe (National Taras Shevchenko University of Kyiv, Ukraine) Fatherhood and the Rite of Passage: Ouroboros of the Man’s World in Mario Vargas Llosa Beata Piątek (Jagiellonian University, Poland) “The Weak Son and the Big Pop,” or the Relationship Between Sons and Fathers in the Work of Graham Swift Baysar Taniyan (Pamukkale University, Turkey) Fatherhood in Graham Swift’s <i>Last Orders</i></p>	<p>Elżbieta Klimek-Dominiak (University of Wrocław, Poland) Absent Father and Abusive Stepfather: Representation of Paternal Incest in Dorothy Allison’s <i>Bastard Out of Carolina</i> Zbigniew Glowala (Jagiellonian University, Poland) Biological, Absent, Reluctant: Fathers and Father Figures in Nick Hornby’s Novels Marcin Klosowski (UKSW, Poland) Presence and Absence – Psychological Reflection on Fatherhood Against the Backdrop of Zwiaginew’s Films</p>
13:45 – 14:45 LUNCH BREAK – <i>Bazyli</i> a, Kuźnicza 42	
<p align="center">15:00 – 16:15 Keynote Lecture – Iva Smidova “Nurturing Fathers and Gender Relations in the Family: Anxiety, Equality and Hegemony” Room 208</p>	
16:15 – 16:30 COFFEE BREAK: Room 209	
<p align="center">Session 7A 16:30 – 18:10 Room: 208 Chair: Jakub Krogulec</p>	<p align="center">Session 7B 16:30 – 18:10 Room: 207 Chair: Agnieszka Jarosz</p>
<p>Derman Kizilay (Istanbul Arel University, Turkey) The Curious Downfall of Father: The Inner Workings of Normative Fatherhood and Patriarchal Power in J.M. Coetzee’s <i>Disgrace</i> Sally Karmi (The Applied Science Private University, Jordan) Patriarchal Fathers, Submissive Daughters in the Fiction of Margaret Atwood and Hanan Al-Shaykh Clara Ijeoma Osuji (University of Lagos, Nigeria) Trapped Within the “Father-Box”: Portraits of Fatherhood in Nathaniel Hawthorne’s <i>The Scarlet Letter</i> and Chinua Achebe’s <i>Things Fall Apart</i></p>	<p>Udi Lebel (Ariel University, Israel) “Heroic” Paternal vs. “Post-Heroic” Maternal Parenting: Soldiers’ and Casualties’ Parents Positioning Małgorzata Pietras-Mrozicka (University of Łódź, Poland) “Want to Daddy.” A Father as a Caregiver of a Hospitalized Child in the Eyes of the Hospital Staff Kathrin Peltz (Hochschule Landshut, University of Applied Sciences, Germany) The “Elterngeld” in Germany – Implications for the Involvement of Fathers</p>
18:15 Closing Remarks, THE END Room 208	