

## Elsa BOULET, Phd Sociology

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## Resume

Update October 2023

### Academic employment

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Since 2022 **Postdoctoral researcher**

Nantes Sociology Centre (CENS), Nantes University.

Multidisciplinary research project: "Push and pull factors to the involvement of young female physicians in medical academic careers: global study and focus on gender issues" – Grant from the National Research Agency (ANR)

**Temporary Lecturer**

Courses: "Quantitative and qualitative Methodology" (Masters in Management of Social and Medical Organizations, Cnam), "Qualitative methodology: interviews" (Bachelor & continuing vocational training in Management of Social and Medical Organizations, Cnam), "Oral and Written Expression" (Bachelor in Sociology, Nantes University).

2020-2022 **Postdoctoral researcher**

Lirsa & Centre for the study of employment and labour (CEET), Conservatoire national des arts et métiers (Cnam).

Multidisciplinary research project: "Impact of contractualisation of medical care in nursing home" (2020-2021); individual research project: "Career-paths and work-life balance among care workers" (2021-2022).

**Temporary Lecturer**

Courses: "Qualitative methodology: interviews" (Bachelor & continuing vocational training in Management of Social and Medical Organizations, Cnam), "Introduction to Sociology" (Bachelor, Paris 13 University).

2018-2020 **Temporary Lecturer** (*Attachée temporaire d'enseignement et de recherche*)

Department of Economic and Social Administration, Sorbonne University (Paris 1).

Courses: "Social Stratification", "Social Mobility", "Sociology of Labour" (Bachelor), "Sociology of Social Policies" (Masters).

2018-2019 **Temporary Lecturer**

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Institut Mines Télécom Business School & Engineering School, Evry.

Course: "Gender and society", in English (Bachelor).

- 2017 **Temporary Lecturer**  
Department of Social Work, Paris 13 University, Bobigny.  
Course: “Introduction to the Sociology of Health and Public Health Policies” (Bachelor).
- 2015-2017 **Temporary Lecturer**  
Department of Sociology, School of Higher Studies in Social Science (EHESS), Paris.  
Courses : “Historical Sociology”, “The Use of Archives in Sociology”, “Introduction to the Sociology of the Family” (Masters).

## Life-long Training

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- June 2023 Workshop “Quantitative Textual Analysis with Iramuteq”, Progedo Loire - MSH Ange Guépin.
- March 2023 Workshop “Multivariate Analysis for Social Sciences with R”, Progedo Loire – MSH Ange Guépin.
- JanuaryMarch 2023 Mooc “Teaching Students with Dylsexia”, ENS of Lyon – France université numérique (FUN).
- October-November 2022 Mooc “EU General Data Protection regulation », National Commission for Informatics and Freedoms”.
- September 2022 Workshop “Dissemination and Communication in the Media”, Coopaname – Lirsa, Cnam.
- June 2021 Workshop “Qualitative Analysis with Nvivo”, Philippe Mouricaou – Lirsa, Cnam.
- 2019 Workshop “Radical pedagogies”, bell hooks – Paolo Freire Institute, Saint-Denis.
- 2018 Workshop “Preparing and delivering a course”, Sorbonne University (Université Paris 1), Paris.
- 2015 Training in scientific popularisation, Paris-Montagne Association, École normale supérieure de Paris.

## Academic qualifications

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- 2014-2020 **Phd in Sociology**  
Lyon 2 University Centre Max Weber (Lyon 2 Univ.) & Iris (EHESS)  
Doctoral dissertation: *Spaces and Temporalities of the “Production of Children.” A Sociology of Ordinary Pregnancy*  
Supervisors: Christine Détrez (Centre Max Weber) & Marc Bessin (Iris)  
**Three-year Phd scholarship** awarded by the French Ministry of Higher Education (2014-2017)
- 2010 – 2014 **Multi-disciplinary training in Sociology, Economics and History**  
École normale supérieure de Cachan Training in qualitative research (interviews, ethnography, archives) and quantitative research (statistics, textual analysis, econometrics)
- 2013 – 2014 Masters, Sociology  
EHESS Paris **Specialisation “Gender, politics and sexuality”**  
School of Higher Studies in Social Science (EHESS), Paris.

2011 – 2013	<b>Masters, Sociology</b>
Sorbonne University (Univ. Paris 4)	Erasmus exchange program: University of Warwick, England (2012-2013)
2008 – 2011	Bachelor, Sociology - Sorbonne University (Paris 4)
2008-2011	Bachelor, Economics - Sorbonne University (Paris 1)

## Doctoral dissertation

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Title : *Spaces and Temporalities of the “Production of Children.” A Sociology of Ordinary Pregnancy*

### Abstract :

This dissertation seeks to problematize pregnancy as women’s work, regulated by institutions and shaped by gender, class and race. The analysis is based on interviews with pregnant women and their partners, and on observations conducted in two maternity wards (Île-de-France, 2014-2017). The dissertation shows that pregnancies are structured by a conjugal norm, which can be broken down according to conjugal scripts; it also highlights that the “right moment” (the procreative norm) to have a baby varies according to the trajectories and the social positions of women and their partners. It examines the role played by state and medical regulation in defining a specific temporality for gestation and in assigning pregnant women patient work. This work extends to the domestic space and temporality insofar as pregnant women are encouraged to modify their daily routines in order to minimize risks. The gendered division of domestic labor is only marginally altered during pregnancy, whereas the preparation for the arrival of the baby is taken on by women in addition to their ordinary tasks. In the context of salaried work, pregnancies appear only covertly, both illegitimate and ignored. Ordinary pregnancies reveal dimensions of wage-labor that are normally hidden, drawing attention to long and onerous work hours and occupational hazards.

### Examiners:

- Nathalie Bajos, Directrice de recherche, Inserm
- Marc Bessin, Directeur de recherche, CNRS, co-supervisor
- Christine Détrez, Professeure, École normale supérieure de Lyon, co-supervisor
- Nathalie Lapeyre, Professeure, Université Jean-Jaurès de Toulouse
- Arnaud Régnier-Loilier, Directeur de recherche, Ined
- Carolyn Sargent, Professor, Washington University in Saint Louis

## Awards and distinctions

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- Nationally competitive award: Doctoral dissertation award, 1st prize, Institute for Gender Studies (GIS Institut du genre)
- Regionally competitive award: Lyon City Award for Young Researchers, 1st prize
- 2021 Doctoral dissertation award, 2<sup>nd</sup> prize (*accessit*), Lumière Lyon 2 University

## Publications

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### Papers

#### Papers in peer-reviewed journals

1. *Forthcoming* – “How power relations impact pregnancy and childbirth: knowledge, healthcare and labour”, Elsa Boulet & Ronald Guilloux, *Ethics, Medicine and Public Health*, 2023.
1. “The Integration of Physicians in Nursing Homes has a Positive Impact on the Perceived Quality of Care”, Elsa Boulet, Isabelle Barbet, Laurence Hartmann & Mathieu Narcy, *Revue Santé Publique*, 2022, Vol. 34, Issue 6, pp.803-812. [\[Full text online\]](#) [\[Abstract in Annex\]](#)
2. “Writing a dissertation, a methodical improvisation. Working conditions, know-how and the production of knowledge in social sciences”, Elsa Boulet, Aranda, Miguel Herrera & Pauline Vallot, *Socio-logos*, 2023, Issue 18. [\[Full text online\]](#) [\[Abstract in Annex\]](#)
3. ““For the Baby’s Sake”: Healthization of Pregnancies and Maternal Responsibility”, *Terrains/Théories*, 2022, Issue 16. [\[Full text online\]](#) [\[Abstract in Annex\]](#)
4. “Pregnant Women’s Third Shift. The Management of Pregnancy in France, between Women’s Rights and Mothers’ Duties”, *Enfances Familles Générations*, 2021, Issue 38. [\[Full text online\]](#) [\[Abstract in Annex\]](#)
5. “Before the baby comes. Working-class pregnancy, between renewed and accentuated relations of domination”, *Genèses*, 2018, Volume 111, Issue 2, p.30-49. [\[Full text online\]](#) [\[Abstract in Annex\]](#)
6. “Quantification in the Higher Education Marketisation Process. Case Study of an English University”, Elsa Boulet & Hugo Harari-Kermadec, *Politiques et Management Public*, 2014, Volume 31, Issue 4, p. 405-420. [\[Full text online\]](#) [\[Abstract in Annex\]](#)

#### Other papers, reports

7. “Sortir de l’emploi pendant la grossesse: l’imbrication du genre, de la migration et de la position socio-économique”, *Connaissance de l’emploi*, 2022, Issue 180 (Paper series edited by the Centre for the study of employment and labour). [\[Full text online\]](#)
8. Research report : *Étude pluridisciplinaire sur le dispositif “Soutien à la prescription en EHPAD”. Résultats du volet qualitatif*, Elsa Boulet, Isabelle Barbet, Laurence Hartmann & Mathieu Narcy, November 2021, Agence régionale de Santé Île-de-France (Local Health Authority).
9. Paper: “L’université comme quasi-firme: monographie d’une université anglaise (2012-2013)”, *Regards sociologiques*, 2021, Issue 56, p. 35-55.
10. Translation of « *The separation of the “economic” and the “political” under capitalism: “Capital-centric marxism” and the capitalist state*” by Charles Post, *Contretemps* (online), 2017.

#### Reviews

1. Nathalie Lapeyre, Jacqueline Laufer, Séverine Lemièrre, Sophie Pochic & Rachel Silvera (dir.), *Le genre au travail. Recherches féministes et luttes de femmes*, Syllepse, 2021, *La Nouvelle Revue du Travail*, 2023, Issue 22.

2. Soline Blanchard & Sophie Pochic (ed.), *Quantifier l'égalité professionnelle. Outils et politiques et enjeux scientifiques*, Presses universitaires de Rennes, 2021, *Nouvelle Revue du Travail*, 2022, Issue 21.
3. Cécile Guillaume, *Syndiquées. Défendre les intérêts des femmes au travail*, Presses de Sciences Po, 2018, *Les Cahiers du Genre*, 2019, Volume 2, Issue 67, p. 252-255.
4. Ilana Löwy, *Tangled Diagnoses. Prenatal Testing, Women, and Risk*, University of Chicago Press, 2018, *Sciences sociales et santé*, 2019, Volume 37, Issue 1, p. 108-111.
5. Rebecca Rogers & Pascale Molinier (ed.), *Les Femmes dans le monde académique. Perspectives comparatives*, Presses universitaires de Rennes, 2016, *Travail, Genre et Sociétés*, 2018, Issue 39, 2018, p. 225-226.
6. Gareth Dale, *Karl Polanyi. A Life on the Left*, Columbia University Press, 2016, *Liens socio*, « Lectures » (online).
7. Sonia García Galán, Silvia Medina Quintana et Carmen Suárez Suárez (ed.), *Nacimientos bajo control. El parto en las edades Moderna y Contemporánea*, Trea, 2014, Elsa Boulet & Amaya García Arregui, *Clio. Femmes, Genre, Histoire*, « Clio a lu », Issue 43 (online).

## Presentations

### Invited presentations and discussions

1. *Forthcoming* – “Optimiser les bébés ? Normes de parentalité et représentations de la petite-enfance dans les activités physiques destinées aux tout-petits”, séminaire *Regards croisés sur la Petite enfance*, Paris University, 15 March 2024.
2. “Être enceinte, devenir patiente : médicalisation et sanitisation des grossesses”, conférence *La fabrique des bébés*, organisée par le Réseau d'études pluridisciplinaires sur les paternités et les maternités, Ined, Aubervilliers, 18 janvier 2023.
3. “Le bon moment pour avoir un enfant? Arbitrages conjugaux et hiérarchies implicites au sein des couples hétérosexuels”, Elsa Boulet & Aden Gaide, Seminar of the Centre for the study of employment and work, 14 June 2022.
4. “Surveiller les femmes pour protéger les “enfants”. L'encadrement médical des grossesses au prisme des rapports de genre, de classe et de race”, Seminar *Santé, inégalités et rapports de domination*, Cresppa, CNRS, 16 March 2022.
5. “Les interactions usagères-système de santé dans le champ de la périnatalité”, Seminar pluridisciplinaire d'étude de la participation des publics en santé (PEPPS), Lirsa, Cnam, 18 November 2021.
6. “La maternité: ressource ou contrainte pour les femmes des classes populaires?”, conférence: *Des ressources chez les jeunes des classes populaires ? Territoires, genre, Institutions*, University of Perpignan, France, 17-18 December 2020.
7. “La construction de la temporalité de la grossesse, entre politiques sanitaires et savoirs médicaux », Seminar *Médecine et genre. Étudier la construction des savoirs médicaux*, EHESS, Paris, France, 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020.
8. “La triple journée des femmes enceintes: l'encadrement des grossesses en France, entre droits des femmes et devoirs des mères”, *Lundis de l'Ined*, Institut national des études démographiques, Aubervilliers, France, 12 October 2020.

9. Discussion of the session: “Stratégies reproductive”, conference *Endométriose et inégalités. Expériences, expertise et problème public*, MSH Paris-Nord, Aubervilliers, 21-22 October 2021.
10. Discussion of the session: “Produire l’ignorance des classes populaires”, international conference: *Ignorance, pouvoir et santé: la production des savoirs médicaux au prisme des rapports de domination*, MSH Paris-Nord, Aubervilliers, France, 21-22 October 2019.
11. Discussion of the session: “Médicalisation de la santé reproductive: regards internationaux”, conference: *Regards socio-anthropologiques sur la santé périnatale*, Paris 7 University, France, 26 March 2019.

### **Presentations in national and international conferences**

12. *Forthcoming* – “The paradoxical medicalization/healthicization nexus around pregnancy”, *Society for the Sociological Study of Science Conference*, Hawaii, 8-11 November 2023.
13. *Forthcoming* – “Gendered selection : co-optation and exclusion in academic medicine”, avec Mathilde Julla-Marcy et Sophie Orange, ”, *Society for the Sociological Study of Science Conference*, Hawaii, 8-11 November 2023.
14. “La recherche hospitalo-universitaire : vocation, sélection ou désertion ?”, with Mathilde Julla-Marcy and Sophie Orange, 5th Resup Conference, Université Grenoble-Alpes, 18-20 October 2023.
15. “Les arrangements économiques conjugaux autour de la première naissance : étudier la production d’un ordre familial à partir de deux enquêtes qualitatives”, with Aden Gaide, conference *L’organisation familiale au prisme des « (ré)arrangements » de famille*”, Université Paris Dauphine, 17-18 October 2023.
16. “Penser la gestation comme du travail domestique. Les apports croisés du féminisme matérialiste et du féminisme de la reproduction sociale”, interdisciplinary workshop *La gestation comme travail et comme production*, University of Chicago Center in Paris, Paris, 27 June 2022.
17. “L’intégration d’un médecin prescripteur en EHPAD: quels effets sur les frontières professionnelles et l’organisation ?”, *Changer ? 9<sup>e</sup> Congrès de l’Association française de sociologie*, Université de Lille, 6-9 July 2021.
18. ““C’est pour le bébé”: Contours et enjeux de la sanitarisation des grossesses”, conference *Gouverner les corps et les conduites*, ENS-Lyon, France, 15-16 October 2020.
19. “Des femmes vulnérables? La grossesse en milieu de travail, entre enjeux de santé et discriminations”, international conference *Les vulnérabilités au travail. Regards croisés des sciences sociales en Europe*, 24-25 June 2021.
20. *Paper selected, conference cancelled because of the covid-19 crisis* — “Traditional and non-traditional family patterns among migrant and mixed couples in France. Gender, class and race in context”, *Centre for Research on Families and Relationships International Conference*, Edimbourg, Scotland, June 2020.
21. “Obligation, ruse et résistance: parcours et discours de femmes”, international conference: *Genre et émancipation. Deuxième colloque international de l’Institut du Genre*, organised by GIS Genre, CNRS, MSH Paris-Nord and Angers University, Angers, France, 27-30 August 2019.
22. “La construction sociale du “désir d’enfant”: discours ou absence de discours sur le “désir d’enfant” au sein de couples hétérosexuels (France)”, workshop *Famille et parenté :*

*permanences, transformations, traitements*, CNRS, Toulouse 2 University and EHESS, Sète, France, 5-8 June 2018.

23. "A dialogue between Social-Reproduction Feminism and French Materialist Feminism. From domestic labour to social reproduction and (dialectically) back again", *Historical Materialism 14th Annual Conference*, organised by *Historical Materialism* journal, London, United Kingdom, 9-12 November 2017.
24. "Les deux visages de la maternité: la tension entre encadrement sanitaire de la grossesse et responsabilités domestiques des femmes", *Festival international de sociologie - Biennales Durkheim-Mauss*, organised by Laboratoire Lorrain de Sciences Sociales, Lorraine University, Épinal, France, 18-20 October 2017.
25. "Maternité et emploi en temps de crise: un duo impossible ?", international conference: *15è Journées internationales de sociologie du travail*, organised by LEST (Aix-en-Provence University) and Kekmokop (Kallithea University), Athens, Greece, 11-13 May 2016.
26. "Re.production : penser la grossesse et l'accouchement à partir des théories féministes matérialistes", with Maud Arnal, international conference: *Penser, créer, agir les féminismes. 7è congrès international des recherches féministes dans la francophonie*, Montréal, Canada, 24-28 August 2015.

### Organisation of scientific events

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- 2022 **International and interdisciplinary conference:** *Enfanter: pratiques et discours* (Lyon, France). [[Conference website](#)]
- 2019 **Double session** « Reproduction et émancipation: approches croisées autour de la maternité et de la santé sexuelle et reproductive », *Genre et émancipation. Deuxième colloque international de l'Institut du Genre* (Angers, France, 27-30 August 2019).
- 2019 **Workshop** "Doctoriales de l'Iris" (Saint Denis, France, 11 January 2019).
- 2016 – 2018 **Monthly workshop** "Grossesse, accouchement, maternité : perspectives croisées entre sociologie, anthropologie et histoire", Iris, EHESS.

### Reviewing and editorial activities

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External reviewing for *Revue des Politiques Sociales et familiales* (2023), *Revue européenne des migrations internationales* (2023), *Socio-économie du travail* (2022), *Actes de la recherche en sciences sociales* (2020).

## Outreach and media coverage

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### Expertise

- *Forthcoming* – Conference on women’s health and labour, Labour unions’ training, Saint-Brieuc, November 2023.
- Hearing by the Women’s Rights Delegation, Senate, December 2022.

### Lectures and debates

- Debate around Léa Nunzia Corrieras’s movie *Tout va très bien* (2020), Les 3 Luxembourg cinema, November 2022.
- Presentation at the Perinatal Unit Conference, Lyon Hospital, October 2022.
- Presentation at the online seminar “Toolkit for nursing homes”, Regional Health Agency, June 2021.
- Lecture: “La grossesse n’est pas une maladie... mais elle vous amène quand même à l’hôpital !”, *BabyWeek - Festival de la parentalité respectée*, Groupe hospitalier mutualiste de Grenoble, 17 May 2021 (online).
- Debate: “Is being a mother natural?”, PAF collective (For a Feminist Parenting), 2019, Paris.
- Lecture and debate around Deniz Gamze Ergüven’s movie *Mustang* (2015): “Is emancipation from tradition possible ?” (“Peut-on s’émanciper des traditions?”), Elsa Boulet and Isil Erdinç, 2019, Issy-les-Moulineaux.
- Tutorial to high-school students (lycée): discovering academic research in sociology, 2015, Paris.

### Media coverage

- “Où en est l’égalité professionnelle entre les femmes et les hommes ?”, interview in *Allez savoir* podcast, City of Paris, March 2023. [\[Full interview online\]](#)
- “Être enceinte, c’est du (vrai) travail”, interview by Alexandra Luthereau, *Causette* magazine, p. 22-23, March 2022.
- Interview in the podcast « Amphi 25 – Parlons discriminations », Mission égalité-diversité de l’Université Lyon 1, June 2021. [\[Link to the podcast\]](#)
- “L’impact de la grossesse sur le corps peut être une (bonne) raison de ne pas vouloir d’enfant”, Daphné Lepertois, *Slate* (online), 2020.
- “La pression de l’horloge biologique”, Adèle Cailleateau, *Sciences humaines*, 2020, Issue 323, March 2020, p. 15.



## Teaching activities

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- Since 2023 **Research design and quantitative & qualitative methods**  
 Master in management of health and social organizations  
 Conservatoire national des arts et métiers, Nantes  
 Lectures
- Since 2020 **Qualitative methodology: Interviews**  
 Bachelor & continuing vocational training in management of health and social work  
 Conservatoire national des arts et métiers  
 Lectures – 25h
- 2021-2022 **Introduction to Sociology**  
 Bachelor, Economic and Social Administration  
 Univ. Paris 13  
 Tutorials – 60h
- 2019-2020 **Sociology of Labour**  
 Master, Economic and Social Administration  
 Univ. Paris 1 Sorbonne  
 Tutorials - 18h
- 2019-2020 **Sociology of Social Problems**  
 Master, Economic and Social Administration  
 Univ. Paris 1 Sorbonne  
 Tutorials - 18h
- 2018-2020 **Sociology of Social Mobility**  
 Bachelor, Economic and Social Administration  
 Univ. Paris 1 Sorbonne  
 Tutorials - 48h
- 2018-2019 **Sociology of Social Policies**  
 Master, Economic and Social Administration  
 Univ. Paris 1 Sorbonne  
 Tutorials - 18h
- 2017-2018 **Introduction to Gender Studies**  
 Bachelor, Management & Engineering School  
 IMT Business School & IMT Sud Paris  
 Lectures - 36h
- 2017-2018 **Sociology of Health and Health Policies**  
 Bachelor, Social Work  
 Univ. Paris 13 and Regional Institutes of Social Work  
 Tutorials - 24h
- 2016-2017 **Sociology of the Family**  
 Master, Midwifery  
 Foch School of Midwifery, Univ. Versailles-Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines  
 Lectures – 7,5h
- 2016 **Feminist Economics: Approaches to Domestic Labour**  
 Master, Economics  
 Univ. Paris 1 Sorbonne  
 Lectures - 2h

- 2015-2017 **Methodology: Using Archives in Sociology**  
Master, Sociology  
EHESS  
Tutorials - 48h
- 2015-2017 **Historical Sociology**  
Master, Sociology  
EHESS  
Tutorials - 48h
- 2015-2016 **Sociology of the Family**  
Master, Sociology  
EHESS  
Tutorials - 24h

## Advising

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- Since 2020 **Advisor to Phd candidate** (« comité de thèse »), EHESS  
M. Nève de Mevergnies, dissertation : *Endométriose : est-ce que tu en souffres ? Un enjeu de santé publique situé aux frontières de l'expertise profane et savante*
- 2021-2022 **Supervisor to Master student**, IPE Toulouse  
Masters' dissertation in sociology, forthcoming.
- 2021-2022 **Supervisor to Midwifery student**, Univ. Montpellier  
Dissertation, forthcoming.
- 2021-2022 **Supervisor to Continuing vocational training students**, Disability and employment  
Dissertation, forthcoming
- 2015-2016 **Supervisor to Midwifery student**, Foch School of Midwifery  
O. Chambon, dissertation : *La stigmatisation des patientes obèses durant le parcours médical de la maternité*  
**Supervisor to Master student**, Saint Antoine School of Midwifery  
J. Hertert, dissertation : *Les appuis et les freins du processus d'acceptation du don d'ovocytes chez les receveuses*

## Annex: Abstracts

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**Elsa Boulet, Isabelle Barbet, Laurence Hartmann & Mathieu Narcy, “The Integration of Physicians in Nursing Homes has a Positive Impact on the Perceived Quality of Care”, *Revue Santé Publique*, 2022, Vol. 34, Issue 6, pp.803-812.**

*Introduction:* Since 2017, the Regional Health Agency of ‘Île-de-France’ has implemented an experiment to subsidize the recruitment of part-time doctors in nursing homes, so that residents without a primary care physician can benefit from regular medical follow-up. *Purpose of research:* The purpose of the study is to estimate the effects of this experiment: how is it implemented? What are its effects on the perceived quality of care? *Method:* The method used was based on a qualitative survey involving semi-structured individual or group interviews. On the whole, 20 professionals, one resident, and two daughters of residents were interviewed in four different nursing homes. *Results:* The investigation shows that this experiment addresses an unmet medical need. However, the recruiting of doctors appears to be difficult and significant delays have been noted. The experimentation is considered to be beneficial by professionals and recipients: It provides an opportunity to re-evaluate prescriptions in time, to prevent the deterioration of the residents’ health and to reduce the need for emergency services. These physicians are involved in the care for cognitive disorders and play an important role in the support of the end-of-life. *Conclusions:* The experimentation has a positive effect on the perceived quality of care, according to professionals as well as residents or their relatives, which could provide a rationale for its sustainability or even its extension.

**Elsa Boulet, Aranda, Miguel Herrera & Pauline Vallot, “Writing a dissertation, a methodical improvisation. Working conditions, know-how and the production of knowledge in social sciences”, *Socio-logos*, 2023, Issue 18.**

Writing the dissertation is one of the most critical moments of the doctoral course, when the result of many years of work must be clearly and orderly exposed. The final manuscript thus follows a logical order where one introduces a subject, formulates a question, describes a methodology and develops an argumentation while deploying one’s materials. However, this structured character conceals the often uncertain and disoriented nature that characterizes the writing process; one that is indeed marked by many obstacles and setbacks that can even lead PhD students to give up. Doctoral students who start writing their final manuscripts are confronted to a particular injunction: they have to engage in a long and demanding activity, whereas the road ahead remains unclear. On top of this, material conditions (financing opportunities, access to workplaces, equipment, etc.) are just as decisive at the time of writing. Based on the shared experience of the authors, this article is a collective reflection on the practice of writing, its hesitant nature, its places and temporalities, and the importance of peers. Far from being a textbook, it presents a situated testimony of what writing a thesis in the social sciences can represent.

**Elsa Boulet, ““For the Baby’s Sake”: Healthization of Pregnancies and Maternal Responsibility”, *Terrains/Théories*, 2022, Issue 16.**

Based on a field survey conducted in the Île-de-France region between 2014 and 2017, this article examines the limits of the government of bodies and behaviours around pregnancy, in the dual sense of the contours of this government and the tensions at work. The sanitisation of pregnancies is approached from the point of view of the work on which it is based: the work of professionals, which consists of influencing and monitoring the behaviour of patients, and the work of pregnant women engaged in the domestic production of care. Pregnancy management is not an impartial application of biological or medical knowledge: it is about controlling women and orienting their behaviour according to a norm of 'good motherhood'. This norm articulates the institution of the foetus as a person and subject of care, the predominance of risk, and the injunction to maternal devotion. It is not merely a discourse but is anchored in the concrete organisation of healthcare and in the routine practices of care providers. Lifestyle modification appears to be the standard for evaluating maternal value. The individualisation of health responsibility conceals the weight of gender and class relations. The preservation of health appears to be a female prerogative, which perpetuates an unequal division of tasks and responsibilities within different-sex couples. Moreover, class determines the living and working conditions and the resources available, which have an effect on health, and which delimit what is possible or not in terms of changes of habits. Class also implies a situated understanding of health and of maternal responsibility.

**Elsa BOULET, “Pregnant Women’s Third Shift. The Management of Pregnancy in France, between Women’s Rights and Mothers’ Duties”, *Enfances Familles Générations*, 2021, N°38.**

**Research framework:** In France, the management of pregnancies rests upon a set of legal measures (health, social insurance, and labour rights) and stabilized medical practices (standard prenatal care). This paper questions the time management of pregnancies and tackles the contradiction between several temporalities. Pregnant women are entrusted with specific tasks and responsibilities for the fetus’ sake, this third shift adds up to domestic labour and in many cases to paid labour.

**Objectives:** This paper analyzes how the legal frame and the medical control have ambiguous and unequal effects for pregnant women.

**Methodology:** It draws on interviews and ethnographic observation conducted in the Paris’ region from 2014 to 2017. Thirty women were interviewed during their pregnancy, amongst whom 11 were interviewed twice or three times. Hospital care was observed from different places and times: registration, appointments with a midwife or obstetrician, antenatal classes.

**Results:** The management of pregnancy assigns an individualized responsibility to women for guaranteeing the fetus’s health. Health care for women can be intensive and rests upon their permanent availability for it. This is made possible by subordinating their professional timetable to health care requirements. Employees seek to minimize the impact of their pregnancy in their workplace by separating medical time and professional time.

**Conclusions:** Access to health care is largely effective and the legislation ensures that all pregnant women get prenatal care, which makes it at the same time an obligation for women. This obligation is more or less constraining depending on women’s resources. Measures concerning pregnant workers are not so beneficial as employers often do not abide by them, and employees only partially use them. Middle- or upper-class workers and those on the upper levels of the occupational hierarchy benefit more from these measures than others.

Contribution: This paper contributes to the sociology of work-life balance, to the sociology of health and to the sociology of inequalities.

**Elsa Boulet, « Before the baby comes. Working-class pregnancy, between renewed and accentuated relations of domination », *Genèses*, Volume 111, Issue 2, 2018, p.30-49.**

Qualitative analysis of working-class women's pregnancies is useful in shedding light on class and gender dynamics during the period leading up to birth. Pregnancy intervenes in everyday lives that are structured by social relations, which it simultaneously exposes and crystalizes. Class socialization and gender dynamics within the couple, in conjunction with a subordinate employment situation, lead to the reassertion of these women's dominated position while they are pregnant. Their assignation to maternity and domestic work is re-enforced and their position as worker is weakened. This crystallization of domination during pregnancy nonetheless leads to a degree of protest from the women concerned.

**Elsa Boulet & Hugo Harari-Kermadec, "Quantification in the Higher Education Marketisation Process. Case Study of an English University", *Politiques et Management Public*, 2014, Volume 31, Issue 4, p. 405-420.**

In the higher education marketisation process that has been taking place since the early 1980s, quantification plays a central part by establishing equivalences and hierarchies (rankings: quantification makes it possible to consider that HEIs, courses and even academics are interchangeable and have no intrinsic value but a only a relative value determined by supply and demand. Drawing on the case study of an English university we argue that quantification goes along with marketisation. We show that the State and the university management use numbers in order to transform education and research into substitutable elements that are reducible to a single or a small number of relevant criteria. This transformation is implemented through the steering of academics' practices. The performative character of quantification is used as a tool for transforming social reality and for marketising the Higher Education sector.