

Editorial note

On changes and milestones

Welcome to the tenth volume of *Research on Finnish Society*! This has been an exciting year for the journal: for the first time we have published two issues in one year – we hope you enjoyed the special issue dealing with research related to the Tackling Inequality in Time of Austerity (TITA) project. We also have a new editor and editorial assistant, and a completely new look. We hope you like the new layout, which is designed to make reading both on screen and in print more pleasant. We have also been approved as a recognised peer-reviewed journal by the Federation of Finnish Learned Societies, meaning that we now clearly indicate which articles have been reviewed by two experts and which ones have not.

Reaching the tenth volume and being able to celebrate this with two published issues is clearly an important milestone for the journal. We are a small journal and always pleased to see that we continue to be a viable publishing venue for researchers across the social sciences. Ensuring the high quality of published articles would also not be possible without dedicated reviewers, and we have certainly benefited from very high quality reviews this past year. We have been particularly happy that so many of the individuals who we have approached have been willing to take the time to review the submitted manuscripts. It is by no means self-evident these days that academics invited to review articles will accept to do so, thus it is always a delight when distinguished researchers do so. Therefore, we would to extend a big thank you to those who must remain anonymous but on whom so much in academic publishing rests upon.

Naturally, the year has also seen other significant anniversaries, with Finland turning 100 being one of the most notable ones. The Social and Economic Research Association of the Turku Universities, which publishes the journal, also celebrated its 60th anniversary, having been established in 1957. The changes that have happened in Finnish society over these past one hundred years, in particular the past few decades, are also reflected in the topics of this issue's articles, as they deal with social relationships and trust online, the increasing diversity of the population and the challenges faced by children of immigrants in the education system, and the growing emphasis that is placed in both research and policy making on emotional well-being and life satisfaction.

This issue features contributions from a broad spectrum of social sciences and all of the articles situate Finland in broader international discussions and research agendas. Indeed, this is the explicit purpose of the journal, and we are happy to see it being fulfilled. Slowly but surely, we are also moving towards publishing contents online first. We are not there quite yet but hopefully from next year onwards, we will publish articles online as soon as they have been accepted and fully edited, rather than all together when the yearly volume is put together. This means that we welcome submissions all year round in addition to the annual call for papers. We also foresee going back to one published issue per year, although we are very welcome to suggestions for special issues.

This issue opens with an article by Matti Näsi, Pekka Räsänen, Teo Keipi and Atte Oksanen. They examine trust in people in both the online and offline contexts across four countries: Finland, Germany, the UK and the US. Some of the most interesting findings in their research concern the associations of online harassment and social activity with trust in people only met online. In particular, more socially active individuals tend to report lower levels of online trust in all four countries and victims of online harassment tend to report higher levels of trust in people only met online than those who have not been victims in the UK and US. These findings are likely related to selectivity in terms of who spends the most time online as well as how different experiences online are correlated without being causally connected.

This is followed by an analysis of cultural minorities' status and chances in the Finnish education system by Tuomas Zacheus, Mira Kalalahti and Janne Varjo. They present two theoretical frameworks that

open possibilities for further understanding the challenges faced by children of immigrants in particular. These are the educational opportunity structure, which elaborates how the education system does not function in the same way for all groups, and the macro-cultural heterogeneity between minority groups, which relates to variations in cultural differences and status. If the aim of educational policy is to ensure equal opportunities for all children, it is important to take these kinds of differences into consideration.

The third article is Taru Lindblom and Arto Lindblom's study of life satisfaction in Finland in the autumn of 2015. They report results based on a survey, which was conducted shortly after the Prime Minister of Finland had held an historic speech detailing Finland's economic problems. It seems that during this time of economic crisis, household income and family structure were among the strongest socio-demographic predictors of life satisfaction. Even after taking into account other factors, having both a partner and children was associated with substantially higher chances of being satisfied with one's life than any other living arrangement.

The articles are followed by descriptive findings by Teo Keipi, Ilkka Koiranen, Aki Koivula and Arttu Saarinen. They present a new dataset that they have collected from Finnish party members and compare party members to their respective party supporters in terms of key socio-demographic characteristics as well as life satisfaction and satisfaction with one's financial situation. Across all parties, members tend to be older, more educated and more often male than their respective supporters. With the exception of the Finns Party and the Left, they also tend to report higher levels of satisfaction in their life and their financial situation.

We finish the issue with a discussion paper by Pasi Moisio, Susanna Mukkila and Jussi Tervola. They discuss how the adequacy of basic social security in Finland has been evaluated, present some key findings from previous evaluations, and suggest how the mandatory evaluation should be developed the next time it is undertaken in 2019.

We would also like to thank the previous editorship, Juho Härkönen, Antti Kouvo, and Sanni Kotimäki for their efforts in keeping the journal successful. A special thanks also to the editor and editorial assistant of this year's special issue, Mikko Niemelä and Vesa-Matti Paasivaara. Finally, we would also like to thank Janto McMullin for designing the template for the new layout.

All our best wishes for the New Year 2018 to all our readers!

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