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**Well-being of children and labour markets in Europe  
Different kinds of risks resulting from various structures and changes in the labour  
markets**

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**Forgotten families**

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**ABSTRACT**

Summarizing findings from a newly released book, *Forgotten Families*, this talk will examine the experiences of families raising children in Latin America, Asia, Europe, and North America, the consequences of the dramatic demographic and labor force transitions for children's health and education, the implications of these transformations on family income, the ability of children and parents to exit poverty, and the degree of equality between girls and boys, men and women, as well as provide some answers to what can be done about meeting the critical needs of children and families in the midst of globalization.

We analyzed closed-ended data from national household surveys of more than 55,000 people in seven nations that are diverse geographically, economically, and politically: the United States, Mexico, Brazil, Russia, South Africa, Botswana, and Vietnam. We also conducted lengthy interviews of more than 1,000 parents, childcare providers, teachers, and healthcare providers about the experience of working parents and their children in North America, Latin America, Africa, Asia, and Europe. Finally, we examined what 180 countries have been doing to improve working conditions and their health consequences for children and their families.

While much has been written about the lives of working parents and their children in the United States and Western Europe, far too little has been written or done about the conditions faced by the more than 930 million children under fifteen and their working parents living in countries in Latin America, Africa, Central and Eastern Europe, the Middle East, and much of Asia. *Forgotten Families* is dedicated to telling their stories – stories that together paint a picture of how the global economy has left out working parents and their children, but also of potential solutions.