

Social exclusion and support between generations

Christian Deindl

Goethe-University Frankfurt
Institute for Sociology

Martina Brandt

TU Dortmund
Institute for Sociology

Markus Kotte

MPISOC
MEA

Background & Hypotheses

Ageing in Europe

- Pressure on the young
 - Pensions, support
- Potentials of the old
 - Healthy life years
- Rising inequalities
- But we do not know, how...
 - changes impact lives of older people and their families
 - social policies influence living conditions and these changes
- Contextual influences?
 - «International laboratory»
 - «best practice»

Intergenerational support

- Functional solidarity
 - Financial and practical support
 - Most support between parents and adult children
- Support motives
 - Altruism / joy of giving
 - Reciprocity
 - Love and concern
- Typical transfer cycle: parents
 - give (money) to their adult offspring as long as they can and especially in the nest building phase
 - receive (support) later on when they become frail and dependent on hands-on help

Social exclusion and intergenerational support

- Social exclusion might change these typical patterns
 - Connection between transfers of time and money and social exclusion on the micro (person) and macro (country) level
- Social and material deprivation on the personal level
 - might increase financial and practical support due to more needs of potential receivers
 - might restrain financial and practical support due to reduced opportunities of potential givers
- Social exclusion and poverty on the country level
 - might increase family support due to more dependence
 - might restrain family support due to lower overall resources and lower social cohesion

Data & Operationalizations

Data

- Survey of Health Ageing and Retirement in Europe
 - Wave 5
 - 14 countries:
- Dyadic data structure
 - Financial respondent - child
- Information about children
 - Tracking of children across waves is problematic
- Eurostat
 - At risk of poverty and social exclusion (AROPE) 2013
 - at-risk-of-poverty after social transfers or income poverty;
 - severely materially deprived or
 - living in households with very low work intensity

Intergenerational support

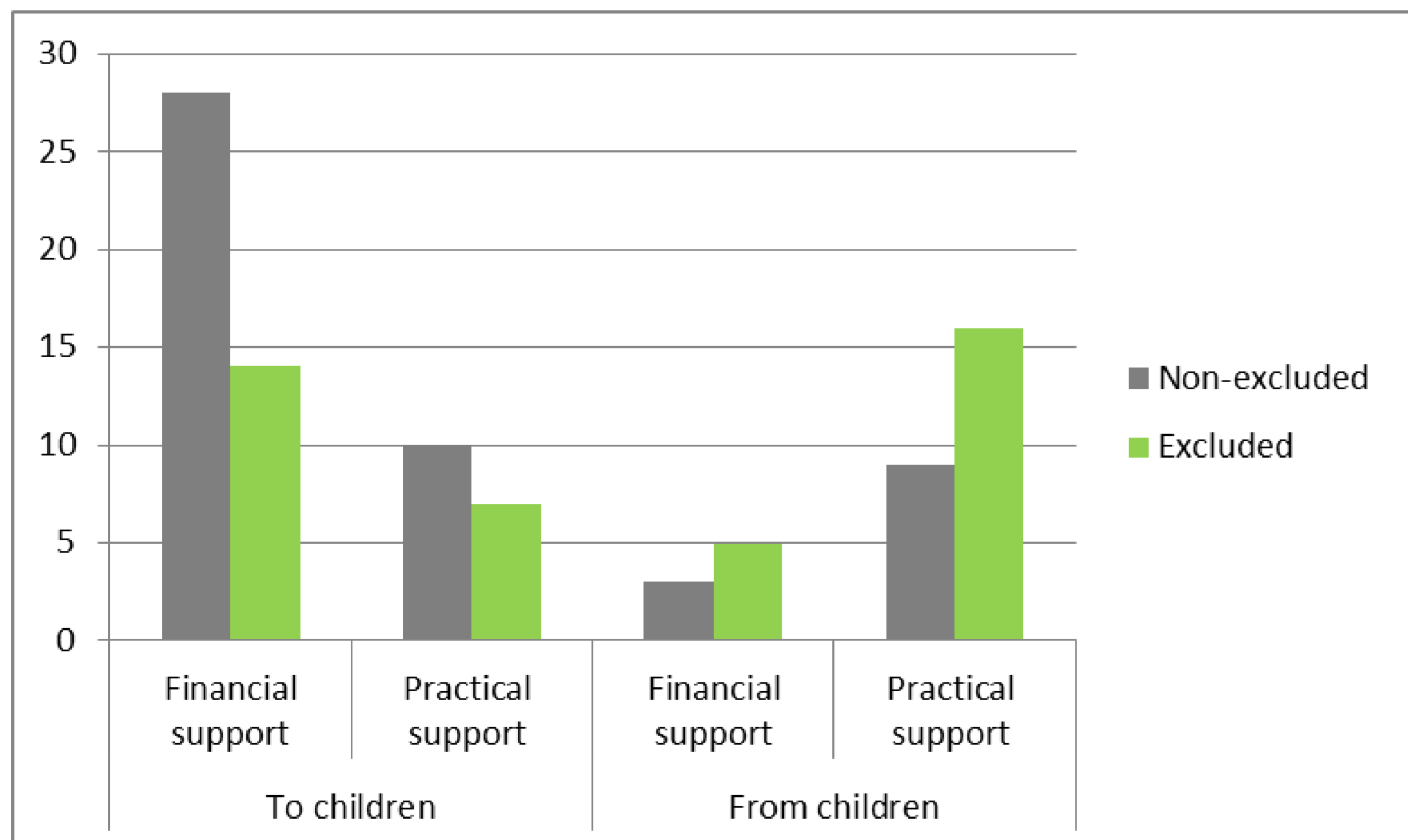
- Financial transfers given and received
 - Now please think of the last twelve months. Not counting any shared housing or shared food, have you or your husband/wife/partner given / received any financial or material gift or support to /from any person inside or outside this household amounting to 250 € or more?
- Help given and received
 - Thinking about the last twelve months has any family member from outside the household, any friend or neighbour given you or your husband/wife/partner personal care or practical household help?
 - In the last twelve months, have you personally given personal care or practical household help to a family member living outside your household, a friend or neighbour?

Social exclusion

- Can your household afford to regularly buy necessary groceries and household supplies?
- Could your household afford to go for a week long holiday away from home at least once a year?
- Could your household afford to pay an unexpected expense without borrowing any money?
- In the last twelve months, to help you keep your living costs down, have you...
 - Continued wearing clothing that was worn out because you could not afford replacement?
 - Continued wearing shoes that were worn out because you could not afford replacement?
 - Put up with feeling cold to save heating costs?
 - Postponed visits to the dentist?
 - Gone without or not replaced glasses you needed because you could not afford new ones?

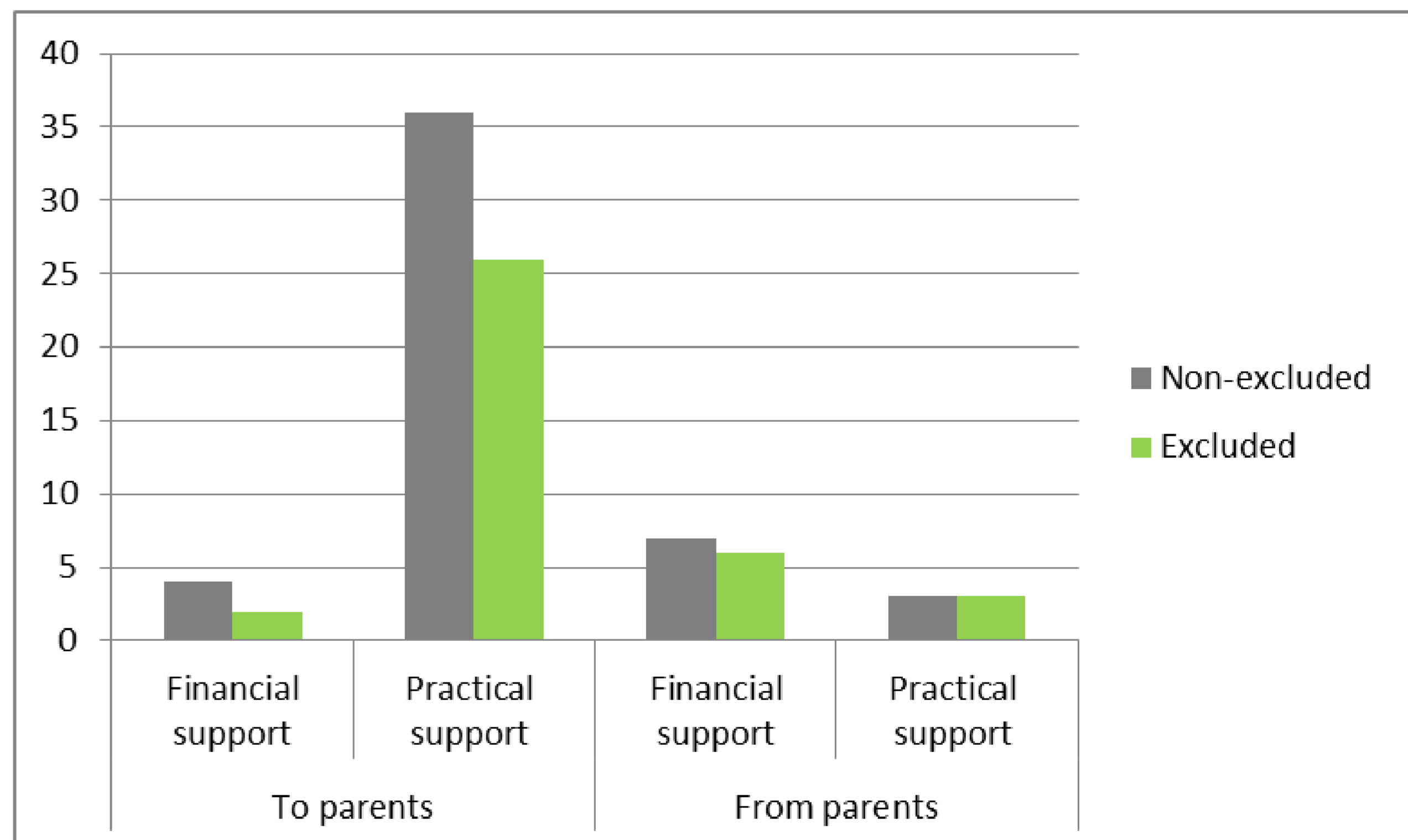
Descriptive & Multivariate Results

Exclusion and transfers between respondents and adult children



n = 57,845

Exclusion and transfers between respondents and older parents



n = 15,758

Multilevel models children: Exclusion and dyadic transfers children

	From respondent to child		From child to respondent	
	Financial	Practical	Financial	Practical
Log income	0.55**	0.09+	0.31**	0.05
Log wealth	0.26**	0.12**	0.01	0.02
Education				
medium	0.61**	0.24**	0.44**	-0.19*
high	1.49**	0.61*	0.54*	-0.01
Deprivation				
1 item	-0.84**	0.14	0.07	0.50**
2 items	-1.10**	-0.04	0.04	0.77**
3+ items	-1.58**	0.07	0.16	0.96**
Country level				
Poverty	-0.05**	-0.15**	-0.18**	-0.05**

N dyads=39,669; respondents=21,927; countries=14. Controlling for further characteristics of respondents (partnership, # children), characteristics of children (gender, age, employment, partnership, # children) and relationship characteristics (living distance, contact frequency).

Multilevel models parents: Exclusion and dyadic transfers parents

	From respondent to parent		From parent to respondent	
	Financial	Practical	Financial	Practical
Log income	0.39*	0.23**	0.02	0.21+
Log wealth	0.21*	0.13**	0.14*	0.09
Education				
medium	0.26	0.39**	0.35	0.09
high	1.15**	0.90**	0.98**	0.92*
Deprivation				
1 item	-0.41	-0.24	0.16	0.71*
2 items	-0.04	-0.22	0.36	-0.55
3+ items	-0.43	-0.32+	0.74**	0.32
Country level				
Poverty	-0.03	-0.06**	-0.13**	-0.06

N dyads=8,938; respondents=7,158; countries=14. Controlling for characteristics of respondents (education, partnership, # children), characteristics of parents (gender, partnership) and relationship characteristics (frequency of contact, living distance).

Summary & Conclusion

Solidarity changed?

- Socially excluded respondents
 - give money to adult children and help to older parents less likely
 - but receive help from their children and money from parents more likely

Solidarity changed!

- Intergenerational support in almost all dimensions is less likely in countries having more poverty and exclusion
 - Changed solidarity patterns between generations

Emerging challenges

- Social exclusion might be problematic for families
 - Parents loose their “normal” role as providers and need help from their offspring in all age groups
 - Families are more vulnerable in poorer countries

Contact

Christian Deindl, Goethe-University Frankfurt, Institute for Sociology, Theodor-W.-Adorno-Platz 6, 60323 Frankfurt am Main, Germany, email: deindl@soz.uni-frankfurt.de

Martina Brandt, TU Dortmund, Institute for Sociology, Emil-Figge-Str. 50, 44227 Dortmund, Germany, email: martina.brandt@tu-dortmund.de

Markus Kotte, Max Planck Institute for Social Law and Social Policy, Munich Center for the Economics of Aging, Amalienstraße 33, 80799 Munich, Germany, email: kotte@mea.mpisoc.mpg.de