

Overview of the book

As already noted, this book is a collective endeavour. The authors have collaborated for many years as part of the wider European Network for Theory and Research on Women, Welfare State and Citizenship. In 1998, some members of the group produced a special edition of *Critical Social Policy: Vocabularies of Citizenship and Gender in Northern Europe*. In further discussions, we became more aware of the salience of the different national contexts in which we each work and of the need to interrogate these in any cross-national study of citizenship. This book is an attempt to do this.

It does not claim to be a systematic comparative study. Instead, it explores the challenge of studying gendered citizenship in a cross-national context and from a number of different perspectives. It illustrates its arguments with material from a range of Western European welfare states, representing a variety of welfare, care, gender, citizenship and migration regimes: Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden and the UK. In addition, it makes some reference to Central and Eastern Europe. Members of the team have taken responsibility for specific chapters, drawing on material provided by the team as a whole, as follows: Introduction and Conclusion – Ruth Lister; Chapter One – Ute Gerhard; Chapter Two – Jet Bussemaker; Chapter Three – Birte Siim with assistance from Fiona Williams; Chapter Four – Anneli Anttonen, Stina Johansson and Arnlaug Leira; and Chapter Five – Fiona Williams, Constanza Tobío and Anna Gavanas. Jacqueline Heinen has provided the information on Central and Eastern Europe. Ruth Lister and Fiona Williams have edited the volume as a whole with editorial assistance from Lisa Hunt and Steven Mosby. The team has met on three occasions to discuss the contents and draft chapters; it is grateful to the Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research for funding these meetings. It is also grateful to the Hessian Ministry of Science and Art, which supported two preliminary workshops under the auspices of the Cornelia Goethe Centre in Frankfurt.

The book is divided into two parts. Part One provides a framework for the cross-national analysis of gendered citizenship. It aims to clarify the various ways that the concept of citizenship has developed historically and is understood today in the European welfare states represented. Chapter One takes a historical perspective so as to contextualise citizenship through elaboration of its legal and theoretical roots. Chapter Two elaborates on the contemporary framing of debates and struggles around citizenship and looks at citizenship beyond the

nation state. Both chapters pay particular attention to gendered exclusions and the struggles of women's movements for full and equal citizenship.

Part Two comprises three interrelated policy studies, which throw light on critical elements of gendered citizenship in 21st-century Europe and which make more concrete some of the issues raised in Part One. They foreground different aspects of the meanings of citizenship: belonging and participation in Chapter Three, social rights (in relation to childcare) in Chapter Four and its multi-layered quality in Chapter Five. The topics, which span private practices and public policies, represent areas of significant change in terms of policy and lived experience. They are likely to become increasingly salient, especially in the context of EU enlargement, the societal shifts outlined earlier and contemporary debates around the meanings and responsibilities of citizenship.

Chapter Three considers the challenges for gendered citizenship posed by asylum and migration and the potential tensions between ethnic diversity and gender equality as new forms of citizenship develop as a result of migration and integration policies. In addition to analysing such policies in the context of different migration regimes, the chapter addresses debates around the headscarf and diverse marriage arrangements in order to explore the meanings of lived gendered citizenship in increasingly ethnically diverse societies. It raises important questions around the nature of belonging in such societies.

Chapter Four discusses the care of young children. As noted previously, care and the division of care responsibilities between women and men has emerged as a key issue in the theorisation and politics of gendered citizenship. It has implications for the citizenship of women and men and (although not discussed here) for the well-being of children (see Lewis, J., 2006b). The development of policies around the care of young children has meant a radical extension of the meaning of social citizenship particularly in the Nordic welfare states and has been a significant element in the development of EU social policy.

—Acting as a retrospective bridge between Chapters Three and Four, Chapter Five brings together the issues of care and migration through a study of the transnational dynamics of care, sometimes referred to as 'global care chains'. In some European countries, migrant women from the global South are providing the care of young children so as to enable European mothers to access citizenship through paid employment. This is one way of addressing the emergent 'care deficit', which has been identified in contemporary European welfare states that are moving towards the 'adult-worker' model. It represents a

privatised solution to gaps in public childcare provision and to rigidities in the gendered domestic division of labour. It also renders many women without citizenship status vulnerable in the undervalued grey economy of household labour. This policy study differs from the others in that it introduces original empirical data from research conducted by Tobío, Gavanas and Williams in Madrid, London and Stockholm and does not include the other countries covered in this volume. As well as integrating the study of care and migration as elements of gendered citizenship, the chapter illustrates citizenship's multi-layered nature in the 'spaces and places' of the domestic and the global and locates the experience of citizenship squarely at the intersections of the public and private spheres. It develops further the notion of lived citizenship.

A brief conclusion reflects on some of the challenges faced in researching gendered citizenship in a cross-national context and highlights what we believe are the fresh perspectives gained by bringing together the issues of childcare and migration in a global context.