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Parents on the Margin- Children's Heritage

Jaðarstaða foreldra –velferð barna

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Abstract

The presentation is based on the paper *Parents on the Margin – Children's Heritage* published in 2015. In the study we used the research data from a research which the ICE CCFR (Centre for Children and Family Research) and SSRI (The Social Science Research Institute) conducted for the Reykjavik Welfare office in the winter 2011-2012 and findings was published in a report 2012.

The project (Parents on the Margin – Children's Heritage) is on the people who receive financial support from municipalities are, among others, the ones who have the lowest income in Iceland. This research was based on comparing the socio-economic status of parents in Reykjavik, depending on whether their income was based on social benefit from municipalities, unemployment benefits or salary from the general labor market. The main goal for this research was firstly to find out if children who have parents receiving social support or unemployment benefits are socially excluded from social activities, sports or other leisure activity. Secondly to explore the effect of poor economic status of parents on the children's, social capital, social network and social exclusion. The findings strongly indicate that children who have parents who receive social or unemployment benefits are excluded from social activities as well as having a poor social status because of their parent's way of earnings.

In our presentation we will discuss the findings of our research, in a theoretical perspective. As well as discuss how we can avoid the social heritage of poor families to cross over from one generation to another. There is a need for long-term support to the parents (mothers) to prevent that poor status of the parent is passed on to future generations.