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Autore	Lersch Philipp M
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Changes in Room Stress After Residential Relocations"; "3.2.1 Relevance"; "3.2.2 Review of Empirical Research"; "3.3 Neighbourhood Effects and Changes in Neighbourhood Quality After Relocations"; "3.3.1 Relevance"; "3.3.2 Measures of Neighbourhood Quality"; "3.3.3 Delimitations of Neighbourhoods"; "3.3.4 Review of Empirical Research"; "3.4 Effects of Relocations on Employment in Dual-Earner Couples"; "3.4.1 Relevance"; "3.4.2 Review of Empirical Research"; "Chapter 4 Research Design and Methods"; "4.1 Country Case Description: England and Germany"; "4.1.1 Housing Markets"; "4.1.2 Labour Markets"; "4.1.3 Welfare Systems"; "4.1.4 Gender Relations"; "4.2 Unit of Analysis"; "4.3 Data"; "4.3.1 Panel Data at the Individual and Household Level"; "4.3.2 Neighbourhood Level"; "4.3.3 Regional Level"; "4.4 Sample Selection"; "4.5 Measurement"; "4.5.1 Dependent Variables"; "4.5.2 Independent Variables"; "4.6 Methods"; "4.6.1 Fixed-Effects Regression Models"; "4.6.2 Multi-Level Regression Models"; "4.6.3 Actor-Partner Interdependence Models"; "4.6.4 Shared Frailty Discrete-Time Event History Models"; "Chapter 5 Setting the Scene: Occurrence and Characteristics of Relocations"; "5.1 Descriptive Results"; "5.1.1 Characteristics of Residential Relocations"; "5.1.2 Characteristics of Movers"; "5.2 Multivariate Results"; "5.3 Selective Sample Attrition Due to Residential Relocations"; "5.4 Summary"; "Chapter 6 Room Stress and Residential Relocations"; "6.1 Descriptive Results"; "6.1.1 Average Room Stress by Groups"; "6.1.2 Patterns in Changes in Room Stress over the Life Course"; "6.1.3 Average Changes in Room Stress After Relocations"; "6.2 Multivariate Results"; "6.2.1 Individual Life Course Conditions"; "6.2.2 Economic Resources and Housing Tenure"; "6.2.3 Situational Conditions of Decision Making"

Sommario/riassunto

Philipp M. Lersch shows that residential relocations may change individuals' lives for the better but also for the worse depending on their resources, restrictions and contextual conditions. A comparative analysis of English and German panel data reveals that relocations improve the quality of dwellings on average in both countries, but improvements strongly depend on life course stages and economic resources of individuals. Only few individuals improve their neighbourhoods when relocating. Conditions in the housing market are important determinants of these changes. Gender inequality persists in the occupational outcomes of relocations in England and West Germany. Due to institutional conditions, residential trajectories in England exhibit more variation and a higher risk of changes for the worse than in Germany. These innovative findings will inspire further research on the consequences of residential relocations.

Contents
Room Stress and Residential Relocations
Neighbourhood Quality
Changes
Long-Distance Relocations and Subsequent Employment
Institutional Conditions of Outcomes after Residential Relocations
Target Groups
Researchers and students of sociology, social geography and demography
Experts and practitioners of urban planning and real estate
The Author
Philipp M. Lersch is Postdoctoral Researcher and Lecturer at Tilburg University, Department of Sociology.