


Technische Universität Braunschweig
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Cross-country differences in key parenting variables and preferences for treatment delivery services: A comparison between Australia and Germany
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Background

- Initial IPS Initiative in 2009
 - to pilot questionnaires and hypotheses for the current IPS collaborations (including in addition to the pilot countries Australia and Germany now also Canada, Hongkong and Switzerland)
 - Absence of any survey data assessing
 - Parenting preferences
 - And potentially modifiable risk factors
 - At a population level
 - Financial support for traveling (DAAD and GO8); no support for data collection, management
 - Finished in 2010/2011
- IPS Large Scale Initiative in 2011


 IPS – HFCC February 2012 – Heinrichs, Morawska et al.


Background

- Parenting programs could be an effective way to support parents in using nurturing parenting behavior while consistently set limits if necessary
- Few parents take the opportunity
 - Service offers → do they meet parental preferences?
 - Are parental preferences similar across countries?
 - Modifiable risk factors often used as a rationale for parenting programs → dysfunctional parenting and parenting attitudes similar across country?
- First step in the initial IPS initiative:
 - (1) analyze similarities and differences in key parenting variables, including child maltreatment attitudes
 - (2) compare needs and wishes of parents regarding service delivery in two countries (here Australia and Germany)

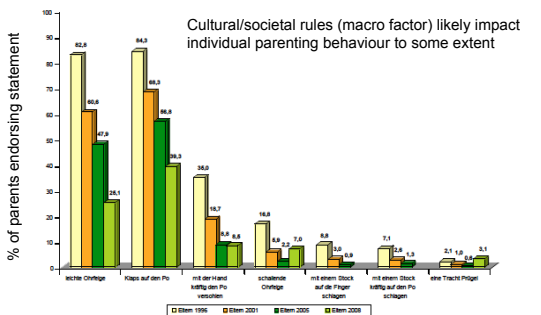

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Corporal Punishment as an Example of a dysfunctional parenting strategy

- Prevalence varies considerably across countries
 - Germany: approx. 65%
 - Australia: approx. 53%
 - USA: 60%
 - South Africa: 67%
 - China: 74%
 - Sweden: 17%
- Why?
 - Sweden first country in banning corporal punishment in 1979
 - By 2012: 33 countries introduced a law against corporal punishment


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Bussmann, Erthal and Schroth, 2011; Hahnweg et al., 2008; Strauss, 2010 / GITEADPOC 2012


Course of Prevalence Rates of Corporal Punishment in Germany before and after the Ban



Cultural/societal rules (macro factor) likely impact individual parenting behaviour to some extent


Statement	1996	2001	2005	2009
wichte Chritige	82.8	80.8	47.8	28.1
habe auf dem Po	84.3	80.3	68.8	58.2
mit der Hand kuffig dem Po versetzen	58.0	55.7	8.8	8.8
schwerste Chritige	18.8	8.8	7.0	8.8
mit einem Stock auf die Finger schlagen	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8
mit einem Stock kuffig auf dem Po schlagen	7.1	8.8	8.8	8.8
mit einem Stock auf dem Po schlagen	2.1	1.8	1.8	1.8
keine Tracht-Prügel	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

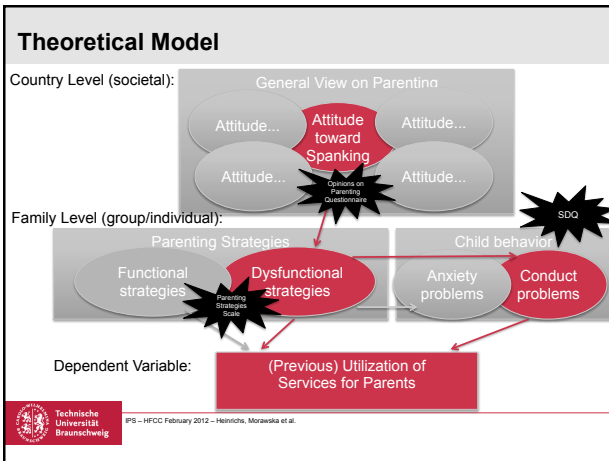
Severity of Spanking


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Trunk, 2011

Differences in key parenting variables

- Have been reported in a number of studies (e.g. comparing Western with Eastern countries; high-income vs. Low-income countries)
 - Differ in their view on responsibility for parenting (only parents individually, or extended families and siblings more collectively)
- Within western countries still a number of differences emerge:
 - Use of corporal punishment
 - Parenting stress experience
 - Feelings regarding their children
 - (Utilization of delivery services)
 - (and likely also differ in their needs)

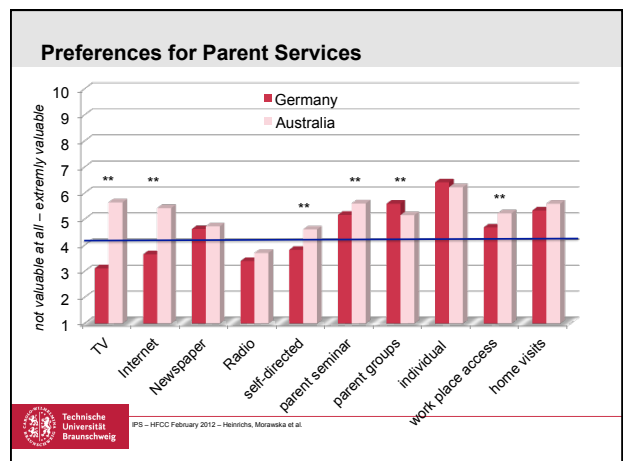
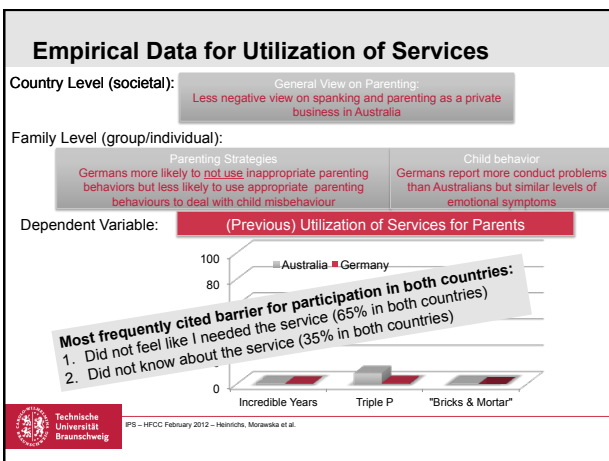
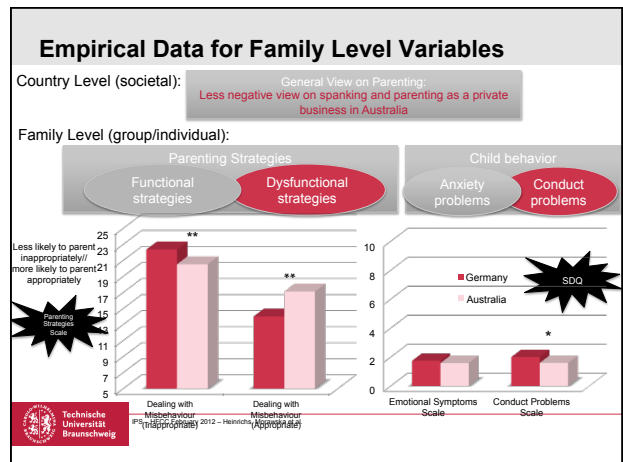
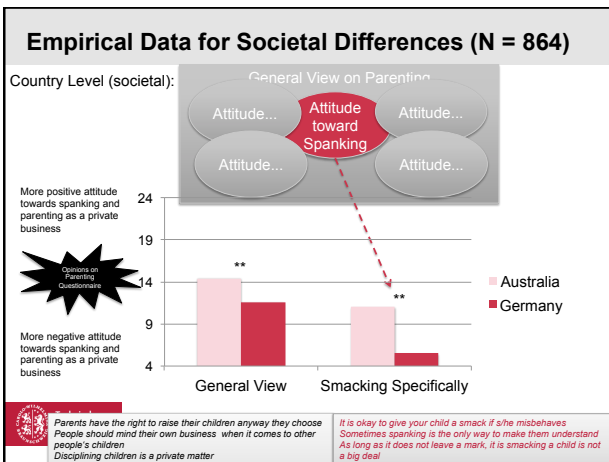

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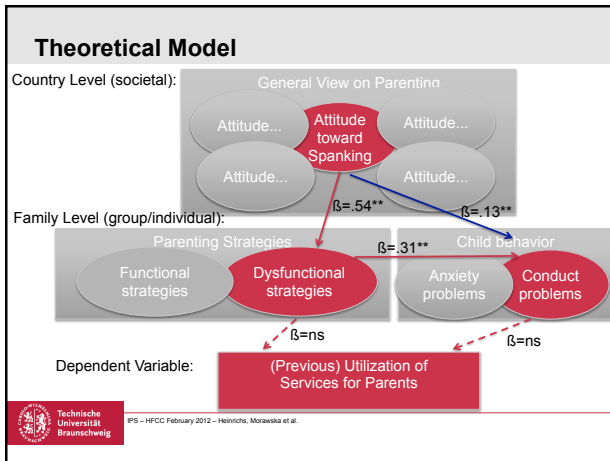


Current Sample (from IPS I)

	Germany (n=649)	Australia (n=215)	Total Sample (N = 864)
Child Age	(Mean): 3.7 (2.6)	3.4 (2.7)	
Child Gender	Male: 50.7%	50.2%	50.6%
Parent Age*	(Mean): 32.5 (6.2)	35.9 (6.4)	
Gender of Respondent*	Female: 99%	86%	96%
Family Type*:	Two-parent: 81%	88%	83%
	Single Parent: 14%	10%	13%
	Step/Foster: 6%	2%	5%
Marital Status	Married: 67%	77%	69%
Education*	primary school or less: 3%	0%	2%
	some high school: 29%	5%	23%
	completed high school: 33%	22%	30%
	university or more: 34%	73%	44%
Meeting essential expenses	No 21%	18%	20%
Internet access*	No 1.5%	1%	
	Dial up 16%	2%	
	Broadband 83%	97%	

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- ### Some limitations
- Low base rate in actual utilization of services → no successful prediction achieved
 - Online survey needs to be as brief as possible
 - Some measures have insufficient reliabilities, including standard scales such as the SDQ (e.g., conduct problems with 0.50)
 - Some of the measures have reliabilities between 0.70 and 0.80, others are below 0.70, and some even below 0.60
 - Reliabilities are sometimes different across countries
 - Differences in sociodemographic variables not controlled
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Thank you very much for your attention!

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