

Contexts Matter: the analysis of the 'lived life' of mothers across three generations

XIN GUO

DOCTORAL STUDENT

UCL(IOE)

What is my research?

To investigate the changes and continuities of mothering practices across three generations of women in China.

Family practice (Morgan, 1996, 2011)

Everyday practices and a sense of fluidity

Two types of change and continuity: contexts and intergenerational transmission.

Sampling

Great-grandmother: born between 1920-30

Grandmother: born between 1950-1960

Mother: born between 1970-1980

Middle size city in a middle size inland province

Recruited 12 families with varied social and economic status.

Biographical-Narrative-Interpretive Method(BNIM)

Single question: the question about life story; (Wengraf, 2001)

I am doing a research about; but in this interview, I would like to hear your story about your life, all the important events and experiences that happened to you that you personally regard as important.

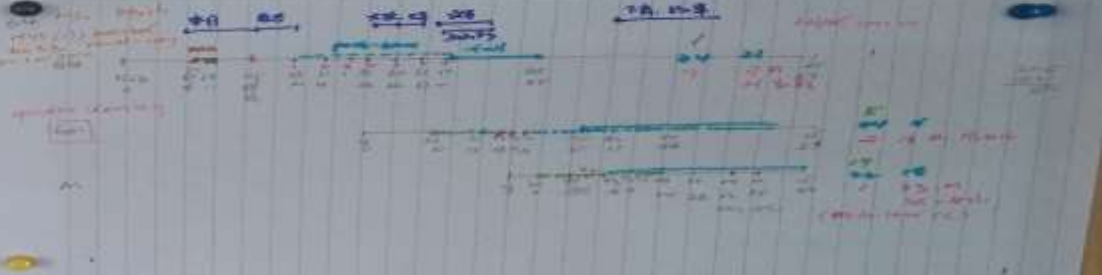
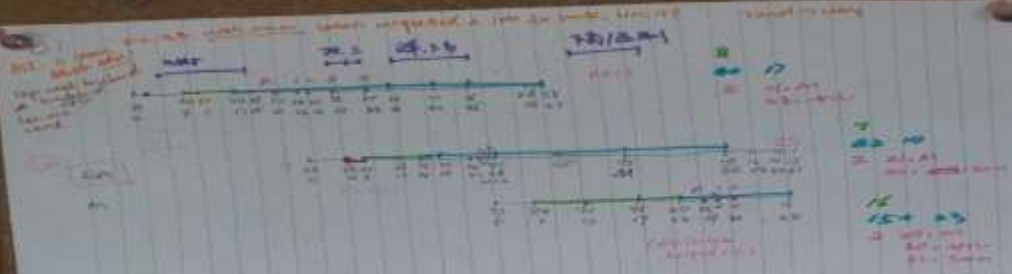
Analysis: analysing the 'lived life' separately from the 'told stories'.

My analysis procedure of the 'lived life'

Summarise the 'Lived Life' of every interviewee; ([see the example](#))

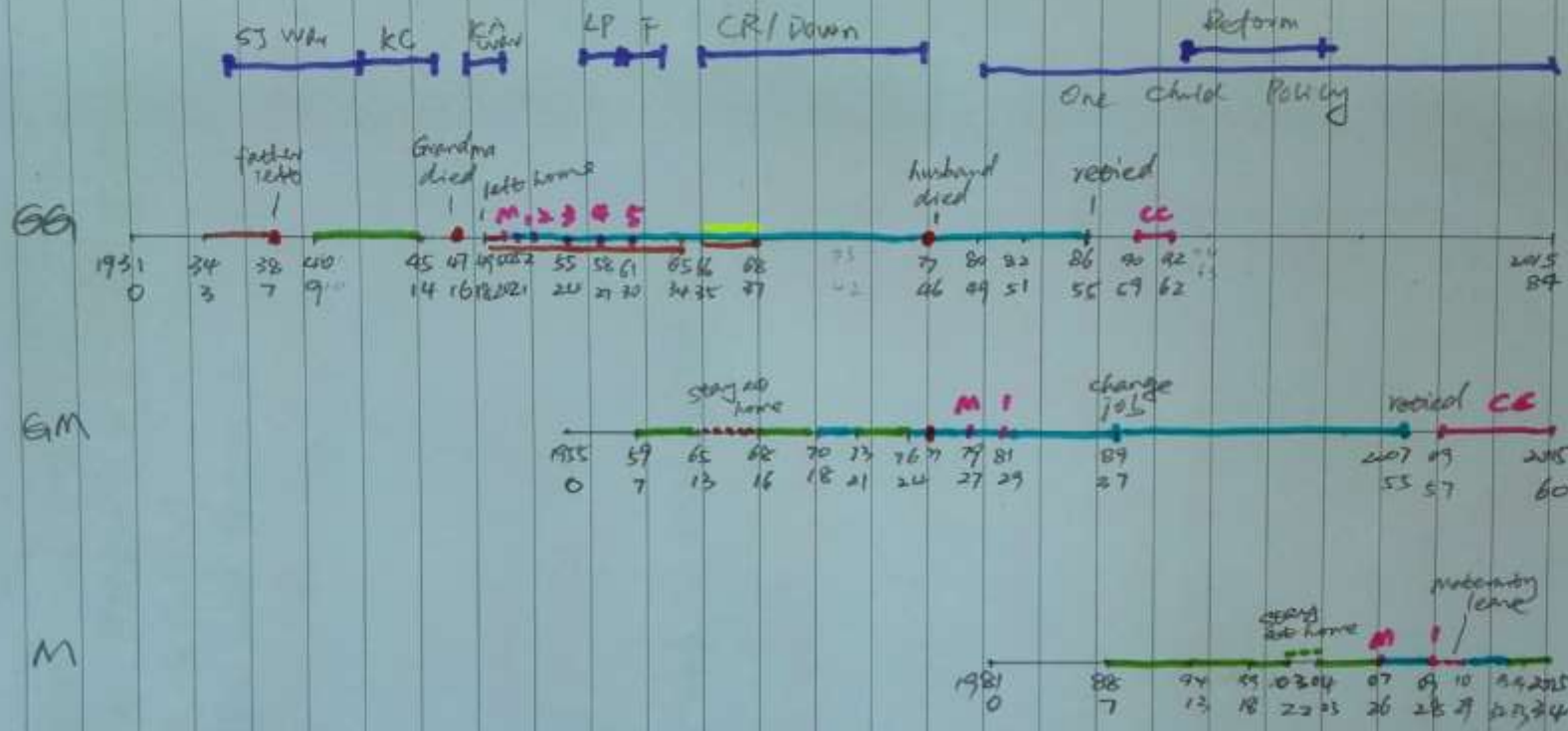
Draw both individual and family life trajectory; (see the example)

Compare within a chain of three generations within a family as well as across families ...



Handwritten text at the bottom of the notebook pages, possibly serving as a summary or a list of notes. The text is written in a cursive or semi-cursive style and is somewhat difficult to read due to the handwriting and the angle of the pages.

F02



5
36
5: 19M
20 son

11
30
1: 27M
29 dang

20+
5
1: 26M
28 dang

Summary

Mothers' own definition of relevant historical contexts;

Place mothering practices within an individual's life trajectory (see the way they grew up, the working conditions and other family members...) and a family's life trajectory (intergenerational transmission).

'Observe' the relevant life choices that mothers made (or didn't make).

Deduce what hasn't been told.

All of these interweaved with the told stories, broadening our understanding of mothering practices and providing fresh perspectives on change and continuity.



Thank You!