

Parental Guilt in Contemporary Italy: Insights from the *MatGuilt* Project

📅 October 6th 2025 📍 University of Milano, Via Conservatorio 7, 20122, Milano
Sala Lauree and [Microsoft Teams](#)
🕒 9:30 – 17:30

9:30 – 10:00 | Welcome Coffee

10:00 – 10:30 | Opening Remarks

- Institutional welcome – *Prof. Roberto Pedersini, Head of the Department of Social and Political Science, University of Milano*
- Introduction to the MatGuilt project – *Prof. Giulia Dotti Sani, MatGuilt PI, University of Milano*

10:30 – 13:00 | Session 1: Findings from the MatGuilt Project

- What makes the ideal mother in Italy? An experimental analysis of personal preferences and societal expectations - *Prof. Nevena Kulic, University of Pavia*
- “The feeling that’s always there”: Parental guilt and its correlates in the Italian context – *Dr. Natalia Soboleva, University of Milano*
- Does guilt shape employment and fertility? A preliminary assessment - *Prof. Giulia Dotti Sani, University of Milano*
- Hybrid Work, maternal guilt, and the city: Policy frameworks and personal meanings in two Italian urban contexts - *Dr. Cristina Burini & Prof. Gemma Scalise, University of Milano-Bicocca*

13:00 – 14:00 | Lunch Break

14:00 – 16:00 | Session 2: International Perspectives on Parenthood and Guilt

- Following Young Fathers Further: exploring the parenting journeys and support needs of young fathers over time in the UK – *Prof. Anna Tarrant, School of Social and Political Sciences, College of Arts Social Sciences and Humanities, University of Lincoln*
- Work-family guilt as straitjacket keeping parents in traditional gender roles - *Dr. Lianne Aarntzen, Social, Health and Organizational Psychology department, Utrecht University*
- Discussion: Prof. Anne-Marie Jeannet, *University of Milano*

16:00 – 16:30 | Afternoon Coffee Break

16:30 – 17:15 | Session 3: Addressing Parental Guilt in Society

- Moderated discussion with speakers and participants (*Moderator: Prof. Gemma Scalise, University of Milano-Bicocca*)
- Key takeaways and future research directions

17:15 – 17:30 | Closing Remarks

This research is part of the MatGuilt project (Maternal guilt: Measurement, correlates, and policy solutions in the Italian context) and is financed by the Italian Ministry for Education under the PRIN 2022 grant scheme (Bando Prin 2022 – Decreto Direttoriale n. 104 del 02-02-2022 – Settore ERC SH3 “The Social World and Its Diversity”). Grant numbers: PRIN20223GDOTT_01; G53D23004740006. <https://www.spstrend.it/matguilt/>