3.3 Operationalization

HIER GEHTS WEITER

Parents. Analogous to the young adults, their parents’ level of education is assessed using the same modiﬁed ISCED–classiﬁcation (see above) and summarized in one variable which indicates the highest educational achievement both parents completed. For single parents, solely their educational level is used, as only information about parents who were interviewed is provided.

Age is included as well. **Drinlassen?** The migrational background of the parental household is speciﬁed by combining information on their country of birth as well as citizenship. In accordance with Szydlik and Isengard (2012), a household is considered to have a migration background if either parent was not born in the country of residence or does not hold the respective citizenship.

Whether other individuals are cohabitating with the parent is also taken into account. Building two count variables, the number of co-residing younger children, and other children in the same age range as the young adult (20-39) can be diﬀerentiated. It is recorded whether no members of the respective group, one member or more than one member, live in the parental household.

Parental familial support is assessed using information on support structures and the parents’ time budget relating thereto. A score was computed summarizing parental support for residentially independent adult siblings, calculating the extent of support in proportion to the number of siblings, and multiplying it by the mean support frequency. In doing so, family size does not distort the scores. Additionally, the parents’ relationship status was controlled for as well, since a single parent’s support cannot be equated to two parents supporting their children. All in all, this results in continuous variables ranging from 0 = no support for any member of this group to 5 = frequent support to high share of this group. It should be noted that young adults who are single children have a score of zero for this variable.

The parents’ relationship status is determined using information on their marital status

and the presence of a partner in their household. As only parents, who are in relationships with the other parent of their child, not new partners, are included in the data set, it is only distinguished between singles and couples.

Based on theoretical considerations, transferable and non-transferable resources are operationalized as distinct concepts. To measure the latter, home ownership as well as the number of rooms in the home are included. As far as transferable resources are concerned, the parents’ income is taken into account. For couples, the individual values are aggregated, weighted with a factor of 1 for the ﬁrst and 0.7 for the second parent and logarithmised to minimize outlier eﬀects, following Szydlik and Is- engard’s (2012) operationalization. **warum?** The income of singles is used in its original form and then logarithmized.

Macro-level indicators. In addition to the main dataset, information on the national level was included, namely the countries’ unemployment rates, GDP and public family security. The latter is part of the OECD Social Expenditure Dataset (SOCX) and included as the percentage of the respective country’s gross domestic product per capita to allow for cross-national comparability. Furthermore, the national unemployment rate is provided by Eurostat. It is indicated as an annual average in percentage of the employable population. To allow for cause-eﬀect relations, all information on the macro-level is included lagged, thus the information corresponds to three years prior to the interview, namely 2010 instead of 2013.

Control variables. To control for space occupied by people who are not the focus of this study, it was controlled for other family members cohabitating with the parents. Additionally, it was controlled for siblings of the young adults who were not taken into account earlier.

Gender child