

Prof. Dr. Sabine Walper

Office address:

German Youth Institute
Nockherstr. 2
81541 Munich, Germany
Phone: +49-89-62306-289
Mobile: +49-160-91062354
Email: walper@dji.de

Home address:

Tuerkenstr. 99
80799 Munich, Germany
Phone: +49-89-346848
Mobile: +49-160-91062354
Email: walper@lmu.de

born 1956 in Düsseldorf (Germany), married, two sons (born 1991 and 1997)

Education

- 1999 Approbation/Licence to practice as Psychological Psychotherapist
- 1999 Habilitation (venia legendi in Psychology) at the Faculty of Psychology and Pedagogy at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München. (Topic of the Habilitation thesis: „Adolescents’ Individuation in Conflicted, Separated and Stepfamilies. Theory, Diagnostics and Findings“)
- 1992-1993 Advanced course in family therapy at the International Society for Systemic Therapy, Wiesloch/ Heidelberg
- 1989-1990 Basic training in family therapy at the International Society for Systemic Therapy, Wiesloch/ Heidelberg
- 1986 Doctorate (Dr. phil.) at Faculty 2 for Social and Planning Sciences at Technical University Berlin (summa cum laude; doctoral thesis: “Family Consequences of Economic Deprivation”)
- 1983-1986 Doctoral program in Developmental Psychology at Technical University Berlin (cooperation program of Free University Berlin, Technical University Berlin, Max Planck Institute for Human Development and Educational Research, Berlin, and Trier University; supported by the Volkswagen Foundation)
- 1981-1982 Special student in the Graduate Program of Developmental Psychology at the University of California, Berkeley, CA, U.S.A. (Scholarship of the German Academic Scholarship Foundation)
- 1975-1981 Diploma in Psychology at Universität Düsseldorf and Technische Universität Berlin (with distinction)

Profession

- since 2021 Director and Chairwomen of the German Youth Institute e. V.
- 2012 - 2021 Research Director of the German Youth Institute e. V.
- 2001-2023 Professor of Education with a focus on Youth Research (C3) at the Institute of Education at Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich (LMU) (on leave from 2012)
- 2000 Offer of C3 Professorship for Educational Psychology at Technical University Dortmund (declined)
- 1992-2001 Assistant Professor of Personality and Family Psychology at Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich (LMU)

- 1989-1992 Research scientist at Bavarian State Institute of Early Education, Munich
- 1983-1989 Research assistant and post-doc with teaching duties at the Institute of Psychology at Technical University Berlin, Department of Educational Psychology
- 1982-1989 Research assistant in the project “Youth Development and Drug Use” at the Institute of Psychology at Technical University Berlin, funded by the German Research Foundation.

Work and Research Focus

- Diversity and well-being of families, families in poverty, partnership and coparenting, parent-child relationships and parenting; family law
- growing up in diverse family contexts (esp. separated families, stepfamilies), family-school linkages, home learning environment
- child well-being, young people’s mental health, individuation, social and personal development in adolescence, young people’s romantic relationships
- children’s rights, child welfare system, child protection
- Survey research, including as co-initiator of the German Family Panel pairfam, funded by the German Research Foundation
- Family Life Education, parenting support, counselling separated families

Policy Advice

- Since 2024 member of the Advisory Group Masterplan Child Protection of Baden-Württemberg
- Since 2019 member of the National Council against Sexual Violence against Children and Adolescents
- Since 2022 guest at the German Federal Youth Advisory Board
- Since 2002 member of the Scientific Advisory Board for Family Issues at the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth
- 2018-2021 Chairwomen of the Expert Commission for the preparation of the Federal Government's Ninth Family Report
- 2018-2020 Member of the Child Protection Commission of the federal state of Baden-Württemberg
- 2015-2018 Member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Independent Commissioner for Child Sexual Abuse Issues
- 2011-2012 Scientific coordinator of the six working groups on the topic “How do we want to live together?” and head of the “Family” working group as part of Chancellor Angela Merkel's Dialogue on the Future
- 2010-2011 Chairwomen of working group 3 “Participation opportunities in the education system” of the Commission for the Implementation of the Second Report on the Social Situation in Bavaria

Membership of Advisory Boards, Functions in Professional Societies and Other Organizations

- Since 2024 member of the scientific advisory board of the Humboldt Science Center for Child Development at the Faculty of Education at University Leipzig (HumanKind)
- Since 2023 chairwoman of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Federal Centre for Health Education (BZgA)
- Since 2023 member of the Committee of UNICEF Germany
- Since 2020 Fellow of the International Society for the Study of Behavioural Development
- Since 2017 Chairwomen of the Scientific Advisory Board of the State Institute of Early Education (IFP) in Bavaria (member since 2013)
- Since 2017 Patron of the International Commission on Couple and Family Relations (ICCFR)
- Since 2014 Member of the Children's Rights Commission since and since 2017 member of the Policy Commission of the German Family Court Conference
- Since 2014 Member of the Board of Trustees of the foundation "For children and young people in our city" of Stadtparkasse München
- Since 2013 Member of the Institute Council of the State Institute for Family Research at the University of Bamberg (ifb)
- Since 2013 President of Deutsche Liga für das Kind (member of the board since 2011)
- Since 2013 Member of the jury of the Hanse-Merkur Prize for Child Protection
- Since 2013 Member of the Advisory Board for Psychology and Learning & Memory at the Munich Adult Education Centre
- 2017-2022 President of the International Academy of Family Psychology (IAFP), previously 1994-2002 Secretary and 2002-2010 President of the IAFP
- 2016-2020 Member of the Board of Trustees of the Institute for Basic Research in Family Law
- 2014-2018 Member of the Executive Committee of the International Society for the Study of Behavioural Development (ISSBD)
- 2014-2017 Member of the Evaluation Advisory Board of the Federal Statistical Office's Time Use Survey
- 2011-2013 Spokesperson of the Developmental Psychology Division of the German Psychological Society, 2001 - 2003 Member of the Executive Committee (Treasurer) of the Division
- 2000-2012 Member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the German Youth Institute e.V. (2008-2012 Deputy Chair)
- 2008-2012 Deputy Chairwoman of the Scientific Advisory Board of the National Center for Early Intervention

Editorships

- Since 2002 Co-editor of the journal „Zeitschrift für Soziologie der Erziehung und Sozialisation“
- Since 2013 Co-editor of the journal „Frühe Kindheit“
- Since 2022 Co-editor of the journal „Praxis der Rechtspsychologie“

- 2001-2023 Co-editor of the journal „Psychologie in Erziehung und Unterricht“ (2008-2011 as managing editor)
- Since 2014 Co-editor of the book series “Praxis der Paar- und Familientherapie” (Hogrefe Verlag)

Mentoring, Confidential Advisor

- Since 2012 Confidential advisor of the German Academic Scholarship Foundation
- 2007-2012 Mentor for female academics at Faculty 11 of the LMU
- 2008-2012 Mentor in the Max Weber Program, German Academic Scholarship Foundation
- 2008-2012 Confidential advisor at Bayerische EliteAkademie

Academic Self-Administration

- 2002-2006 and 2010-2012 Women’s Representative of Faculty11 of the LMU (2006-2010 deputy)
- 2002-2012 Member of the Faculty Council of Faculty 11 of the LMU
- 2002-2012 Member of several appointment committees at Faculty 11 of LMU

Membership in Professional Associations

- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Psychologie (DGPs)
- Fachgruppe Entwicklungspsychologie der DGPs
- European Association of Research on Adolescence
- International Society for the Study of Behavioural Development (ISSBD)
- International Academy of Family Psychology (IAFP)
- National Council on Family Relations (NCFR)
- Society for Longitudinal and Lifecourse Studies

Prices and Scholarships

- 2022 Life-time Award of the European Association for Research on Adolescence
- 2007 “Frühe Kindheit 2007” prevention prize awarded by the Deutsche Liga für das Kind for the program “Kinder im Blick”, a parenting course for separated parents
- 2003 Therese von Bayern Prize for the promotion of women in science for outstanding scientific achievements in the field of youth and family research
- 10.-23.8.1990 Scholarship of the European Science Foundation to participate in the Summer School "Developmental Psychopathology" in Champfer, St. Moritz (Director: Prof. Dr. Michael Rutter)
- 13.-16.12.1987 Scholarship of the European Science Foundation to participate in the "Workshop on Methodological Issues in Longitudinal Research I: Data and General Designs", Rönneberga, Stockholm (Direction: Prof. Dr. D. Magnusson and Prof. Dr. L. Bergman)
- 1983-1985 Doctoral program in Developmental Psychology (Volkswagen Foundation)

- 1981-1982 Scholarship of the German Academic Scholarship Foundation for study abroad at the University of California, Berkeley
- 1976-1981 Scholarship of the German Academic Scholarship Foundation