

Curriculum Vitae Theo G. van Tilburg

Short biography

Theo van Tilburg is Professor of Sociology and Social Gerontology at Vrije Universiteit (VU) Amsterdam. He is trained in sociology and research methods. He is director of the research program 'Participation in Society (PARIS): Social Context of Aging' and is board member and senior researcher of the 'Longitudinal Aging Study Amsterdam' (LASA – www.lasa-vu.nl), an ongoing interdisciplinary study into aspects of aging since 1991. His research focuses on the social functioning of older adults, in particular the family; the personal network; social support, and informal help and care; and loneliness. These topics are studied from the perspectives of individual change trajectories and societal change across birth cohorts. He also studies interventions to improve one's social living conditions.

Education

MSc in Sociology and Methodology, VU Amsterdam, 1982

PhD in Social-Cultural Sciences, VU Amsterdam, 1988

Current position

2004 Professor of Sociology and Social Gerontology, VU Amsterdam

Previous positions

1983-1988 Junior researcher, Dept. of Methodology, VU Amsterdam

1989-1993 Post-Doc Fellow of the Royal Dutch Academy of Arts and Sciences, VU Amsterdam

1994-1999 Assistant professor, Dept. of Methodology, VU Amsterdam

2000-2003 Associate professor, Dept. of Sociology and Social Gerontology, VU Amsterdam

PhD Supervision

Hoff, S.J.M. (1995). And they lived happily ever after: Constructing a measurement instrument on well-being among the elderly by means of facet design.

Penninx, B.W.J.M. (1996). Social support in elderly people with chronic diseases: Does it really help?

Van Heelsum, A.J. (1997). De etnisch-culturele positie van de tweede generatie Surinamers.

Thomése, G.C.F. (1998). Neighboring networks of older adults: A social scientific research among independently living older adults in the Netherlands.

Klein Ikkink, C.E. (2000). If I scratch your back...? Reciprocity and social support exchanges in personal relationships of older adults.

Aartsen, M.J. (2003). On the interrelationship between cognitive and social functioning in older age.

Terhell, E.L. (2004). Changes in the personal network after divorce.

Van der Pas, S. (2006). Intergenerational relationships of older adults: Family structure, contact and norms.

Guiaux, M. (2010). Social adjustment to widowhood: Changes in personal relationships and loneliness before and after partner loss.

Komp, K. (2010). The young old in Europe: Burden on or resource to the welfare state?

Tolkacheva, N. (2011). Dividing the care: Choices of adult children with older parents in need of care.

Geurts, T. (2012). The dynamics of grandparenthood in the Netherlands: A life course perspective.

Bloem, B.A. (2013). Residential relocation and personal networks of older Dutch adults.

Cozijnsen, M.R. (2013). Retirement in transition: Dutch retirees in a changing social context.

Suanet, B.A. (2013). Societal dynamics and older adults' social functioning.

Schoenmakers, E.C. (2013). Coping with loneliness.

Holwerda, T.J. (2017). Burden of loneliness and depression in late life.

Overmars-Marx, T. (2018). Perspectives on neighbourhood social inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities.

Stolte, E. (2018). Moving motivation: Increasing physical activity in people aged 50 and over.

- Klokgieters, S. (2020). Ageing in a migration context: Resilience in Turkish and Moroccan immigrants.
- Bouwman, T.E. (2020). Coping in loneliness interventions: The online Friendship Enrichment Program for people aged 50 years and older.
- Klok, J. (2020). Transnational ageing among Turkish and Moroccan migrants.
- Van der Noordt, M. (2021). Trends in working life expectancy, working conditions and health in an ageing population.
- Korporaal, M. (in progress). Exchanges of support and care in late life partner relationships: Antecedents and consequences for personal relationships, health and wellbeing.
- Dissels, R.C. (in progress). The effect of social exclusion, social support, employment and unemployment on the health of Turkish and Moroccan older adults in the Netherlands.
- Swinkels, J.C. (in progress). Trends in informal care use of older adults in the Netherlands between 1992 and 2012.
- Elmer, E.M. (in progress). Minority stress and loneliness among older lesbian, gay, and bisexual adults.

Research grants (selected)

- De Jong Gierveld, J., & Van Tilburg, T.G. *Support from the personal network*. Program Research Social Services, 1983-1987.
- Knipscheer, C.P.M., de Jong Gierveld, J., Van Tilburg, T.G., & Dykstra, P.A. *Living arrangements and social networks of older adults*. Netherlands Program for Research on Aging, 1990-1996.
- Van Tilburg, W., Knipscheer, C.P.M., Deeg, D.J.H., Jonker, C., & Van Tilburg, T.G. *Longitudinal Aging Study Amsterdam (LASA)*. Ministry of Welfare, Health and Sports, 1991-2000 (continued to 2024).
- Van Tilburg, T.G. *Reciprocity and future support of older elderly*. Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO), 1993-1998.
- Van Tilburg, T.G., & Dykstra, P.A. *Diversity in late life*. Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO-ESR), 2001-2005. Program including four projects.
- Dykstra, P.A., Fokkema, T., de Jong Gierveld, J., & Van Tilburg, T.G. *Comparative research into the effects of loneliness interventions*. Foundation 'Sluyterman van Loo', 2001-2005.
- Broese van Groenou, M.I., & Van Tilburg, T.G. *Sharing the care: Choices of adult children with parents in need of care*. Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO-MAGW), 2006-2009.
- Van Tilburg, T.G. *Effectiveness of campaigns to combat loneliness*. Rabobank Foundation, 2008-2012.
- Wichert, R., et al. V2me: Virtual coach reaches out 'to me.' 2009, Ambient Assisted Living (AAL) joint programme EU, ICT based solutions for advancement of social interaction of elderly people (PI for Dutch participation).
- Van Tilburg, T.G., et al. New cohorts of young old in the 21st century. Investment Subsidy Medium, Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO), 2011-2013.
- Silverstein, M., & Van Tilburg, T.G. *Intergenerational relationships in aging Baby-Boom step families*. 2014, National Institutes of Health, National Institute on Aging (not granted).
- Van der Sande, R., Van Tilburg, T.G. et al. *Standard of quality for treatment of loneliness by district nurses*. Netherlands Organization for Health Research and Development (ZonMW), 2016-2018.
- Van Tilburg, T.G. *Prevalence of loneliness 2015-2021*. VWS, 2019-2021.

Publications

A list is available at <http://home.fsw.vu.nl/tg.van.tilburg/publications-no-abstracts.pdf>

Citations

ISI Web of Knowledge; 45523; H = 38 www.researcherid.com/rid/F-1269-2010
 Google Scholar; 14001; H = 61 <http://scholar.google.com/citations?user=VVozZIAAAA>
 Scopus; 6236; H = 41 www.scopus.com/authid/detail.uri?authorId=7003820557

Teaching (VU; selected)

National PostDoc program Demography: Operationalization of concepts (1993-1997)
Political Sciences: Research exercise (1993-1997)
Social Sciences: Methodology, Statistics (1997-2001)
Social Gerontology: Theory and research in gerontology (2000-2003)
BSc Sociology: Theory and research (2003-2011)
MSc Social Cultural Sciences: Social scientific perspectives on aging (2004-2005)
MSc Research Health Sciences: Health and psychosocial factors among older adults (2005-2006)
MSc Sociology of Globalization and diversity: European unification and the life course (2006)
MSc Social Research: Research design and data collection (2006-2009)
Honors program: Life and work (2007, 2009)
MSc Social Research: Research design in the social sciences (2011)
Minor: The network society (2011)
BSc and premaster Sociology: Sociology 1 - Modern societies (2011-current)
MSc Policy, Communication Organization; Sociology: Multivariate analysis (2014-2017)

Miscellaneous (selected)

- Fellowship of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences, 1989-1993
- Collaborator of the "Aging in Manitoba" program, funded by the SSHRC of Canada (1999-2004)
- Research School Psychology & Health: member research committee (2001-2005); board member and vice-chair (2006-2011)
- Member board and senior researcher Longitudinal Aging Study Amsterdam (since 1995, with interruptions)
- Head of Department of Sociology, VU (2005-2010)
- Faculty board Social Sciences, VU: research (2001-2004), vice-dean and research (2011-2013), interim dean (2014), interim education (2014-2016)
- Academic director Graduate School Social Sciences, VU (2012, 2016, 2017-current)
- External member of the Approval Panel, MSc Relationship Science, Brunel University West London, UK (2007)
- Associate editor Personal Relationships (2008-2012)
- Chair scientific advisory board of the Center for Advanced Media Research in Amsterdam (CAMeRA), VU (2008-2009)
- Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO); Chair VENI Selection Committee MaGW (2009); Chair Open competition Selection Committee MaGW (2010); Member Appeal Committee (2014-2019); member Selection Committee Rubicon 2020
- Advisor of Erbij, Dutch coalition against loneliness (2012-2018)
- Fellow of The Gerontological Society of America (2013-current)
- Member approval committee Interventions in the domain of Societal Support, Participation and Safety, Movisie (2015-current)
- Advisor ERC project "Family complexity, family solidarity & intergenerational reproduction", granted to M. Kalmijn (2015-current)
- Advisor to the Dutch minister on Health, Welfare and Sports (2018-current)
- Chair Sociology panel of the Research Council for Culture and Society, Finland (Academy Project Funding, 2018)
- 2016 Member review committee tenure track or professorship, USA, Sweden (2016, 2018, 2019)
- Member The Generations and Gender Programme Ethics Board (2020-current)

(December 2020)