



**TASA** The Australian  
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**TITLE: Developing a typology of youth transitions**

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This presentation draws on wave 11 of the Life Chances Study which began in 1990 and has since followed a group of 167 babies - now young adults - and their families. Our longitudinal analysis highlights the importance of developing nuanced understandings of the transitions from school to work.

As Raffe (2011) has argued this period of life has always been uncertain for some groups of young people. Many analysts have attempted to make sense of the fragmented responses to the extended and often disrupted transition from school to work and have highlighted the need for a multifaceted and multidimensional approach (Atchoarena 2000; Cuervo & Wyn 2011; Raffe 2011; UNESCO 2014). And, there is an increasing recognition among policy analysts and researchers of the need for systemic, institutional and structural responses that acknowledge the multifaceted challenges facing young people seeking employment (Banerji et al. 2014).

Drawing on our longitudinal analysis we propose a typology of youth trajectories from school to work and highlight the role of class, gender, ethnicity, individual characteristics and family circumstances in shaping opportunities. Our presentation will focus on the process of developing such a typology and will highlight some of the tensions and issues of classification.