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### **Everyday life strategies in families with children in textile industry in Finland from the 1950s until the 1970s**

I am preparing my Doctoral dissertation on everyday life in the Forssa textile industry from the 1950s until the 1970s. In the mid -19<sup>th</sup> century, the Spinning Mill and Weaving Mill were founded in the countryside in Southern Finland. The town Forssa used to be noted for these industries for a long time. In its best years in the 1970s, the textile industry employed over 2000 people. At the same time, the town of Forssa had a population of approximately 15 000. In 2009, 162 years of the local textile industry came to an end.

My paper focuses on childcare. The main question of the paper is how did employees arrange childcare when they worked? In many families, people worked in the textile industry from generation to generation and there were a great deal of women who worked in the textile industry since its beginning. The majority of workers in all departments were women. Women often continued to work after marriage and the maternity leaves were very short. The economic and social circumstances of a family contributed to the mother's need to work. Childcare varied from one family to another, and also from one life situation to another.