

## towards an historic person identifier

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12-2-2015

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## motivation

- if everyone (who ever lived) has a persistent person identifier, this would facilitate research in many areas enormously
- explore options to extend the assignment of such an ID to the past *and to build a historic civil registration*
- as an extension of the modern civil registration (essentially the same structure)

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## ID in (modern) civil registration

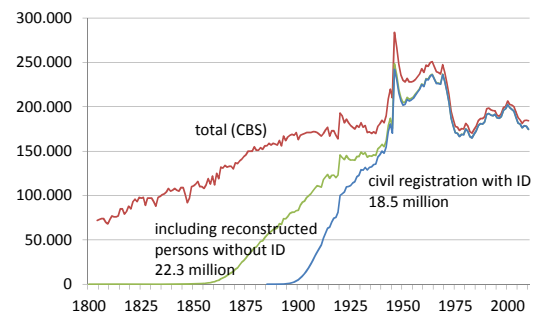
- ID person
  - person information
  - IDs of parents
- children: same parent ID
- partner(s): requires separate table

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## number of births per year



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## reconstructed persons in civil registration

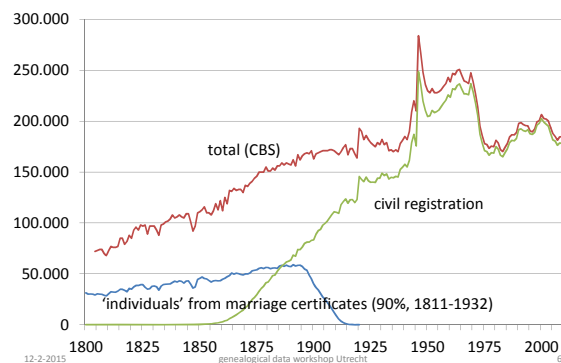
- Parents who died before 1994
  - gender
  - first names (only!)
  - place of birth
  - date of birth
- many and complex procedures
  - few ambiguities in the end

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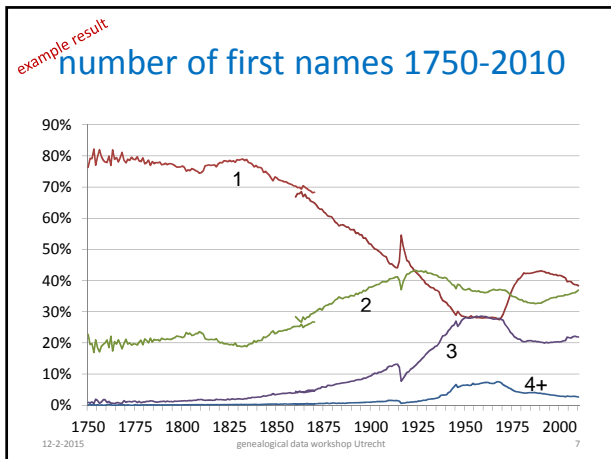
## number of births per year



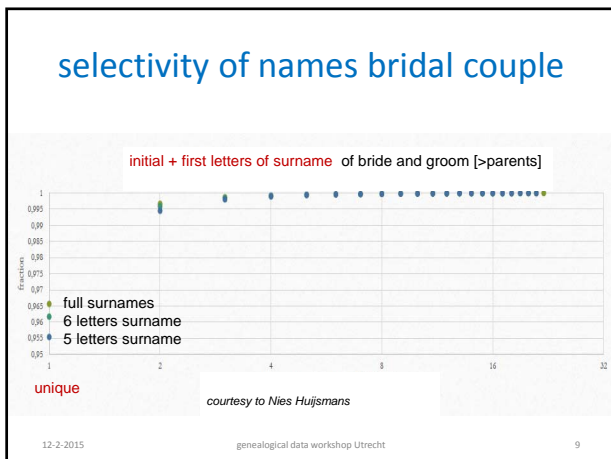
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- ### general linking basis
- first name
    - ego: child, groom or bride, deceased
  - surname
  - gender
  - age > ~year of birth
  - (place of birth)
  - first name father
  - first name mother
  - surname mother
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- ### assignment of historic IDs
- person-ID based on birth certificate (1811- )
    - all certificates will be digitized in a couple of years
  - parent-IDs require link to their birth certificates
    - through marriage certificates (to find grandparents)
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- ### composition of ID
- should be controlled by a central organisation
    - comparable to 'management civilian service number'
    - ID has some numeric properties
    - ID itself has no relation to individual properties
      - but is linked to all information in civil registration
- or
- uniquely defined by (derived) birth information (coding)
- date of birth (19520829, 19510002 as range)
  - place of birth (municipality code 0361)
  - gender (code 1)
  - name (code derived from first letters, geb1 (to be investigated))
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- ### ID development
- from birth register:
- person: 1952082903611gebl
  - parent1: 1918000200001tebl ID "frame"
  - parent2: 1918000200000neve
- from marriage certificate (of parent1 x parent2, requires link):
- parent1: 1918000204761tebl ID "frame"
  - grandparent1: 1868003500001tebl
  - grandparent2: 1872003100000anbo
- from birth certificate (of parent 1, requires link):
- parent1: 1919070904761tebl ID
  - grandparent1: 1888000204211tebl
  - grandparent2: 1890000203700anbo
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## ID and ID “frame”

- ID identifies individual
- ID “frame” often identifies group of individuals but may be unique in combination with parent ID “frames”

ID “frame” is needed when no links to birth data are available

ID “frame” can be refined when new information comes available:

1918000200001tebl > 1918000204761tebl > 1919070904761tebl

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## for discussion

- an historic person identifier is realistic after 1811
- the identifier can be based on coded birth information
- distributed assignment of the ID is possible
- a historic civil registration can be build by the crowd

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