Families and policies

*Invited talk*

François Héran

“Taking stock and looking to the future”

*Population change and Lifecourse Strategic Knowledge Cluster*

Ottawa, 18-20 March 2015

Session 6: Families
Total fertility rate, 1965-2012
Family benefits in cash, services and tax measures
Public spending in % of GDP in OECD countries, 2009

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3 types of public spending on family benefits (OECD harmonization)

- **Child-related cash transfers to families with children**
  - Child allowances (sometimes income-tested),
  - Public income support payments during periods of parental leave
  - Income support for sole parents families
  - Child tax credits that are paid out in cash to recipients

- **Public spending on services for families with children**
  - Direct subsidising of providers of childcare and early education facilities
  - Childcare support through earmarked payments to parents
  - Assistance for young people and residential facilities
  - Family services, including centre-based facilities and home help for families in need

- **Tax expenditures towards families**
  - Tax exemptions
  - Child tax allowances (not included in taxable income)
  - Child tax credits
  - Amounts deducted from the tax liability
Enrolment of children aged under 3 in childcare (OECD)
Enrolment of children in childcare (under age 3) and pre-school (3-5 years) in 2010 (source: OECD)

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Enrolment of children in childcare (under age 3) and pre-school (3-5 years) in **2010** (source: OECD)

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- **EICT (US, Korea)**
  Earned Income Tax Credit

- **“Quotient familial” (France)**
  Tax-splitting system for family according to the nature and number of consumption units (concerns tax-payers only)

- Data: 18 OECD countries, 1980-2007
- Develops and discusses, among others:
  - Gauthier & Hazius (1997)
  - D’Addio & Mira d’Ercole (2005)
  - Gauthier (2007)
  - Myrskylä, Kohler & Billari (2009)
  - Kalwij (2010)
  - Sobotka, Skirbekk & Philipov (2011)

- Paid leave
- Childcare services
- Financial transfers

  Distinction between services and cash benefits...
  - Around childbirth
  - In the 2nd and 3rd year after birth
  - Ties with the following stage (3-5 years)

*See also:*
The new relationship between women’s employment and fertility

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The new relationship between women’s employment and fertility

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The new relationship between women’s employment and fertility
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The new relationship between women's employment and fertility

The graph shows the relationship between female employment rate and total fertility rate (TFR) for different countries in 1980 and 2010. The employment rate is measured for women aged 25-54 years.
The new relationship between women’s employment and fertility

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Employment rates of men and women with tertiary education

(ELFS and OECD, 2012)
Obstacles to fertility: rigidity in family structures and labor law

- Contradiction between *female superiority* (in education) and *male domination* (in the workplace)

- The duality in partnership status (marriage vs. cohabitation)

- The duality of the labor market
  - Formal sector, protected
  - Informal sector, less protected
Fertility and perception of the well-being of children in pre-school

Fertility and perception of the well-being of children in pre-school

« Le familialisme est antinataliste »
Flexibility of family structures and fertility (2009)
Flexibility of family structures and fertility (2009)

![Graph showing the relationship between TFR and the percentage of births outside marriage across different countries.](image-url)
On fertility and gender equity

- McDONALD Peter (2000)  
  “Gender equity in theories of fertility transition”,  

- McDONALD Peter, MOYLE H. (2010)  
  “Why do English-speaking countries have relatively high fertility?”  

- NEYER Gerda, LAPPEGARD Trude, VIGNOLI Daniele (2011)  
  “Gender equality and fertility: Which equality matters?”,  
  WP 2011/07, Università degli Studi di Firenze
GDP growth rates: % change over the previous quarter (Eurostat, Aug. 2013, seasonally adjusted data, 3Q-centered moving average)
GDP growth rates: % change over the previous quarter
(Eurostat, Aug. 2013, seasonally adjusted data, 3Q-centered moving average)
Total fertility rate by ethnicity, USA 1980-2011
France 2003: social protection benefits linked to the functions "Maternity" and "Family" (Billions of €)

Temporary compensation of charges or income losses

Periodic compensation, non means-tested

Periodic compensation, means-tested

Lump-sum compensation

Social support in kind

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